

Regular Meeting
Active Adult Center Advisory Board
February 20, 2024

A Regular Meeting of the Madison Heights Active Adult Center Advisory Board was called to order by Chair Salley, February 20, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. at the Active Adult Center Municipal Building at 260 W. 13 Mile Rd., Madison Heights, MI 48071.

Present: Juska-Svoba, Mowry, Patton, Quigley, Ratliff, Salley, Smith, and Topping.
Also Present: Center Supervisor Cowan, DPS Director Ballantine, Councilor Wright.
Absent: Bessler.

An invocation was led by Ms. Cowan.

19-01. Minutes.

Motion by Ms. Juska-Svoba seconded by Ms. Ratliff to adopt the minutes from the Regular Meeting of January 16, 2024.

Yeas: Juska-Svoba, Mowry, Patton, Quigley, Ratliff, Salley, Smith, and Topping.
Nays: None.
Absent: Bessler.

19-02. Meeting Open to the Public.

Two students were in attendance from Wayne State University. They stated they were in attendance to learn about how boards communicate to the community.

Former Councilwoman Scott was also in attendance and stated she was thankful for all that was going on at the Active Adult Center.

19-03. Staff Report.

Ms. Cowan updated the Board on programs currently happening and upcoming at the Center, including upcoming trips and closures, some evening open hours, some upcoming partnerships, and an event coming up with the Attorney General and State Representative who will be putting on a talk about current scams.

19-04. Maintenance Requests

None. The City is still working with the contractor on punch list items.

19-05. Budget Requests

Ms. Cowan and Mr. Ballantine reported that their budget meeting with City admin went well, and requests will be going to Council next. Some requests

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from the Active Adult Center were golf software, recreation software, more part time hours, and a camera outside the front door.

19-06. Unfinished Business.

Ms. Cowan stated she cancelled the Active Adult Center’s membership with the AARP Age-Friendly Community. She stated while it’s a great idea, there is just not enough staff at this time to take on the commitment.

Ms. Cowan stated several Board members have asked her about using some escrow account funds for donating to local non-profit organizations, such as the Goodfellows and the Madison Heights Animal Shelter. Ms. Cowan asked the Board to think about if they would like to donate a small amount of money each month, such as \$100, and perhaps each of the nine board members could come up with an organization they would like money to go to. Ms. Cowan will bring up the idea again next month, after board members have had a chance to think about it.

19-07. New Business.

None.

19-08. Treasurer’s Report.

Motion by Ms. Patton seconded by Ms. Mowry to approve the January Treasurer’s report.

Yeas: Juska-Svoba, Mowry, Patton, Quigley, Ratliff, Salley, Smith, and Topping.
Nays: None.
Absent: Bessler.

19-09. Council & Administration Updates.

Councilor Wright reported that two more marijuana facilities were approved by City Council. One will be at 12 Mile and I-75 and the second will be on Dequindre south of 14 Mile. There will be an additional \$400,000 in the City’s budget from these facilities.

Councilor Wright stated that the County Treasurer gave a presentation on how to prevent foreclosures, and suggested we have another talk at the Active Adult Center. Ms. Cowan will look into it.

Councilor Wright reported that the band stand will be going up soon near Civic Center Park.

Councilor Wright stated that the HREC is creating a cookbook with recipes from residents.

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Councilor Wright reported that there is a tentative September 14 date for the HREC Car Show/BBQ Competition.

Ms. Quigley asked about the homeowner loans and how to apply. Mr. Ballantine reported that he believed they were filled already.

Mr. Ballantine reported that DPS has a little lull in the season with not much snow removal and no spring clean up yet.

Mr. Ballantine stated that staffing is going well, with some workers retiring, but others being promoted.

Mr. Ballantine reported that free brush chipping will be the week of May 6-10 and Spring Clean Up Day will be on May 11.

Mr. Ballantine stated that there will be a handrail installed on the north City Hall ramp.

Mr. Ballantine stated that the DPS will need community input on the Recreation Master Plan, which will cover the next five years.

Mr. Salley asked when John R. construction will start and Mr. Ballantine stated in 2026.

Ms. Ratliff stated the City did a great job cleaning up remnants from her tree falling. She also stated that she likes the new smoother traffic flow at 11 Mile and Stephenson.

Ms. Quigley asked if residents were still going to receive free garbage cans and Mr. Ballantine stated yes, most likely in August or September.

Ms. Patton asked if there would be any additional security in the new building. Ms. Cowan stated possibly a security system in the next budget, and the doors between the Library and the AAC being adjusted so they can be locked, so after the AAC is closed, no one in the Library can get through.

Ms. Ratliff asked if City Hall could be closed off, so the doors on the north and south side of the building could be kept unlocked during City Hall lunchtime. She stated she asked someone in City Hall but hadn't heard anything since. Ms. Patton also stated that when exercise class happens on the weekend, exercisers will push through the doors between the AAC and City Hall to use the restroom and get stuck in the City Hall portion since they are locked. Having a way to shut down City Hall would enable the doors between the AAC and the restrooms to be left open.

Councilor Wright stated Council approved the sale of the former property for the AAC, and that a car wash and restaurant were still going in, but nothing was planned yet for the third, back portion of the parcel.

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Ms. Mowry asked what was going into the old CVS building at 13 Mile and John R. Councilor Wright stated a good will store.

Ms. Juska-Svoba asked who owns the old Save a Lot property and Councilor Wright stated 168 Market.

Councilor Wright also stated that a multiuse property was approved for 11 Mile and John R a while back. A building with shops on the bottom and housing on the top is proposed, but nothing has begun.

19-10. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at 1:00 pm.

Jennifer Cowan
Active Adult Supervisor