

Meeting Minutes
Saline Sustainability Circle
Tuesday April 15, 2008
Liberty School, Saline

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Chairperson Lirones called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Present:

Lodi Township: Jack Steeb, Doug Veenstra

Pittsfield Township: Christina Lirones, Feliziana Meyer

Saline Area Chamber of Commerce: Larry Osterling

Saline Area Schools: Thomas Wall

City of Saline: David Rhoads

Saline District Library: Leslee Niethammer

Saline Township: Laurie Leinbach

Washtenaw County Planning: Terry Brinkman

York Township: Keith Fineberg, Jane Kartje

2. Review and Acceptance of Minutes from March 18, 2008

Motion by Steeb, supported by Rhoads, to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion carried.

3. Saline District Library Construction Update, and What's Happening in May 2008 –
Leslee Niethammer

Design of the expansion was based on significant community input.

Construction of the expanded library is on schedule and on budget. Move-in is scheduled for the month of May.

The newly expanded building has doubled in size. A second entrance has been added near the Middle School parking lot.

The library has worked with Saline Area Schools to allow additional, convenient parking for the library in the Middle School parking lot. Additional work will take place this summer to reconfigure the parking lot.

A new drive-up drop box has been installed for the convenience of library patrons.

Program areas have been significantly expanded.

May schedule:

5:00 Friday May 2: Temporary library at Liberty School closes

9:00 Tuesday May 27: Regular library re-opens

10:00 – 3:00 Saturday May 31: Grand re-opening celebration

Library materials due while library is closed may be returned to the drive-up drop box at the new building.

4. Future Agenda Items

Downtown Saline plans (Art Trapp, Todd Campbell)

Wind Turbines (May meeting)

Review the Regional Planning Guidelines

Develop a strategy for Private Wastewater Treatment Plants within the SSC region
Transfer of Development Rights (Elizabeth Riggs)

5. Announcements and Meeting Notices

The Saline Area Historical Society is meeting 7:00 Wednesday April 16 at the Senior Center.

Saline Salutes will take place Friday April 18.

York Township will celebrate Earth Day 10:00 – 3:00 on Saturday April 19 at Sandra Richardson Park.

The Toyota Technical Center development is proceeding in York Township. Toyota plans to move in late fall. Willis Road between Platt Road and the railroad tracks will be totally closed for about two weeks for construction starting Monday, April 21. Construction should be complete by the end of the summer. Further work on the alignment of US-23 ramps at Willis Road will take place this summer.

The Saline Leadership Institute has one opening for Class 11, which starts next week.

Training for the new Michigan Planning Enabling Act will be held at the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds on Tuesday June 3. For details, see http://pzcenter.msu.edu/documents/MPEAtrainingbrochure8_5x11b.pdf. Register at <http://pzcenter.msu.edu/registerMPEAtraining2008.php>.

SEMCOG has released its 2035 Forecast for Southeast Michigan:
<http://library.semco.org/InmagicGenie/DocumentFolder/2035SEMCOGForecast.pdf>

Construction has started on the new FedEx facility on State Road north of Campus Drive. Wal-Mart construction is on hold pending right-of-way issues for widening State Road and Michigan Avenue.

Saline Area Schools update:

Scot Graden is the new Superintendent.

The High School is going to trimesters this fall.

The Middle School is going to a five period schedule this fall.

Tom Wall distributed a Bus Stop and Route Criteria memo in response to comments at the January meeting.

According to MEAP data in the April 9 Ann Arbor News, Saline is in the top 5 in the region in 22 out of 25 categories, number 1 or 2 in 17 out of 25 categories.

Local Update of Census Addresses data was submitted by Washtenaw County for 10 jurisdictions that did not directly participate.

6. Next Meeting Dates and Locations

May 20, 2008 – Pittsfield Township Administration Building. Wind turbines, a

presentation by John Sarver, State of Michigan, on types of turbines in use in Michigan, siting guidelines, model ordinances, energy generation capacity, etc.

