

Meeting Minutes
Saline Sustainability Circle
Tuesday March 17, 2009
Pittsfield Township Hall

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Vice Chairperson Rhoads called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

Present:

Lodi Township: Jack Steeb, Doug Veenstra

Pittsfield Township: Barb Fuller, Ann Harris, Gerald Krone

Saline Area Schools: Tom Wall

Saline Area Chamber of Commerce: Larry Osterling

City of Saline: David Rhoads, Art Trapp

Saline Township: Laurie Leinbach

Washtenaw County Office of Strategic Planning: Brett Lenart

York Township: Jane Kartje, Gary Zajac

2. Review and Acceptance of Minutes from February 17, 2009

Motion by Steeb, supported by Leinbach, to approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Update to Regional Plan

Brett Lenart of the Washtenaw County Office of Strategic Planning discussed how to move forward with the development of a regional plan

- He presented a draft First Steps Service Grant proposal to the Partnerships for Change <http://www.partnershipsforchange.cc/>, affiliated with the Land Information Access Association (<http://liaa.org/>). The grant proposal may be viewed at http://salinesustainability.org/meetings/2009Meetings/LIAA_grant_proposal_03172009.pdf.
- He suggests a request for \$7000 to get started. This would help focus our discussions and the Partnerships for Change would lead our group through prioritization exercises.
- Later, we could bring in educational resources to learn more about the top items.
- We would key on high priority items to develop either an update to our regional plan or a new plan.
- The next step would be to develop an implementation plan.
- Implementation will require additional funding; grant money may be available.
- Partnerships for Change requires a funding match in order for it to consider a grant application. Brett suggests \$250 each jurisdiction, \$100 Chamber of Commerce, \$100 Saline Area Schools, for a total of \$1450 or at least 20% of request.
- Motion by Steeb, supported by Leinbach:
The Saline Sustainability Circle and its members will move forward with an application for a grant from Partnerships for Change by adopting resolutions as presented by Brett Lenart.

- Next step: each jurisdiction is to adopt a resolution including allocation of funding for local match. See http://salinesustainability.org/meetings/2009Meetings/grant_proposal_resolution.doc for a sample resolution in Microsoft Word format.
- Members are to send copies of adopted resolutions to Brett Lenart by the April SSC meeting.
- Matching money will not be due until Partnerships for Change approves the grant.

4. Next Meetings

- The April 21, 2009, meeting will be held at the Pittsfield Township Administration Building. The agenda will include the Ann Arbor Region Success Project.
- The May 19, 2009, meeting will be held at the Saline Township Hall.

5. Future Agenda Items

- Develop a strategy for Private Wastewater Treatment Plants within the SSC region
- Transfer of Development Rights (Elizabeth Riggs)
- Saline River Green Belt
- Ann Arbor Region Success Project audited planning documents to determine common interests and concerns – April meeting

6. Meeting Notices and Announcements

- March 18, 2009 – Saline area Historical Society meeting – Depression era glassware discussion; bring your own to share. Also, this will be the SAHS Annual Meeting with election of directors.
- March 20, 2009, 2:00 – Non-motorized transportation task force at the Pittsfield Township Hall. A proposed bike and pedestrian pathway between Ann Arbor and Saline will be discussed.
- March 20, 2009 – Recreation Center Food, Fun, and Fitness Fair.
- March 29, 2009, 1:00 – Brecon Village Clubhouse: how to improve communication between aging parents and their children.
- York Township Planning Commission is updating York's Master Plan
- SSC on agenda for next York Planning Commission meeting.
- Saline Area Schools asking for millage renewal for CARES at a lower level and a new Sinking Fund millage. The millages will be on the May school election ballot. The total millage being requested is equivalent to the original CARES millage. Scott Graden and Tom Wall are willing to talk to any interested group.
- Pittsfield Township working on its Master Plan
- Pittsfield Township is facing a lawsuit from a developer over a denied rezoning request. The developer wants to rezone land to higher density because it doesn't perk. A private wastewater treatment plant would be required.
- County budget being developed; departments are being asked for 5%, 10%, and 20% budget cut scenarios and to identify discretionary vs. mandatory expenses.
- The County Planning Advisory Board is reviewing Freedom Township's Master Plan update.

- The County Planning Advisory Board is planning to perform a five-year review of the County Comprehensive Plan.
- The Lodi Township Master Plan development continues. Comments have been received from several jurisdictions. A public hearing is yet to be held.
- The Unitarian Church (Lodi Township) has requested Special Use Permit for a wind turbine near the intersection of Ellsworth Road and Ann Arbor-Saline Road.
- The City of Saline has received Economic Stimulus money to resurface North Ann Arbor Street from Michigan Avenue to Bennett Street.
- The City of Saline has requested Economic Stimulus money for a pedestrian bridge near Mill Pond Park.
- Saline has extended the site plans for Concannon's Marketplace, Foley's Banks of Saline.
- The City of Saline and Saline Township are working on urban development agreement per court order.
- The Saline Leadership Institute is recruiting for the next class beginning in April. A bargain at \$495.
- The City of Ann Arbor's energy coordinator Andrew Brix looking to reduce the city's electric bills by 30% through conservation, wind turbines, solar panels, hydroelectric dams, etc.

7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Douglas Veenstra
Secretary

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