



CITY OF ANN ARBOR – PARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
October 19, 2010

The regular meeting of the Park Advisory Commission was held on Tuesday, October 19, 2010 at 4:00 p.m. at the Washtenaw County Administration Building in the County Board of Commission Public Meeting Room, 220 N. Main St., Ann Arbor, Michigan.

I. The meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m. by Chair J. Grand.

II. Roll Call:

Members Present: (8) J. Grand, J. Lawter, T. Berla, D. Barrett,
G. Nystuen D. Chapman, K. Levin, S. Offen
(arrived at 4:35 p.m.)

Ex-Officio Members Present: (2) M. Anglin, C. Taylor

Ex- Officio Members Absent: (0) None

Members Absent: (1) T. Doyle

Staff Present: (11) C. Smith, J. Straw, S. Bahl, M. Warba, D. Simon,
D. McGuire, C. Saam, G. LaVictoire, M. Waldsmith,
L. Bowen, M. Wade

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Commissioner Grand asked for a motion to approve the agenda. **Commissioner Chapman** moved, supported by **Commissioner Nystuen** to approve the agenda as written. The Commission approved the agenda unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY - AGENDA ITEMS (3 Minutes per Speaker)

M. Manildi spoke on the Argo Dam issue.

D. Gray spoke on the Argo Dam issue.

J. Rubin spoke on the Argo Dam issue.

E. Boyd spoke on the Argo Dam issue and the Border to Border trail

J. Russell spoke on the Argo Dam issue.

S. Munzel spoke on the Argo Dam issue.

R. Miller spoke on the Argo Dam issue.

J. O’Neal spoke on the Argo Dam issue.

53 **J. Barkley** spoke on the Argo Dam issue

54

55 **E. Trager** spoke on the Argo Dam issue.

56

57 **A - APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

58

59 **Commissioner Nystuen** moved supported by **Commissioner Lawter** to approve the
60 minutes of the September 21, 2010 meeting as written. The minutes of September 21,
61 2010 were approved unanimously.

62

63 **SPECIALPRESENTATIONS**

64

65 **Outdoor Swimming Pools Presentation on 2010 Season**

66

67 **J. Straw** gave an overview of the three outdoor pools and explained programs offered,
68 service improvements and the participation..

69

70 **G. LaVictoire** spoke on Buhr Park Pool.

71

72 **D. McGuire** spoke on Fuller Pool.

73

74 **D. Simon** spoke on the Veteran's Memorial Pool.

75

76 **J. Straw** stated the pools had a very successful season this year and complimented the
77 staff.

78

79 **C. Taylor** asked if there were any service initiatives.

80

81 **J. Straw** stated our customer service is a major component; there has been an increase in
82 registration for all the programs offered.

83

84 **J. Lawter** complimented staff on their hard work and a great season at the pools.

85

86 **J. Grand** also complimented staff.

87

88 **Introduction of Volunteer Outreach Coordinator**

89

90 **J. Straw** introduced Gayle LaVictoire as the Volunteer Outreach Coordinator.

91

92 **G. LaVictoire** explained the focus of this position and future plans to the Commission.

93

94 **Argo Reconstruction – TSP Environmental and City Staff**

95

96 **M. Wade** and **C. Smith** gave a presentation on the proposed Argo Reconstruction..

97

98 **G. Lacy** from Recreation Engineering gave a presentation on whitewater enhancements
99 and the Argo Reconstruction proposal.

100

101 **J. Lawter** asked how long the reconstruction would take to complete.

