



## Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

### MINUTES OF MEETING

**Date:** March 14, 2019

**Time:** 2:00 p.m.

**Location:** Administration Building, 2230 Platt Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48104

**Members Present:** Robert Marans, WCPARC President; Patricia Scribner, Vice President; Janice Anschuetz, WCPARC Secretary-Treasurer, Brenda McKinney, Evan Pratt, Janis Bobrin, Daniel Ezekiel, Barbara Fuller, and Sue Shink

**Members Absent:** Ricky Jefferson

**Staff Present:** Coy Vaughn, Director; Meghan Bonfiglio, Deputy Director; Ginny Trocchio, Superintendent of Park Planning and Natural Areas; Rosie Pahl Donaldson, Park Planner

**Others Present:** Toni Spears, Jack Smiley, Barry Lonik

#### 1. Call To Order

#### 2. Public Comment

Toni Spears: Washtenaw County BOC called for the establishment of a committee to review the 2010 millage language prior to any future renewal.

#### 3. Natural Areas Program and Priorities

Ms. Trocchio provided background information on the NAPP program including acreage protected over time, funds expended broken down by jurisdiction. An overview of conservation easements and major terms were also presented. Ms. Trocchio provided an overview of some of the reserved rights that landowners have requested to be included in conservation easements, such as building envelopes and land divisions. She outlined pros and cons of different scenarios and when these elements are advantageous and how to evaluate them.

The majority of the discussion was then focused on identifying the Commission's priorities for evaluating acquisition projects that come to them for approvals; to help staff identify what is most important to the Commission. Staff identified criteria that has been mentioned in discussions and each was discussed:

1. Assessment and prioritization mapping
2. NATAC and ALPAC review and prioritization (annually based on nominations received in that round.)
  - i. Partnerships and leveraged funds: Currently no set standard or minimum

3. Addition to existing county-owned preserves
4. Geographic distribution
  - i. Recreation in the township – less opportunity would mean higher ranking/point value
  - ii. Also reviewed as distribution of NAPP funds throughout the County.
5. Township support
  - i. Stewardship Considerations: feedback was solicited from our Stewardship staff for characteristics of land that should be considered to understand the impact on the new acquisition from a management and cost perspective – concerns would be articulated to the commission upon recommendation.
6. Site readiness costs
7. Other considerations
  - i. Proximity to the B2B trail should be considered

Ms. Trocchio walked the Commission through an exercise to determine how the criteria should be weighted. The results below show the criteria in order of highest priority to the Commission.

#### Criteria ranking - NATAC

1. NATAC
2. Assessment
3. Addition to county-owned
4. Stewardship
5. Partnership
6. Site Readiness
7. Geographic distribution
8. Additional NR in CVT
9. Township Support

#### Criteria ranking - ALPAC

1. NATAC/ALPAC
2. Assessment
3. Partnership/leveraged funds
4. Monitoring / stewardship consideration
5. Geographic distribution – funds
6. Township support
7. Land preserved in Township

#### **4. Adjournment**

**It was moved by Ms. Fuller with support from Ms. Bobrin to adjourn the meeting at 4:30 p.m. Ayes all, meeting was adjourned.**