



FARMINGTON PATHWAYS COMMITTEE

7:00 p.m.

MINUTES DRAFT

NOVEMBER 8, 2023

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm

2. ROLL CALL

Tim Prince, Sue Lover, Maria Taylor, Kevin Parkins, Chris Weber, Joe VanDerZanden, Brent Bartman, Kevin Christiansen, Bill Gessaman

Absent: None

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve by Brent and supported by Maria, approved unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MEETING MINUTES, SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

Motion to approve by Sue and supported by Kevin, approved unanimously.

5. OLD BUSINESS

a. SNOW FENCING AT SHIAWASSEE AND RAPHAEL UPDATE

Work is underway and appears to be finishing this week.

b. 9 MILE PATHWAY UPDATE

Nov. 2 email from Oakland County said continuing forward, creating a task force including all the involved cities to get branding and grant writing started, intent to have a meeting in December to move forward creating an entity with memorandum of understanding.

c. OLD FARMINGTON ROAD BRIDGE

City Manager David Murphy and SEMCOG talked about available grants, their requirements and exploring options for the bridge. Pathways Committee identified a desire to see further exploration of options to retain or replace the bridge and include plans in the upcoming master plan.

d. CROSSWALK AT CRAZY KRAB ON GRAND RIVER UPDATE

OHM has completed a second review of the Maxfield project and PUD plan is approved, final approval coming up at the Planning Commission next week. Crossing at School St. is part of the plan and awaiting approval. MDOT has the other two crosswalk location options and has been asked to come for an onsite visit.

e. SRTS PROGRESS

Chris reviewed three identified projects remaining to consider applying for funds to complete – 1. Sidewalk work, with options to complete with these funds or through city. 2. Adding a stop sign at Gill and Arundel– asked to have engineers write rationale. 3. Adding a crosswalk, signal, and light to the intersection of Freedom and Drake. Farmington Hills has said they are okay with Farmington

designing and paying for this project on their border, which could be done with the grant.

- f. M-5 OVERPASS DISCUSSION WITH FARMINGTON HILLS
Chris and Bill met with FH, reviewed plans and they asked for thoughts. They are making some revisions and will come back with them. Includes improvements to the bridge, sidewalk work, and additional sidewalks on both sides of the bridge including extending landings and improving safety of the entry to the bridge. Work planned for 2024.
- g. SALVATORE STREET CONNECTION
Mentioned project idea to Farmington Hills and seemed to have little interest. Will further explore.
- h. LEGION SQUARE SIDEWALK UPDATE
Final PUD plan will include connections on the south side on Sherwood. Discussed also asking the contractor to add the missing sidewalk sections in the public right of way. Communication with OHM about adding those missing pieces of sidewalk.
- i. 10 MILE AND FARMINGTON CROSSWALK PAINTING
FH is behind in getting contractor lined up to repaint, will get done either this Fall still or in the Spring.
- j. FARMINGTON HILLS MASTER PLAN OPEN HOUSE
Nov. 16th 4:30-6:30 at the Hawk -Pathways Committee has interest in the transportation part of plan.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. DISCUSSION TO AMEND BYLAWS TO ALLOW FOR 2 COUNCIL MEMBERS ON THE COMMITTEE
With the election of Kevin Parkins to City Council it would require amending the bylaws to allow for up to two members of City Council on the committee if both Kevin and Maria wish to remain. Discussed waiting for City Council to meet with new members, discuss division among city committees and then can address amending bylaws if both wish to remain.
- b. BIKE PARK, PUMP TRACKS, AND SKATE PARK IDEAS FROM AMERICAN RAMP COMPANY – <https://americanrampcompany.com>
Chris shared he was contacted by Brandon this company to make aware of their products and if might be interested in bringing to the city and offered a Zoom meeting with the Pathways Committee to share information. They offer bicycle playgrounds and bike parks, pump tracks, skate parks.
DNR/Recreation Master Plan grants could cover this project. Discussed possible locations such as Shiawassee Park and Drake Park. Committee members planned to review the company's website and discuss at the next meeting whether to meet with Brandon and further consider for a project.
- c. SEMCOG TRANSPORTATION ANALYSIS TOOL TRAINING
<https://semconnect.semcog.org/Events/Events/FormBuilder/Registrant-Search.aspx?EventKey=SEMU111523>
Chris has contacted them several times about this without reply but did find an upcoming tools training course on Nov. 15th at 10 am -12 pm for committee members to join as available.
- d. ANY NEW CITY CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS?
 - i. DDA considering walkability study – looking into putting into motion.
Legion condo project is approved, Maxfield training center final approval is coming up on Monday – including the art park and pathway. Both projects to start in 2024.
Winery is getting close to a sale, currently looking at condos and mixed use.

e. ANY NEW TARGET AREAS?

- Maria –Shared she was informed that on Grand River near Warner Mansion there is sidewalk flag on the north side that has heaved with a significant elevation and should be looked at for repair.

- Just east of the mansion someone reported a dog got out and was hit by a car, and asked if the speed limit can be lowered from 35 to 25 since it is residential. This would require a public safety assessment and to be taken to the City Council. The Pathways Committee planned to explore further.

- Masonic corner – Current state of the corner is temporary. A design is being developed to consider and move toward funding. Some county funding is already planned for the project.

Chris – Shared seeing people frequently cross Grand River near Gill and Drake, many going to McDonald's. Discussed the possibility of adding a crosswalk to add another safe crossing as there are none between Locust and Drake streets, fast traffic, bus stops and frequent pedestrian crossings.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

8. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENT

- Maria – Shared a project identified by the Bicentennial Committee related to the Pathways Committee's work, that the lighting in the cut through between Fitness 19 and Fresh Thyme isn't working and the Bicentennial Committee would like to fix and improve the lighting and make a historically immersive timeline in that space. Ideas include a historical wall plaque and string lights. The Friends of Warner Mansion has already applied for a grant and are now applying to the Oakland County Historical Commission for funding as well. Planning to execute the project in the spring if obtain funding.

- Chris – Shared that there may be a concert downtown on Saturday May 19th including lighted walk paths and volunteers are needed to put out votive bags for the lighted walk.

- Emails have been sent to expiring Pathways Committee Members to see who wants to seek reappointment and is awaiting response.

- Announced reminder of the city holiday party coming up and Dec 5th 6 pm.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 8:49 pm

Next meeting: DECEMBER 13, 2023