

**South Haven Area Recreation Authority (SHARA)  
Regular Meeting**

**Tuesday, January 15, 2013  
3:00 p.m., South Haven Charter Township Hall**

**MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order**

Meeting Opened at 3:00 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Members Present: Mr. Dennis Fitzgibbon, Mr. Dana Getman, Mr. Ross Stein, Mr. Mark McClendon, Dr. Robert Herrera

Absent:

Guests: Mr. Brian Dissette, City Manager, City of South Haven  
Ms. Brandy Gildea, Parks & Recreation Director, City of South Haven  
Mr. Geoff Cripe, Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy  
Mr. Gary Gross

**3. Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

**November 20, 2012 Board Meeting: Motion by Getman, seconded by Fitzgibbon to approve the minutes as presented. All in favor, motion carried.**

**4. Approval of Agenda:**

**Motion by Getman, seconded by Herrera to approve the amended agenda, to include item 9B, a request to include Herrera as a signatory for SHARA expenses, of the January 15, 2013 meeting. All in favor, motion carried.**

**5. Interested Citizens in the Audience Will Be Heard on Items Not on the Agenda:**

No comments were made.

**6. Approval of the SHARA Finance Report:**

- a) The Board discussed the SHARA Finance Report, noting the SHARA account now has a balance of \$89,257.79. Dissette noted that the report illustrates bank interest has been paid.

**Motion by Fitzgibbon, seconded by Getman to approve the SHARA finance report. All in favor, motion carried.**

- b) The Board was updated on the SHARP account, which now has a balance of \$24,384.82.

**7. Approval of the 2013-2017 5 Year Recreation Plan for the City of South Haven, South Haven Charter Township, South Haven Public Schools, and SHARA:**

The Board was updated on the status of the 2013-2017 5 Year Recreation Plan for the City of South Haven, South Haven Charter Township, South Haven Public Schools, and SHARA by Ms. Brandy Gildea. Gildea noted that SHARA is being asked to consider approval of the multi-year plan, which will be submitted to the State of Michigan. Gildea explained that the recreation plan is a requirement, by the State of Michigan, should the city or township wish to seek recreation grant funds from the State of Michigan's Natural Resources Trust Fund. Gildea noted that the current recreation plan is a joint plan, and covers the City of South Haven, South Haven Charter Township, and the South Haven Public Schools, and that for the updated plan, it is desired to have a section related to SHARA. Dissette noted that upon completion of SHARA's approval, the City Council will be asked to take action on the plan, and then the city's staff will submit the joint plan to the State of Michigan.

Dissette noted that the city's staff had prepared updates to the plan, which make reference to long term planning and implementation of SHARA's primary projects: the SHARP project and the Pilgrim Haven project, and included that language in the meeting agenda packet.

**Motion by Getman, seconded by Herrera to approve the updated recreation plan language related to SHARA. All in favor, motion carried.**

Dissette further noted that the SHARA Board was encouraged to consider approval of Resolution #2013-01, a resolution offering final adoption of the multi-year recreation plan, which will include the approved SHARA language updates.

**Motion by Herrera, seconded by Getman to approve Resolution 2013-01, a resolution confirming the adoption of the multi-year recreation plan by SHARA. All in favor, motion carried.**

**8. Update on the status of the SHARP site:**

The Board was provided a written update on the SHARP site construction plans by Mr. Mike Dopp, Midwest Civil Engineers (MCE). The report noted that MCE is making progress on the SHARP construction plans. Stein noted that Dopp was unavailable to attend the meeting, due to personal business.

**9. Update on the status of the Pilgrim Haven site:**

The Board was provided an update on the status of the Pilgrim Haven site from Mr. Geoff Cripe, Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy (SWMLC). Cripe discussed that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources is considering a policy which may exclude publicly controlled properties from receiving Natural Resources Trust Fund grants, if those properties are leased and not owned. Dissette and Cripe noted that the Pilgrim Haven site was planned to be leased from SWMLC to SHARA, as part of a long-term lease agreement. Dissette stated that once the site was leased, SHARA

could then apply for a grant to develop the site. Dissette noted that if the referenced policy is adopted, SHARA may have problems with finding grant funds to develop the site. As a result, Dissette recommended that a phone conference be arranged with SHARA, SWMLC and representatives from the State of Michigan to discuss what options exist for the Pilgrim Haven site. Dissette noted that he would work Representative Nesbitt to secure a phone conference. Fitzgibbon and Stein agreed to participate in that phone conference.

**9B. Approve Signatory for the SHARA Checking Account:**

The Board was asked by Dissette to approve Herrera as a SHARA signatory for the checking account.

**Motion by Getman, seconded by Fitzgibbon to approve Herrera as a SHARA signatory. All in favor, motion carried.**

**10. Adjourn**

**Motion by Getman, seconded by Herrera to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by,

Brian Dissette  
City Manager, City of South Haven