

Meeting Minutes
Saline Sustainability Circle
Tuesday April 21, 2009
Pittsfield Township Hall

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Chairperson Campbell 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: Janice Warner

City of Saline: Todd Campbell, Gretchen Driskell, David Rhoads, Art Trapp

Saline Township: Laurie Leinbach, Willow Link

Washtenaw County Commissioner: Mark Ouimet

Washtenaw County Office of Strategic Planning: Brett Lenart

York Township: Jane Kartje, Gary Zajac

Issue Media Group: Paul Schott

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

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

3. Ann Arbor Region Success Project

Paul Schott and Mark Ouimet discussed plans for the future of the Ann Arbor region (Washtenaw County) being developed by more than 70 community leaders from government, education, the private sector, and non-profits. Visit www.annarborregionsuccess.org for a detailed description of the project. The presentation may be accessed at www.salinesustainability.org/meetings/2009Meetings/AnnArborRegionSuccess.pdf.

- What do we need to do to make Washtenaw County a successful place, a place we all want to live and work in, and a place that is attractive to new businesses?
- It is clear that a long term strategy is needed to achieve this objective.
- Economic development, quality of place, and talent development are key factors.
- A Vision was developed: The Ann Arbor Region is the place where world changing innovation happens!
- Strategies
 - Develop, attract, and retain the best and brightest minds.
 - Convert innovative ideas into action.
 - Work together across government, business, not-for-profit, and education sectors to achieve success.
- Action items have been identified to implement these strategies.
- Action teams are underway. Regional leaders have started to work on the most important actions needed to achieve success.
 - Transit Team
 - Young Professionals
 - Coordinated Marketing

- Talent Centers (Infill Development in the Urban Core)
- Government and Education Efficiency and Effectiveness
- CEO Level Talent
- What can the Saline Sustainability Circle do to support the Ann Arbor Region Success Project, and what can the Ann Arbor Region Success Project do to help the Saline Sustainability Circle? Connections are important. The SSC can provide input, and SSC plans can help implement some of the Success Projects plans.
- Differences between communities are a strength of the county. The Saline region does not need to embrace all of the action plans of the Success Project.

4. LIAA Grant Application

- All member organizations except Saline Township agreed to participate.
- Four individuals pledged \$50 each to cover the shortfall.
- Brett Lenart will proceed with the grant application.

5. Next Meetings

- The May 19, 2009, meeting will be held at the Saline Township Hall.
- The June 16, 2009, meeting will be held at the York Township Hall; the Lodi Township Hall will be the backup site.

6. Future Agenda Items

- Develop a strategy for Private Wastewater Treatment Plants within the SSC region
- Transfer of Development Rights (Elizabeth Riggs)
- Saline River Greenway Alliance (Frank Stukenborg)

7. Meeting Notices and Announcements

- The Depot Museum is open every Saturday 11-3.
- Saturday, April 25 – Christmas in Action; kickoff breakfast at 8:00 am at the American Legion.
- Saturday, April 25 – Community Walk 9:00 S. Ann Arbor Street.
- Saturday, April 25 – Saline City Hall will hold an Open House 9-1.
- Sunday, April 26 – Saline Senior Center will hold a quilt show 1-4.
- Monday, April 27 – A meeting will be held at Union School to explain the millage requests 6:30 pm.
- Saturday, May 2 – Farmers Market open 8-noon every Saturday through October.
- Saturday, May 2 – Rentschler Farm Museum open 11-3 every Saturday through October.
- Monday, May 11 – Community bike ride starts at the Saline City Hall at 6:30 pm.
- Thursday, May 14 – Chamber of Commerce will hold a new business workshop at 6:30 pm.
- Saturday, May 16 – the Saline Area Historical Society will present a program on Saline Area Historic Adobe houses. 2:00 at the Rentschler Farm Museum.
- Saturday, May 16 – Pittsfield Township will hold an Open House at the Township Administration Building 2-4.
- Sunday, May 17 – Saline Picture Frame Company will host the annual Circle of Art auction to benefit Food Gatherers 12-5.

- Lodi Township – new antenna requested to replace two existing antennas.
- Lodi master plan being reworked to incorporate comments received.
- York Township Planning Commission is updating York’s Master Plan
- York Township had Earth Day program April 18.
- York Township is reviewing its Zoning Ordinance.
- Pittsfield Township passed a resolution opposing the proposed runway expansion at the Ann Arbor airport.
- Pittsfield Township Planning Commission and Board of Trustees have denied a developer’s rezoning request for a property on Bemis Road. The developer has initiated litigation.
- Pittsfield Township plans to develop a Parks & Recreation master plan this year. The Township Master Plan will be reviewed and possibly reworked.
- Platt Road Greenway between Michigan Avenue and Ellsworth Road will be completed this summer.
- Pittsfield Township will publish a newsletter next month; send Barb Fuller your address if you wish a copy.
- Pittsfield Township is working to make the Saline-Ann Arbor Road overpass over I-94 more accommodating to pedestrians and bicyclists.
- Pittsfield Township is looking at the potential for green building ordinances
- Milan had “Greening of Milan” Expo Monday, April 20.
- City of Saline is reviewing its master plan, parks and recreation plan.
- City of Saline is doing a non-motorized pathway master plan; working with PEAC (Programs to Educate All Cyclists).
- Saline Area Schools is asking for a 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.
- Saline Area Schools board has approved a Verizon cell tower on school property, the request has been tabled by the Pittsfield Twp planning commission for resolution of certain issues.

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Douglas Veenstra
Secretary

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