102

103

104 **G. Lacy** stated if construction began in the winter of 2010 there is a possibility of completion
105 by summer of 2011.
106
107 **S. Offen** asked about the consequences of doing nothing.
108
109 **C. Smith** stated the stop-log would stay in place for the foreseeable future.
110
111 **T. Berla** asked why removing the Dam is not an option in the Consent Agreement.
112
113 **S. Bahl** stated the MDNRE doesn't advocate for dam removal, and the concern was the
114 repair of the embankment.
115
116 **J. Grand** pointed out that PAC didn't request that dam removal be considered as an option.
117
118 **D. Barrett** asked S. Bahl if the embankment was safe and secure.
119
120 **S. Bahl** stated the MDNRE is not concerned with the safety of the concrete portion of the
121 Dam and staff is monitoring the embankment and that it has been stable.
122
123 **M. Anglin** asked why the Water Fund was proposed to cover some costs of the project.
124
125 **S. Bahl** stated because it had been budgeted that way – and that Council would need to
126 give direction not to do that.
127
128 **D. Barrett** inquired about the Va hydro feasibility study.
129
130 **M. Wade** responded the VA had shared their report with City staff, but that staff were not
131 sure how the VA intended to proceed.
132

133 **PUBLIC HEARING**

134
135 **B - UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

136
137 **C - New Business**

138
139 **C-1** Resolution to Recommend the Selection of TSP Environmental to Design and
140 Construct a By-Pass Channel in the Argo Dam Headrace

141
142 **C. Smith** read the Resolution to the Commission

143
144 **J. Grand** asked the Commission for discussion and to vote on the Resolution

145
146 RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND THE SELECTION OF TSP ENVIRONMENTAL TO
147 DESIGN AND CONSTRUCT A BY-PASS CHANNEL IN THE ARGO DAMHEADRACE
148 DAMHEADRACE

149
150 Whereas, The City and the MDNRE entered into a Consent Agreement regarding Argo Dam
151 in May 2010;

152
153 Whereas, The Consent Agreement states the City shall identify and execute either toe drain
154 repairs or reconstruction of the headrace to address headrace embankment deficiencies
155 identified by the MDNRE;
156

157 Whereas, Staff issued bids for toe drain repairs and an RFP for the reconstruction of the
158 headrace embankment;

159
160 Whereas, Staff and the Selection Committee evaluated submitted bids proposals;

161
162 Whereas, Staff and the Selection Committee selected TSP Environmental to design and
163 construct a by-pass channel in the Argo Dam headrace; and

164
165 Whereas, Funding for the project is available from the Park Rehabilitation and Development
166 Millage and Water Fund.

167
168 RESOLVED, That the Parks Advisory Commission recommends the selection of TSP
169 Environmental to design and construct a by-pass channel in the Argo Dam Headrace that
170 addresses the Consent Agreement stipulations;

171
172 RESOLVED, That the Parks Advisory Commission supports the improved accessibility this
173 project will provide for boaters and trail users, while allowing for current Argo Pond uses to
174 continue; and

175
176 RESOLVED, That the Park Advisory Commission recommends that the Mayor and City
177 Council approves a contract with TSP Environmental to design and construct a by-pass
178 channel in the Argo Dam Headrace not to exceed \$988,170.

179
180 Prepared by: Colin Smith, Parks & Recreation Services Manager
181 Molly Wade, Water Treatment Services Manager

182
183 Submitted by: Parks & Recreation Services
184 Date: October 19, 2010

185
186 **J. Lawter** suggested an amendment to the language in the Resolution,
187 recommending the whitewater feature be added for an additional \$180,000.

188
189 **T. Berla** moved, supported by Commissioner Nystuen to discuss the
190 Resolution; in addition to also discuss the proposed amendment to the
191 language recommended by Commissioner Lawter.

192
193 **S. Offen** expressed concern regarding monies being spent for adding the
194 whitewater feature and would prefer to see monies be spent in various parks
195 where there is a greater need.

196
197 **J. Lawter** explained his reasons for suggesting the amendment pertaining to
198 the whitewater feature, also stating how this feature could possibly be an asset
199 to the City.

200
201 **J. Grand** asked why the selection committee didn't include whitewater in the
202 recommendation.

203
204 **C. Smith** explained the whitewater wasn't included as it was beyond the scope
205 and exceeded the requirements of the Consent Agreement.

