

MEETING MINUTES: REGULAR BOARD AND INFORMATIONAL MEETING OF NOVEMBER 20, 2020

Location: Via Video Conference (Board) at the Southfield DDA Office, 18000 W. Nine Mile Road, Suite 320, Southfield, MI 48075 and via Phone Conference at 248-796-5052 (Public)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman James Ralph called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Jamii Hitchcock, Joe Hurshe, W. Michael McFarland, Ryan McKindles, Fred Najor, James Ralph, Aric Rusk, Mayor Ken Siver, Tory VanCobb.

Excused: Tom Erhardt (resigned)

Also Present: Al Aceves, Executive Director; Melissa Schlicker, Assistant to the Executive Director.

Roll Call was taken and it was determined a quorum was present.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by McFarland, Seconded by Hitchcock, to approve the Meeting Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes: November 20, 2020

Motion by McFarland, Seconded by Hitchcock, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the SDDA Board held on November 20, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT: September and October 2020

Executive Director Aceves reviewed the monthly financial reports for September and October 2020. There was no adverse financial activity for these months.

Motion by McKindles, Seconded by Siver, to accept and file September and October 2020 Financial Reports. Motion carried unanimously.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

a. DDA Board 2021 Meeting Schedule

Motion by McKindles, Seconded by McFarland, to accept the DDA Board 2021 Meeting Schedule as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

b. MERS Termination Agreement

The Executive Director reviewed the Michigan Employment Retirement System (MERS) termination agreement and informed the Board of the forthcoming proceeds. The termination agreement requires authorization to receive the funds and the Executive Director has requested that the Board approve his authorization.

Motion by McKindles, Seconded by Rusk, to allow the DDA Executive Director to sign all documents related to the MERS Termination Agreement withdrawal.

c. Fred Najor Retirement

Executive Director Aceves informed the Board that Fred Najor will be leaving the Board effective at the end of 2020. Fred was congratulated on a job well done and thanked the Board for the opportunity to participate.

Also noted was the departure of Joe Hurshe due to his recent promotion and the naming of Brant Russell as his successor here in Southfield. Mr. Russell will be submitting his application to the DDA Board as Joe's replacement.

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. Northland Redevelopment Update

Director Aceves updated the Board on the Contour Development project. Contour representatives have been on the Northland site conducting due diligence. Also noted was the site plan approval by the Planning Commission. The Northland Steering Committee also met and reviewed Contour plans. In additions, the DDA held a meeting with the Development Area Citizens Council regarding the impending Overlay Development District agreement as it relates to the Brownfield Redevelopment Agreement. The City has been in conversations with the State and MEDC regarding possible future incentives.

8. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS

No comments from the public.

Mayor Siver commented on the Crain's Detroit article featuring Northland Mall and the Contour plans and reminded the Board that this very closely resembles the vision developed by the City and its residents, including both commercial and residential components. He noted that the Atrium Apartments have been sold and are being renovated by Contour. The Mayor also commented on the state of the Northland Art Collection and the Art Van and Bally's buildings.

Joe Hurshe was asked about COVID related hospital activity and responded to multiple questions regarding case numbers, testing, vaccines and staffing challenges.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Ralph announced there being no further business adjourned the meeting at 10:58 AM.

Jamii Hitchcock, Secretary