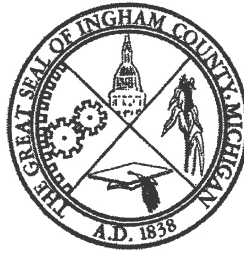


Chairperson
Teri Banas

**Ingham County
Trails And Parks Task Force**

Members
Sarah Anthony
Robin Case Naeyaert
Carol Koenig
Randy Maiville
Deb Nolan
Todd Tennis

Vice-Chairperson
Penelope Tsernoglou



THE TRAILS AND PARKS TASK FORCE WILL MEET ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015 AT 6:00 P.M., IN THE PERSONNEL CONFERENCE ROOM (D & E), HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING, 5303 S. CEDAR, LANSING.

Agenda

Call to Order
Approval of September 30, 2015 Minutes
Additions to Agenda
Limited Public Comment

1. Master Plan Development Discussion

- a. Discussion: Run-through of Trails Master Plan decision-making elements and timetable with Mannik-Smith. Commissioner questions and comments
- b. Expenditures by categories: new construction, reconstruction, preservation/repair, operations/maintenance, parks, special projects.
- c. Priority trail and park improvement criteria; % on millage allocation categories; annual formulas; competitive, non-competitive grants; percentage per category or by determined project; funding for administrative and operational needs.

2. Brief overview of public forum process from Delhi and Meridian Townships

3. Online survey update, questions and discussion

Announcements
Public Comment
Adjournment

A quorum of the Board of Commissioners will be present.

TRAILS AND PARKS TASK FORCE
September 30, 2015
Minutes - Draft

Members Present: Banas, Anthony, Bahar-Cook, Hope, Koenig (arrived at 6:05 p.m.),
Maiville, Naeyaert, Nolan, and Tsernoglou (arrived at 6:02 p.m. and
departed at 7:12 p.m.)

Members Absent: Crenshaw and Tennis

Others Present: Tim Morgan, Jared Cypher, Lucie Fortin, Nancy Krupiarz Janet Eyster,
Robin Stites, and others

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Banas at 6:01 p.m. in Personnel Conference
Room "D & E" of the Human Services Building, 5303 S. Cedar Street, Lansing, Michigan.

Commissioner Tsernoglou arrived at 6:02 p.m.

Approval of the February 19, 2015 Meeting Minutes

MOVED BY COMM. HOPE, SUPPORTED BY COMM. ANTHONY, TO APPROVE THE
MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 19, 2015 MEETING.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioners Crenshaw, Koenig, and
Tennis.

Additions to the Agenda

None.

Limited Public Comment

None.

1. Presentations: (Power Point)
 - a. Consultant Mannik Smith Group and Michigan Trails & Greenways Alliance
"Team" Project Overview: Project Tasks, Timeline, Website

Commissioner Koenig arrived at 6:05 p.m.

Lucie Fortin, Mannik & Smith Group, introduced her team of Nancy Krupiarz, Michigan Trails
and Greenways Alliance, and Jerry Richards, Mannik & Smith Group, to the Task Force. Ms.
Fortin presented a project overview to the Task Force.

- b. System Inventory and Conditions: Consultant Mannik Smith Group Data
Collection of Existing Trails, Bridges, Waterways and Parks within Ingham County

Ms. Fortin presented an inventory and analysis for the existing trails, bridges, waterways, and parks within Ingham County.

There was a discussion about the cost estimates and allocation of funding for bridges repairs.

Ms. Fortin continued with the presentation of data on the existing trails, bridges, waterways, and parks within Ingham County.

Commissioner Nolan requested more legible copies of the presentation.

Ms. Fortin indicated she would post the presentation to the website dedicated to this project.

Commissioner Anthony asked if the final report would include data on usage.

Ms. Fortin indicated that was not part of the original request from the task force.
Commissioner Anthony expressed interest in collecting this type of data.

Tim Morgan, Parks Director, stated that user counts were not a part of this Request for Proposal (RFP). He further stated that this data could be part of special projects for the millage.

2. Emergency Bridge Repairs, Costs and Cost Share

Chairperson Banas stated Mannik & Smith Group had provided an outline for some of the critical repairs discovered in the County. She further stated this memo would also come before the next County Services Committee meeting for discussion.

