



# MINUTES

## Pen Dam Public Engagement Committee Meeting

7:00 PM - Wednesday, August 11, 2021

Virtual

The Pen Dam Public Engagement Committee of the City of Ypsilanti was called to order on Wednesday, August 11, 2021, at 7:00 PM, in the Virtual , with the following members present:

**PRESENT:**

**ABSENT:**

**1 CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order at 7:35 pm.

**2 ROLL CALL**

Beth Gibbons-Sustainability Commissioner- **Present, Ypsilanti Township, Washtenaw County**

Bryan Foley-Sustainability Commissioner- **Present, City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County**

Ila Coltas-Ward 3 resident, Digital Marketing expert- **Present, City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County**

Sally Lusk-Ward 2 resident, impoundment property owner- **Present, City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County**

Corey Haselhuhn-Sales Manager, Schultz Outfitters- **Absent**

Jennifer Symanns-Ward 2 Council Member- **Present, City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County**

Steve Wilcoxon-Ward 2 Council Member- **Present, City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County**  
*Staff, Consultants:*

Sommer Woods- Facilitator- **Present**

Scott Slagor, Preservation Planner- **Present**

**3 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion: Lusk (second: Gibbons) Moved to approve the agenda as submitted.

Approval: Unanimous. Motion carried.

**4 APPROVAL OF MINUTES 08/04/2021**

Motion: Lusk (second, Coltas) Move to approve the minutes of 08/04/2021 as drafted.

Approval: Unanimous. Motion carried.

## 5 PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Public comment was received from Rebecca Esselman, Huron River Watershed Council, and Mariah Goodrich, Peninsular Dam Removal River Restoration Committee

## 6 RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

- a) There was a brief discussion of the format of the focus group workshops and townhall meeting prior to fleshing out the details of the two upcoming meetings. Citing Concerns for COVID and compliance with the Open Meetings Act, the Committee voted to change from a hybrid meeting format to a fully virtual meeting format.

Motion: Gibbons (second: Coltas) Move to change the public engagement to a virtual format.

Discussion: Lusk commented that the virtual format could make it a challenge to get all the comments in, and asked to consider extending the window to 10:00pm.

*(Discussion of format [webinar vs. meeting] and timeframe ensued).*

Lusk: proposed an amendment to extend all public meetings to 10pm as needed.

(Further discussion on meeting format)

Gibbons: (second: Lusk) Amended motion to host the public engagement meetings on a virtual Zoom meeting style platform, if possible, and to take place from 7-10 pm.

Approval: Unanimous, Motion carried.

- b) Topics/Details of Upcoming Landowner Focus Group on 8/18/2021

Sommer Woods presented draft slides and outline for the upcoming Landowner Focus Group, highlighting specific areas of discussion based on earlier concerns raised by landowners.

Committee members gave feedback on topics and terminology.

- c) Seeing how long the meeting was going, a motion was considered to extend.

Symanns: (Second Lusk) Motioned to extend meeting to 9:30.

Approval: Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Brian Foley left the meeting at 9:00pm due to a conflict.

**d)** Topics/Details of Upcoming Recreationists Focus Group on 08/25/2021

Sommer Woods presented draft slides and outline for the upcoming Recreationist Focus Group, highlighting specific areas of discussion based on earlier concerns raised by landowners.

Committee members gave feedback on topics and terminology.

Discussion also included methods of publicizing meetings: direct mail, flyers, etc.

**7 ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm