

**ADA TOWNSHIP
OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES OF THE JUNE 29, 2006 MEETING**

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Betty Jo Crosby, George Haga, Jamie Ladd, Bette Roberts, Elise Roe.

ABSENT: Greg Forbes, Matt Nygren, Mischelle Sytsma, Randy Van Dragt.

STAFF PRESENT: Planning Director Jim Ferro and Parks Director Wendy Tatar.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Moved by Roberts, seconded by Roe, to approve the minutes of the May 23 meeting.

Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF ANNUAL REPORT

Haga distributed copies of a financial report, summarizing funding available for open space protection.

It was moved by Ladd, seconded by Haga, to approve the Annual Report, with inclusion of the available funding data.

Motion passed.

STATUS REPORT ON PROPERTIES OF INTEREST

Ada Hospital for Animals Property:

Ferro reported on the status of discussions with the veterinarians regarding the possible purchase of excess riverfront land from them, for addition to Roselle Park. It was noted that we need to have a drawing and a legal description prepared for the land we wish to acquire, to use in preparing an offer to present to the owners. Ferro will obtain that.

383 Pettis Ave. Property:

Ferro and Haga reported on the status of negotiations with the owner of the property.

It was moved by Haga, seconded by Roberts, to propose to the owner a 3-month option-to-purchase on the property, with an acquisition price of \$160,000.

Motion passed unanimously.

The question was raised as to whether funding for the purchase of land for Roselle Park expansion from the animal hospital, if it was accomplished, would come from funds allocated for parks or funds allocated for open space acquisition.

Ladd stated that he believed that the allocation of funds from the "parks and land preservation" millage revenues for open space acquisition should be based on a consistent percentage of the total revenues each year, and not on a fixed amount of \$150,000 per year.

In discussion, the consensus of the Advisory Board was that the available funding calculations should be left out of the annual report, until this adjustment is made.

It was moved by Roberts, seconded by Roe, to submit the Annual Report to the Township Board without the financial data at this time.

Motion passed.

Carew Property:

Ferro reported that an appraisal had been completed on the Carew property, and the owners were now asking \$600,000 for the property.

STATUS OF NATURAL FEATURES INVENTORY.

The Board reviewed summary data on the status of landowner contacts and site visits.

REVIEW/COMMENT ON DRAFT BROCHURE

The draft text of a brochure prepared by the Marketing/Promotion Committee to promote open space preservation efforts in the Township was reviewed. Photos and final layout need to be completed. Ferro noted that he could provide some photographs, and that a limited number of color photocopies of the brochure could be printed at the Township office, for distribution at the July 4 festivities booth.

The Marketing Committee will have a more detailed report at the next meeting use of the brochure and other marketing ideas.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, July 27 at 4:00 p.m.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Deborah Ensing Millhuff, CMC
Ada Township Clerk

rs:jf