



**Washtenaw County  
Department of Planning & Environment**

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**Planning Advisory Board  
Meeting Minutes  
Monday, April 28, 2008**

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**Members Present**

Blackmore, Blistein, Bobrin, Callan, Dopkowski, Gartin, Gray, Grewal, Kelly, Meyer, Solowczuk, Walz

**Members Absent**

Lewis (excused), Lovejoy-Roe (excused), Smith (excused), Williams (excused)

**Staff Present**

Dale, Denig, Kowalski, Lenart

**Guests Present**

Pat Valliencourt (alternate from SWWCOG for Bill Lewis)

**Call to Order and Roll Call**

Grewal called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. Roll Call was taken and quorum was met.

**Approval of Minutes**

Blackmore moved to approve the minutes from the March 31, 2008 meeting, Blistein seconded and the motion carried.

**Approval of Agenda**

Kelly moved to approve the agenda, Gray seconded and the motion carried.

**Public Comment – none**

**Report of the Chair – none**

**Old Business – none**

**New Business**

Sylvan Township Master Plan Update

Dale reported that this is a full update to the Sylvan Township Master Plan, and the only portion that is not compatible with *A Comprehensive Plan from Washtenaw County* is the definition of “rural residential” as having a two-acre minimum lot size. To be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan that needs to be changed to a minimum of five acres. There are some enhancements possible, including adopting the WATS Non-Motorized Plan and the Transit Plan, as well as adopting additional language around protecting historic resources. Additionally, in order to be eligible for PDR there would need to be more information about agricultural preservation and a specific agricultural overlay would need to be identified on a map. Josh Long, the Washtenaw County Energy Coordinator, suggested adding language regarding wind power, similar to that included in the wind ordinance recently adopted by the Township.

Blackmore moved that the PAB recommend approval by the BOC with the following changes to the staff suggestions: adding additional recommendations on methods of rural residential and agricultural preservation, and to focus development around an urban core and recommend considering an urban service district. Kelly seconded and the motion carried.

### **Report of the Director of Planning Services – Patricia Denig**

Denig reported that Evan Pratt will be appointed as the Washtenaw Metro Alliance representative, and that Corporation Counsel is almost done with the review of legislation around the Parks and Recreation representative. The Department has received a notice of intent of amend the master plan in Sharon Township, and Denig mentioned some of the possibilities for presentations at upcoming meetings.

### **Other Items for Discussion**

#### Regional Group and Outside Agency Updates

Kelly reported that CAPT/DART has not met since before the previous PAB meeting.

Gray reported that the discussion is ongoing with Parks and Recreation to attempt to save the Rawsonville School and possibly turn it into a trailhead on the border-to-border trail.

Dopkowski reported that Terri Blackmore gave a presentation at the last MORE meeting and that it was well-received.

Meyer reported that there was a presentation about the Saline Library's expansion project at the last SSC meeting, and that there will be a presentation on wind turbines at the May 20 meeting at Pittsfield Township Hall. Also, the Township is considering moving the Cody house from its current location in order to preserve it; Pittsfield Township is currently seeking feedback from residents on whether this is a good idea.

Valliencourt reported that SWWCOG/MCJPC has decided to restrict the SWWCOG portion of the meeting to a half-hour in order to devote more time to developing a joint Master Plan. In June there will be a meeting with all of the boards and planning commissions for the townships.

Blackmore reported that she will be giving a presentation at the next CAPT/DART meeting, which will be on May 19 the same evening as the PAB meeting

Walz reported from the Board of Public Works that the Waste Knot awards ceremony was held to award new Waste Knot partners. They have started working again on the Multilakes improvement project and are working on establishing lake management/weed control programs for a few lakes in the County.

Callan reported that the City of Ann Arbor has voted to join the Urban County, significantly increasing federal funding and briefly explained the benefits of being involved in the Urban County.

#### Public Policy News

There was no news, but several PAB members have been signed up to attend a training session on June 3 about the new Consolidated Planning Act.

## **Committee Reports**

### Nominating Committee

Blackmore reported that the slate included in the agenda packet was decided upon after reviewing past records, including attendance records. The proposed slate includes Mandy Grewal for chair; Bill Lewis for first vice chair; Feliziana Meyer for second vice chair; Steve Solowczuk for Parks and Recreation representative; Bill Lewis for Agricultural Lands Preservation Advisory Committee representative; and Charles Gray for Historic District Commission representative.

Blackmore moved that the slate be accepted as proposed and Kelly seconded. Solowczuk made a friendly amendment that the nominations be closed and this slate be recommended to the Board of Commissioners. Blackmore and Kelly agreed to the amendment and the motion carried.

**Public Comment** – none

### **Adjourn**

Solowczuk moved to adjourn at 7:19 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for May 19, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. in the **MSUE lower level Conference Room**.