



# PARK ADVISORY COMMISSION

Minutes March 18, 2003

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Members Present:	C.Riseng R.Curry J.Satarino S.Rapundalo	J.D'Amour P.D'Anieri O.Jansson J.Cohen
Members Absent:	L.Langmore	
Ex-officio Members Present:	R.Johnson W.Woods	R.Olson S.Aeschbach
Ex-officio Members Absent:	None	
Staff Present:	J.Dehring J.Miller T.Rynard	L.Wireman K.Bemish A.Kuras
Others Present:	Pat Ryan Barbara Schneider	303 Wildwood, Ann Arbor 662-4108 206 Montgomery, Ann Arbor

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## **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Chairperson Stephen Rapundalo.

## **SECRETARY CALLS ROLL**

The secretary called the roll, with results as shown above.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTARY**

None at this time.

## **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF March 18, 2003**

Acceptance of minutes moved by Catherine Riseng, supported by John Satarino. A correction was made to the spelling of Congressman Dingell (misspelled Dingel). Minutes approved, as corrected, unanimously by voice vote.

## **RESOLUTION TO PROHIBIT ACTIVE AND INVASIVE GROUNDWATER TREATMENT AND STORAGE FACILITIES IN PARKLAND**

Resolution moved by Phil D'Anieri, supported by Catherine Riseng. Mr. D'Anieri asked if there was any risk, with passage of the resolution, that we would ward off something in the future that we wish we had not. Bob Johnson responded that it is a legitimate concern. Mr. Rapundalo suggested tweaking the resolution to give us that option. John

Satarino remarked that the court is mandating most of the steps. The judicial process can override anything. Mr. Rapundalo added that we don't want to have invasive installations. Mr. Johnson remarked that the most important thing is to find where the plume is and added he would suggest stating no monitoring wells also, "in the absence of a scientifically well-supported plan that would protect the city's water supply." Janet Cohen suggested stating it as "in the absence of compelling evidence," which means that there is no other place to put it and proposed it as a friendly amendment. James D'Amour accepted the amendment. Mr. D'Anieri commented that basically what we are trying to say is "council, place it in a park only as a last resort." Mr. Olson stated that if there is a study that requires one in a park, it should be placed to minimize the disruption of people who want to use the park(s). Mr. Olson stated that Pall/Gelman would be held liable if something happened to the well and a lawsuit was filed and asked if we have to give the right for them to use public property to them for free. Mr. Olson stated we should get compensated. Janet Cohen remarked that she doesn't like having an outline of what to do if wells are needed included in the resolution and suggested a separate resolution for that. Catherine Riseng commented that it could say "should it be required by law or permit." Mr. D'Anieri stated we want to keep it clear that we really, really don't want the well/s on parkland. Mr. Rapundalo suggested it could be a set of administrative guidelines. John Satarino added that the Building Department should have to consider our concerns before issuing a permit by getting PAC or Parks Department approval. Wendy Woods advised that City Council is still taking comments; the issue is too big and won't be resolved quickly. Ms. Woods agreed that a separate resolution might be good but it would be advantageous to wait until everyone has a copy of the new ordinance. Mr. Olson stated we could develop some permit guidelines and share that information. Owen Jansson remarked that resolutions seem to get lost and what we need as guidelines should be included in the ordinance. Permit criteria relative to parkland should be included in the ordinance, as part of this resolution (incorporated into). The Environmental Coordinator and Parks and Recreation staff should develop the criteria. Bob Johnson stated that the second resolved exercises the importance of what's going on. Ms. Woods' hesitancy is that new scientific methods could tie your hands. Janet Cohen stated the first resolved should state none allowed unless no other alternative exists. Ms. Woods commented that as we find out more things, it may change so as we write it we need to be careful. Mr. Olson stated that most likely the court will issue something but a park is a unique piece of public space. A water study was done several years ago and maybe over a period of time our service lakes are getting exposure and may be a good idea to check them also. There are people in the neighborhood that have never been tested. Dave Borneman advised that Third Sister Lake is contaminated, but First and Second Sister Lakes are not. Mr. Olson advised there was a study in the mid-90's, which had more to do with the graveling operation of Killins Concrete near there. We do have the ability at the Water Plant if it is sampled properly. Ms. Cohen stated the word "proper" bothers her in the second whereas. Steve suggested complete or definitive. Resolution passed, as amended, unanimously by voice vote. A copy of the approved resolution is attached and is included as a part of these minutes.