7. Adjournment

Motion by Kartje, supported by Steeb, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas Veenstra
Secretary

Visit the Saline Sustainability Circle website at www.salinesustainability.org.

Memo

To: Pittsfield Township: Christina Lirones, Jim Walter
Lodi Township: Bob Crowner, Jack Steeb, Doug Veenstra, Jan Godek
Saline Area Chamber of Commerce: Larry Osterling
City of Saline, Todd Campbell, Gretchen Driskell, Gary Roubal
York Township: Keith Fineberg, Jan Kartje
Washtenaw County Planning and Environment: Mike Scholl
Saline Area Schools: Scot Graden, Tom Wall
Saline Township: Laurie Leinbach
Freedom Township
Bridgewater Township

From: Saline Area Schools Transportation Department

Date: April 15, 2008

Re: Bus Stop and Route Criteria

During the process of designing sub divisions, the site plans or blue prints would be voluntarily viewed by the Saline Area Schools Transportation Department at no cost. This would assist in verifying that bus stop areas are designed with safety in mind and will meet Saline Area Schools' policies.

Saline Area Schools Transportation Department has the following criteria used for safe bus stops.

- Bus stops will be established based on walking distance to schools
Current Policy:
 - Students in 5-12 grades may walk up to a mile to school
 - Kindergarten thru 4th grades may walk a half mile to school
- Bus needs adequate site distance at stops,
 - If speed limit is more than 35 mph - buses must have 400 feet of continuously visibility
 - If speed limit is equal or less than 35 mph - buses must have 200 feet of continuous visibility

Subdivisions both in-town and rural areas

- Sidewalks for students to travel to bus stops safely
- Street lights in all walking areas
- Place group stops at public areas such as parks

- Subdivisions designed with two entrances, for easy entrance and exit
- Layout of subdivisions be visually friendly for bus stops
- Caution in the design of roads with intersections that would have steep inclines or declines
- Have adequate road width for buses to travel, if parking is allowed on roadway. (Width of School Bus 10')
- Buses do not travel down dead end streets or cul de sacs under 1 mile
- Cul de Sacs that are over one mile long need to have adequate radius for buses to turn around in (varies per bus)

In-Town Bus Stops

- Street lights for walking to bus stop areas and schools
- Place group stops at public areas such as parks
- Bus stop is prohibited within 50 feet of an intersection controlled by a traffic signal
- Bus stops cannot be within 200 feet of a roadway intersection
- Use crossing guards at busy intersections
- Four lane roads need adequate area for buses to pull off on the right, so a yellow light stop may be used. Student must only exit to the right.

TRANSPORTATION

Criteria Used To Set Up Bus Routes

- Bus routes and bus stops are based on previous year
- Safety issues: (in conjunction with law enforcement agencies)
 - Consideration of additional bus stops when no sidewalks/street lights are available
 - Streets/roadways with high traffic volume are consideration for additional bus stops
- Length of bus ride
- Economical implications
- Student enrollment
- Consistency with bus stops throughout the district
 - Out-of-town
 - Rural
 - Stops at least 200' apart based on location of students
 - Consolidated bus stops to remain the same as much as possible
 - Use of public areas as much as possible
 - Subdivisions
 - Stops at least 1,056' apart based upon location of students
 - Consolidated bus stops to remain the same as much as possible
 - Use of public areas as much as possible
 - In-town
 - Establish bus stops based on walking distance of the school
 - Stops to remain the same annually unless a concern/issues surfaces or a resident complains of property damage and requests to have a bus stop removed from their property
 - Use of public areas as much as possible

Eligibility To Ride Buses

- Grades 5-12 live over one (1) mile from school, Grades k-4 live over one half (½) mile from school
- Strive to limit bus ride to one (1) hour or less
- Do not enter an area for bus pick-up/drop off that does not have a separate entrance/exit (i.e. cul-de-sac, dead end, etc...)

Administrative Regulations or Board of Education Policy

- Public Act 187, 1990, sec 55 as amended - Governs transportation