Commissioner Nolan stated that she was only in favor of spending millage dollars after an allocation process had been established.

MOVED BY COMM. NOLAN, SUPPORTED BY COMM. KOENIG, TO ONLY SPEND MILLAGE MONEY THRU THIS COMMITTEE ONCE A PROPER ALLOCATION PROCESS HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED.

Commissioner Nolan stated that she was making the motion so that the Task Force could weigh in on the process to allocate millage dollars for trails and parks. She further stated that she did not want millage dollars spent before a process had been established.

Commissioner Naeyaert asked if any millage money would be spent without directive from the Task Force.

Jared Cypher, Deputy Controller, stated that no requests for funding had been received.

Commissioner Nolan stated that millage dollars should accrue until a process for allocation was established.

Commissioner Maiville stated that he supported the establishment of process for allocation. He further stated that he supported using some millage money to repair the Lansing River Trail or other sites that need emergency repair. He indicated there may be the possibility of leveraging matching grant money. He stated that he did not want to squander millage money before a process was established.

Commissioner Bahar-Cook stated that this group did not have the right to determine the allocation of millage dollars. She further stated the allocation should go thru normal committee process and then ultimately decided by the Board of Commissioners as a whole.

Commissioner Nolan stated that this would be hashed out on the Board Floor eventually.

Commissioner Tsernoglou clarified that this is just a resolution to recommend.

Commissioner Nolan stated that was in fact her intention. She further stated that everything must go through the Board.

Mr. Cypher agreed that everything would be ultimately voted on the Board floor.

Commissioner Naeyaert asked why any committee would spend millage money prior to input from the Task Force. She further stated that this would make the Task Force obsolete.

Commissioner Koenig stated that her understanding of the motion was to prevent an end run around the process. She asked why the memo item was on the agenda for the next County Services meeting.

Chairperson Banas stated the memo was referred to County Services.

Commissioner Anthony asked if the Task Force could pass a resolution.

Commissioner Koenig stated that Task Force was a subcommittee and the role is to recommend. Commissioner Anthony stated that the Chairperson of County Services was not on the Task Force which could result in a breakdown of communication. She further stated she was hesitant to make any recommendations. She indicated she agreed that a process was needed but that emergencies happen that may require immediate response.

Commissioner Nolan stated that she could not see circumventing the process because the City of Lansing has an emergency.

Commissioner Anthony stated that the consultant identified the critical items. She further stated that the City of Lansing did not bring this matter to the Board.

Commissioner Naeyaert stated that she was not sure why this memo was appearing before the County Services Committee.

Commissioner Bahar-Cook stated that she would like hear the presentation on the ranking of repairs and associated costs before initiating a discussion on who should receive millage money.

Chairperson Banas asked the representatives from Mannik & Smith Group to explain the memo included in the packet.

Ms. Fortin and Mr. Richards reviewed the memo from Matthew T. Mikolajczyk, Mannik & Smith Group, regarding the bridge repairs costs and ranking.

Commissioner Nolan stated that the consultants were hired by the County to identify the status of bridges. She asked if other cities and townships had resolved their repair issues.

There was a discussion regarding which repairs had been completed and which had not.

Commissioner Nolan stated that this committee was put together to allocate millage dollars. She further stated that if the City of Lansing goes through the process established by the committee, then they can have millage dollars.

Mr. Richards indicated he was working with the City of Lansing. He further indicated Mannik & Smith Group was very close to signing a contract with the City of Lansing.

Commissioner Bahar-Cook stated that the City of Lansing was being targeted. She stated that the City of Lansing had not asked for millage money. She further stated that if a safety issue was identified, the County should consider fixing the issue.

Commissioner Maiville stated that the County Services Committee had received a referral to address the memo. He further stated this was not a request from the City of Lansing. He indicated that a process was necessary before allocation of millage dollars.

Commissioner Tsernoglou stated that a process should be in place by December and that is was also necessary to receive public input. She further stated the consultant was simply identifying problem areas. She stated that these were not necessarily recommendations to the County, rather to let the municipalities know of the issues. She indicated that she favored outlining a process receiving public input prior to distributing millage dollars to any jurisdiction.