#### **POSITION ON RESOLUTION REGARDING GREENWAYS-NATURAL FEATURES COMMITTEE**

Mr. Olson received a resolution from Heidi Herrell, who asked that PAC take a look at it. Mr. Olson commented that he thinks that the intent is good but the resolution brought the impression that PAC and the Parks Department haven't been doing much in this regard. Mr. Olson suggested including other things in the elements of the resolution and to

identify the fact that there are other more significant sources. Ms. Herrell wants to present this to City Council on April 7. Ms. Cohen asked how the resolution would change anything that is currently being done. Mr. Olson responded that there has been some idea that there hasn't been enough done regarding greenways. James D'Amour asked if the resolution would tie our hands with regards to land acquisitions. Mr. Rapundalo stated that this is what is in the PROS Plan and it is important to the initiative. It is very important that we acquire as much space as possible along the Huron River. Mr. Olson answered that he doesn't believe it would tie our hands to anything as far as land acquisition. Owen Jansson stated that if PAC does anything, he would be more inclined to support a couple of sentences memo to Heidi Herrell that states we continue to support the initiative. Phil D'Anieri added that municipal governments had the right to eminent domain and it happens all the time (i.e., Bader School, land next to it), and we must pay fair market value. James D'Amour remarked that he doesn't have a problem with the resolution. Owen Jansson moved that PAC simply write a memo expressing continued support for the greenway program. Motion supported by Janet Cohen. John Satarino asked if the resolution is going somewhere. Mr. Olson advised Ms. Herrell would like to present it to City Council on April 7. Mr. Satarino asked if PAC's and Parks and Recreation staff revisions would be included in what would go to council. Mr. Rapundalo proposed to accept a friendly amendment to correct misleading information and forward it to Ms. Herrell with a memo. Ms. Woods remarked that in terms of sending the resolution back, this is their resolution, and it might be more beneficial to have a meeting with those that think that we aren't doing enough with regards to the greenways, perhaps a combined meeting. Bob Johnson stated that the resolution does make it look like the Parks Department isn't doing anything when in reality millions of dollars are being spent. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Mr. Johnson asked if pathways are a part of land acquisition. Amy Kuras responded that they are negotiated in site plans and we haven't purchased any outright lands for pathways. Pathway costs vary depending on the conditions of the land. Mr. Johnson remarked that there seems to be a conflict sometimes between open space and greenways. Mr. Satarino asked if PAC must accept parkland that is donated by a developer. Mr. Olson responded that the large donations come to PAC. Mr. Satarino asked if the Lowertown development has been accepted by City Council and Mr. Olson responded that it has not.

### **INTRODUCTION TO THE FARMERS MARKET – LOUISE WIREMAN**

Louise Wireman, Market Manager, stated she has been on-board since August 2002. The Farmers Market has been here over 80 years and is going through more changes. The Market started out small but now has a nice structure. People come to shop here because they want to, not because they have to. A Master Plan is now beginning for the area. Kerrytown has a new Director and is more active about using the Farmers Market as a gathering place. The office has also been fixed up. Ms. Wireman is working on having a Flower Day at the end of May. Earth Day will be celebrated at the Market this year, combined with the Artisan Market. John Satarino asked about the house demolition. Ms. Wireman responded that the contract for demolition was just approved. Once the house comes down and until a plan is determined, she will look into using it for daily stalls. The space won't be used for parking. The process for development of the Master Plan will begin soon. The consultants will do 12 different meetings and they are bringing in a public space planner. Jayne Miller advised that the time frame is to have the plan done by next fall. The Market Fund is an Enterprise Fund, like the Golf Course, so we will phase in the improvements. Depreciation costs will go up as improvements are made.

## **UPDATE RE: FIELD USAGE POLICY**

Terry Rynard reported that all the groups met that are currently interested in space at Fuller Park and everyone got what they wanted. The fields will be used every day, with two fields being closed per season. The time schedule is every evening from 4:30 p.m. until dark and all day Saturday and Sunday. Mr. Rapundalo asked if the policy reflects favoring of any group. Ms. Rynard responded that the policy has not been adopted. We need to go back and have a plan if plan A doesn't work. Jayne Miller remarked that they are working on a process to bring back to RAC and PAC. John Satarino commented that the summer brochure is out and asked if fees were determined in terms of budgeting. Ms. Miller responded that fees are consistent with what they were a year ago. Programs overlap two fiscal years and any fee changes would go into effect next spring. Steve Rapundalo asked when the budget will be discussed. Ron Olson answered that there will be a meeting next week on the General Fund. Council wants any fee increases to be dealt with all at one time. One thing different this year than in the past is the reorganizing and the 5% reduction. Mr. Rapundalo remarked that if information doesn't come to PAC it will be difficult if they have major concern over what is being cut. Mr. Olson stated that it is Roger Fraser's (City Administrator) budget process and he wants it taken to City Council first, then there are pieces and parts that will have to come back and looked at by PAC. Phil D'Anieri commented that PAC has found most useful a document that states what is going to be affected; a list only of things that will be reduced. Mr. Olson added that there is no intent to hold back anything at all and next year will be more normalized.

## **MOLIN/MORRIS AWARD**

Ron Olson advised that past recipients of this award is someone that has been very close to the PAC process, a former member, or someone that embodies the zeal and desire of the parks system. Three prospects were suggested: Joyce Chesbrough, former PAC member; Virginia Johansen (one-time Chair of PAC, former City Council member, now serving on the Market Commission and Chair of People for Parks); and Kim Waldo, former PAC member.

**PAC WORK PLAN** – Tabled to April 2003 meeting.

**RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE REPORT** – James D'Amour – Mr. D'Amour reported that RAC and PAC continue working on operating agreements.

Announcements – The next Land Acquisition Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 25, in the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room at City Hall.

Bob Johnson advised that a Councilmember has brought up whether PAC meetings should be televised.

**ADJOURNMENT** – Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.