

Meeting Minutes
Saline Sustainability Circle
Tuesday January 19, 2010
Union School
200 N. Ann Arbor Street, Saline, MI 48176

1) Call to Order and Introductions

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

Present:

Lodi Township: Jack Steeb, Doug Veenstra

Pittsfield Township: Barbara Fuller, Ann Harris

Saline Area Schools: Janice Warner

City of Saline: Todd Campbell, Gretchen Driskell, Patrick Little, David Rhoads

Saline Township: Laurie Leinbach

York Township: Jane Kartje

State Senator Randy Richardville: John Manor

2) Review and Acceptance of Minutes from December 15, 2009

Motion by Fuller, supported by Steeb, to approve the December 15 minutes. Motion carried.

3) Annual Election of Officers

Douglas Veenstra requested that someone else take on the duties of Secretary. There were no volunteers at this meeting.

Motion by Steeb, supported by Fuller, to retain Todd Campbell as Chair and David Rhoads as Vice Chair for the coming year; office of Secretary to remain open until the next meeting.

Motion carried.

Membership is to consider potential candidates for the office of Secretary before the next meeting.

4) Name change Discussion

Concern has been expressed that the name "Saline Sustainability Circle" does not adequately reflect the region beyond the City of Saline. By consensus, the new name could be the "Saline *Area* Sustainability Circle". Members should review proposed name change with their respective organizations before the next meeting. A vote on the name change will be scheduled for the next meeting.

5) Urban Growth Boundary Discussion

Chair Campbell reviewed the earlier SSC discussions facilitated by LIAA. The conclusion from those discussions was that the highest need was to develop an Urban Growth Boundary for the region. At our December meeting, Prof. Nina David of Eastern Michigan University suggested that we use student interns to help us through the process of developing the Urban Growth Boundary.

Todd Campbell circulated a draft of the posting for the position

(salinesustainability.org/meetings/2010Meetings/011910_Intern_Posting.pdf). The group accepted the draft.

Todd Campbell and Tom Wall volunteered to interview candidates presented by Prof. David. The group agreed.

6) Announcements and Meeting Notices

- Thursday February 11 -- the Downtown Merchants Association will hold ladies night 3:00-9:00 pm.
- Saturday February 21 -- the Saline Area Historical Society will present a program on trolleys at the library.
- This is the 100th anniversary year of the Boy Scouts. Local government units should look for opportunities to involve Boy Scouts in their activities.
- The Saline Township Planning Commission is now meeting only six times per year. It is looking for a new Planning Consultant.
- The Saline Leadership Institute is graduating its twelfth class this week.
- The Saline Teen Center proposal is moving forward. A proposal is due in February.
- Henne Field will be reopened this spring. The Friends of Henne Field have probably received the last significant contribution from CARES.
- Angel Food Ministries angelfoodministries.org provides a box of food to feed a family of four for a week for \$30. There are no qualifications required to receive this food. This can be a good resource for families struggling with finances in this difficult time. According to the web site, Holy Faith Church is the local distribution site.
- Pittsfield Township is holding public meetings to help develop its Master Plan.
- Pittsfield Township is looking to revise its Agriculture zoning to be more than just a land bank for development. There are some areas where agriculture should be preserved.
- Pittsfield Township is working with other communities to share resources.
- Pittsfield Township is doing all snow removal in house with existing staff except in emergencies.
- Pittsfield Township has completed negotiations for two labor contracts. Other negotiations are ongoing.
- Pittsfield Township is working with DTE grant money to establish a rain garden in front of the Administration Building.
- Pittsfield Township is trying to obtain Stimulus funding for wireless infrastructure if Wireless Washtenaw does not move forward.
- Lodi Township has adopted its newly revised Master Plan. It will be placed on the Township web site www.twp-lodi.org shortly.
- Saline Area Schools will adopt an amended budget at one of its next two meetings.
- Saline Area Schools is looking at the possibility and potential savings of closing one or two schools.
- Saline Area Schools is looking at pay-to-play fees and possibly club fees.
- York Township is redoing its Master Plan
- York Township is looking for ways to reduce its budget to match anticipated revenue.
- The City of Saline is looking for ways to reduce costs and increase revenue. Cost savings ideas have been solicited from employees.

- A proposal is circulating at the state level to reduce the salary of all public employees in Michigan by 5%. This would affect all public employees, not just state employees. There are many issues with such a proposal.
- There is a movement in the State Legislature to require that a balanced budget be passed by the end of June each year.

7) Upcoming Meetings

- February 16, 2010 -- Pittsfield Township

8) Public Comment

None offered

9) Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Fuller, supported by Steeb. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:19pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas Veenstra
Secretary

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