



**CITY OF ANN ARBOR – PARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**November 16, 2010**

The regular meeting of the Park Advisory Commission was held on Tuesday, November 16, 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 4:05 p.m. by Chair J. Grand.
- II. Roll Call:
  - Members Present: (8) J. Grand, S. Offen, T. Berla, D. Barrett, G. Nystuen, D. Chapman, K. Levin, T. Doyle
  - Ex-Officio Members Present: (2) M. Anglin, C. Taylor
  - Ex- Officio Members Absent: (0) None
  - Members Absent: (1) J. Lawter
  - Staff Present: (6) C. Smith, J. Straw, M. Warba, A. Kuras, J. Frenzel, L. Bowen

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTARY - AGENDA ITEMS (3 Minutes per Speaker)**

- V. Dischler** spoke on the mega phone usage near the Argo Dam.
- N. Kaplan** expressed concern regarding our parkland being protected and preserved.

**A - APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Commissioner Berla** moved supported by **Commissioner Levin** to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2010 meeting as written. The minutes of October 19, 2010 were approved unanimously.

**SPECIALPRESENTATIONS**

NAP Volunteers of the Year

**J. Frenzel** presented the NAP Volunteers Award of the year to Julie and Manfred Schmidt; J. Frenzel also read the Proclamation from Mayor John Hieftje.

52 **J. Schmidt** spoke on volunteering with the Natural Area Preservation.

53

54 **M. Schmidt** spoke on volunteering with the Natural Area Preservation.

55

56 **PUBLIC HEARING**

57

58 **B - UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

59

60 **B-1** Capital Projects Update

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62 **A. Kuras** updated the Commission on the various completed capital projects as well  
63 as upcoming projects. A. Kuras also stated the reopening of West Park will be held in  
64 June 2011.

65

66 A. Kuras explained the draft of the Pros Plan will be reviewed and placed on the  
67 website after City's Council approval of the draft. It will be approximately January  
68 2011 before this process is completed.

69

70 **K. Levin** asked if West Park is open to the public.

71

72 **A. Kuras** stated yes: there are areas of the park that are fenced off due to new  
73 plantings.

74

75 **J. Grand** complimented A. Kuras on her hard work throughout the Pros Plan and  
76 capital projects.

77

78 **B-2** Quarterly Financial update

79

80 **S. Offen** explained the financial reports to the Commission in depth.

81

82 **C. Smith** stated the financial reports are very positive regarding the participation in  
83 the various activities offered at the facilities; C. Smith also stated the revenue at the  
84 several facilities have shown very positive increases, including Cobblestone Farm,  
85 Veteran's Pool, Huron Hills Golf Course and the Senior Center to name a few.

86

87 **D. Barrett** asked if the purchase of the golf maintenance equipment have been an  
88 asset to the golf courses.

89

90 **C. Smith** stated yes, the quality of the golf courses have improved, leading to more  
91 return customers

92

93 **D. Barrett** asked if the pump at Huron Hills is working properly as that was a concern  
94 of PAC a few years ago.

95

96 **C. Smith** stated yes.

97

98 **M. Warba** explained the financial reports regarding Park Operations to the  
99 Commission in depth.

100

101 **D. Barrett** asked if the mowing cycle remains at the 21 day cycle.

102

103 **M. Warba** stated as of July 2010 the mowing cycle became a 19 day cycle and the  
104 trimming component was also restored at that time.

105 **G. Nystuen** asked for an explanation of the term “non park mowing”.

106  
107 **M. Warba** explained the non park mowing consists of various traffic islands of grass  
108 that are located throughout the City.

109  
110 **T. Berla** asked for clarification about how much support parks in totality (Community  
111 Services and Public Services) receives from the General Fund.

112  
113 **C - NEW BUSINESS**

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115 **D - COMMISSION PROPOSED BUSINESS**

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117 **T. Berla** suggested the proposed Skate Park project be discussed further.

118  
119 **G. Nystuen** suggested a work session to discuss various projects slated on the Pros  
120 Plan.

121  
122 **E - REPORT FROM PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER**

123  
124 **C. Smith** complimented A. Kuras on her hard work. C. Smith also stated City Council  
125 passed the Resolution to authorize the contract to reconstruct the Argo Dam Headrace  
126 as well as including the white water amenities. C. Smith also explained how the project  
127 would be funded.

128  
129 The Senior Center strategic plan meeting has taken place and updates will be given to  
130 the Commission at a later date.

131  
132 Buhr Ice Arena will open on Nov 1, 2010; the season used to be an 18 week season  
133 and will now be a 22 week season.

134  
135 Two proposals were received pertaining to the Huron Hills RFP. One from Miles of Golf  
136 and the other from Ann Arbor Golf. The RFP was reviewed by the Attorney’s office  
137 prior to being issued and the proposals received will also be reviewed by the Attorney’s  
138 office .

139  
140 **G. Nystuen** complimented Chair J. Grand and Parks Manager C. Smith on their  
141 presentation and representation of PAC at the recent City Council meeting held on  
142 November 15, 2010.

143  
144 **T. Doyle** asked for an explanation of the Golf RFP process and what it entails regarding  
145 the proposals received regarding the golf courses.

146  
147 **J. Grand** explained the process in detail.

148  
149 **S. Offen** asked who would be on the committee reviewing the proposals received for  
150 the golf courses.

151  
152 **C. Smith** stated those that would be representatives on the committee: Julie Grand,  
153 Colin Smith, Doug Kelly, Stephen Rapundalo, Mike Reid, Ed Walsh, and Sumedh Bahl  
154

155 **T. Berla** asked for an explanation of the basic criteria used to determine which  
156 proposal would be taken into consideration.

157  
158 C. Smith explained the criteria were varied, but included continuing golf as the main  
159 activity at Huron, while enhancing the experience, and financial benefit.

160  
161 **F - REPORT FROM MANAGER OF FIELD OPERATIONS**

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163 **G - REPORT FROM RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION**

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165 **T. Berla** updated the Commission on the financial discussions that have taken place at  
166 the meetings with the Recreation Advisory Commission.

167  
168 T. Berla also spoke on the middle schools field maintenance issue.

169  
170 **D. Barrett** spoke on the middle school field maintenance issue.

171  
172 **H - REPORTS FROM RELEVANT COMMISSIONS, COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND/OR TASK**  
173 **FORCES**

174  
175 **I - PUBLIC COMMENTARY – GENERAL** (3 Minutes per Speaker)

176  
177 **J - CLOSED SESSION TO DEAL WITH PRIVELEDGED CLIENT ATTORNEY INFORMATION**

178  
179 **K - TRANSMITTALS**

180  
181 **K-1** City Council Items Update

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183 **K-2** Park Project Update

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185 **K-3** City of Ann Arbor 2008 – 2013 Park Maintenance and Capital  
186 Improvements Millage Status

187  
188 There being no further business to come before the Commission, **Commissioner Berla**  
189 moved that the open meeting be adjourned at 5:40 p.m. The Commission unanimously  
190 agreed.