Commissioner Naeyaert indicated that all requests should be considered from all jurisdictions.

Commissioner Koenig stated that fairness was the key. She further stated that she supported a resolution to recommend no action be taken until a process was detailed in order to take pressure off her fellow commissioners to make any decisions. She indicated that the Lansing River Trail was the heart of the Trails and Parks Millage.

Commissioner Nolan stated her objection to the characterization and hostility towards the City of Lansing. She further stated that she wanted to ensure the Lansing River Trail was repaired. She indicated that she desired a process for the allocation first. She specified that she wanted the Task Force to be the body that dispenses all of the millage dollars.

Commissioner Maiville stated that the focus should be on the big picture first and balancing fairness. He indicated he was also in favor of using millage dollars to repair the Lansing River Trail.

There was a discussion about the wording and meaning of the motion made by Commissioner Nolan.

The motion was amended as follows:

MOVED BY COMM. NOLAN, SUPPORTED BY COMM. KOENIG, TO ONLY SPEND MILLAGE MONEY ~~THRU THIS COMMITTEE~~ ONCE A PROPER ALLOCATION PROCESS HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED BY THIS TASK FORCE.

This was considered a friendly amendment.

THE MOTION CARRIED, AS AMENDED. **Yeas:** Banas, Naeyaert, Koenig, Maiville, Nolan, and Tsernoglou **Nays:** Anthony, Bahar-Cook, and Hope **Absent:** Crenshaw and Tennis

Mr. Cypher stated for clarification that the process would ultimately be adopted by the Board of Commissioners. He further stated that the Task Force would recommend the process and then it would go through County Services and Finance Committees and, finally, to the Board of Commissioners for approval.

Commissioner Koenig asked what the objection was to the motion.

Commissioner Anthony stated she thought this motion may send some type of message and indicated she felt very torn about the issue. She further stated that she felt a process should be in place to allocate the millage money.

Commissioner Naeyaert stated her concern was that the Lansing commissioners want to have a process but may not want to vote on that process.

Commissioner Anthony asked if there was an estimation of when the process would be finalized.

Commissioner Hope stated that the resolution was not productive and would only fuel the fire between Lansing and the outlying county areas. She further stated that a process could be created and emergency situations could be addressed, at the same time.

Commissioner Tsernoglou departed at 7:12 p.m.

3. Public Meetings: Sites, Dates and Format - Consultant Mannik Smith Group and Michigan Trails & Greenways Alliance "Team"

Ms. Krupiarz provided a presentation on the public meeting format and reviewed necessary decisions of the Task Force.

Commissioner Bahar-Cook asked for the difference between reconstruction and repairs.

Mr. Morgan explained the technical difference.

Ms. Krupiarz continued the presentation on the public meeting format and upcoming decisions of the Task Force.

Commissioner Nolan asked if the public meetings would include blue ways.

Ms. Krupiarz stated this subject had a limited audience and may require a special focus group.

Ms. Fortin indicated that it would be included in the public meeting, but that it may not produce the needed information.

Commissioner Anthony asked if it was possible to engage the Power of We Consortium.

Chairperson Banas indicated she would reach out to the director.

4. Task Force Meeting Schedule: Items for Next Meeting

Chairperson Banas suggested that the next meeting be scheduled for October 22, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioner Bahar-Cook stated that she would be unable to attend.

5. Commissioner Issues and Concerns

Chairperson Banas stated that there was a need to be mindful of the projects funded through the millage as there will not be ownership of the infrastructure. She further stated that there should be an assurance that the trails and parkways continue even if there is no longer millage dollars to support them.

Announcements

Mr. Morgan stated that he wanted Ms. Fortin to clarify the timelines of the project as there may have been some confusion.

Ms. Fortin indicated that the public input portion of the process should be complete by December. She further indicated the final decisions of the Task Force should be made between December and March.

Public Comment

Janet Eyster, of Williamstown Township, asked if the presentation could be made available to the public.

Mr. Morgan provided Ms. Eyster with the link to the website where the information would be available. He also stated that there were flyers provided to the Commissioners with a link to the website.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.