206
207 **J. Grand** shared the amended resolution with the commission and asked for a
208 roll-call vote.
209

210 RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND THE SELECTION OF TSP ENVIRONMENTAL TO
211 DESIGN AND CONSTRUCT A BY-PASS CHANNEL AND ADDITIONAL WHITEWATER
212 DROP FEATURES IN THE ARGO DAM HEADRACE
213

214 Whereas, The City and the MDNRE entered into a Consent Agreement
215 regarding Argo Dam in May 2010;
216

217 Whereas, The Consent Agreement states the City shall identify and execute
218 either toe drain repairs or reconstruction of the headrace to address headrace
219 embankment deficiencies identified by the MDNRE;
220

221 Whereas, Staff issued bids for toe drain repairs and an RFP for the
222 reconstruction of the headrace embankment;
223

224 Whereas, Staff and the Selection Committee evaluated submitted bids and
225 proposals;
226

227 Whereas, Staff and the Selection Committee selected TSP Environmental to
228 design and construct a by-pass channel and additional whitewater drop
229 features in the Argo Dam headrace; and
230

231 Whereas, Funding for the project is available from the Park Rehabilitation and
232 Development Millage and Water Fund.
233

234 RESOLVED, That the Parks Advisory Commission recommends the selection
235 of TSP Environmental to design and construct a by-pass channel and
236 additional whitewater drop features in the Argo Dam Headrace that addresses
237 the Consent Agreement stipulations;
238

239 RESOLVED, That the Parks Advisory Commission supports the improved
240 accessibility this project will provide for boaters and trail users, while allowing
241 for current Argo Pond uses to continue; and
242

243 RESOLVED, That the Parks Advisory Commission recommends that the
244 Mayor and City Council approves a contract with TSP Environmental to design
245 and construct a by-pass channel in the Argo Dam Headrace not to exceed
246 \$988,170, and additional white water drop features not to exceed \$180,000,
247 for a total project budget not to exceed \$1,168,170.
248

249 ***The vote to adopt the recommended amendment was as follows:***
250

251 **Ayes: (7) J. Grand J. Lawter, G. Nystuen, T. Berla,**
252 **D. Chapman, D. Barrett, K. Levin**

253 **Nays: (1) S. Offen**
254

255 **Absent: (1) T. Doyle**
256
257

258 *On a roll call vote – **Motion Passed** to accept the amendment to the*
259 *Resolution recommending the additional construction of the whitewater drop*
260 *features.*
261

262 ***The vote to adopt the amended Resolution was as follows:***

263
264 **Ayes: (7) J. Grand J. Lawter, G. Nystuen, S. Offen**
265 **D. Chapman, D. Barrett, K. Levin**

266
267 **Nays: (1) T. Berla**

268
269 **Absent: (1) T. Doyle**

270
271 *On a roll call vote – **Motion Passed** to accept the Resolution to recommend the*
272 *selection of TSP environmental to design and construct a by-pass channel and*
273 *additional white water drop features in the Argo Dam Headrace.*

274
275 **D - COMMISSION PROPOSED BUSINESS**

276
277 **E - REPORT FROM PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER**

278
279 **C. Smith** stated the \$15,000.00 donation from the partnership with Stonyfield Yogurt
280 was awarded to the Senior Center.

281
282 C. Smith stated Mack Pool has re-opened and an energy efficient pool blanket has
283 been installed.

284
285 C. Smith stated the bids for the Golf RFP are due October 29, 2010. A selection
286 committee will review.

287
288 **F - REPORT FROM MANAGER OF FIELD OPERATIONS**

289
290
291 **G - REPORT FROM RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION**

292
293 **H - REPORTS FROM RELEVANT COMMISSIONS, COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND/OR TASK**
294 **FORCES**

295
296 **I - PUBLIC COMMENTARY – GENERAL (3 Minutes per Speaker)**

297
298 **J - CLOSED SESSION TO DEAL WITH PRIVELEDGED CLIENT ATTORNEY INFORMATION**

299
300 **K - TRANSMITTALS**

301
302 **K-1** City Council Items Update

303
304 **K-2** Park Project Update

305
306 **K-3** City of Ann Arbor 2008 – 2013 Park Maintenance and Capital
307 Improvements Millage Status

308
309 There being no further business to come before the Commission, **Commissioner Grand**
310 moved that the open meeting be adjourned at 6:48 p.m. The Commission unanimously
311 agreed.