

MEETING MINUTES: REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF JULY 24, 2020

Location: Via Phone Conference at the Southfield DDA Office, 18000 W. Nine Mile Road, Suite 320, Southfield, MI 48075

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Jamii Hitchcock, Margaret Klobucar (attending for Joe Hurshe), W. Michael McFarland, Ryan McKindles, Fred Najor, James Ralph, Aric Rusk, Mayor Ken Siver.

Excused: Tom Erhardt, Joe Hurshe, Tory VanCobb

Also Present: Al Aceves, Executive Director; Melissa Schlicker, Assistant to the Executive Director. Residents: Carol Manciel, Veronica Lindsay, Kathleen McNelis.

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

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes: May 22, 2020

Motion by Siver, Seconded by McKindles, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the SDDA Board held May 22, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT: May and June 2020

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

Motion by McKindles, Seconded by Rusk, to accept and file May and June 2020 Financial Reports. Motion carried unanimously.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

Updates

a. **Outback Restaurant - Tory VanCobb excused**

b. **Cornerstone Development – Fred Najor**

Fred Najor noted that there continue to be rent challenges and hits to the bottom line are largely unavoidable.

c. **Ascension Providence Hospital – Margaret Klobucar**

Margaret Klobucar informed the group that during these COVID times, Ascension continues to make safety a priority by providing masks to visitors and limiting

entrance accessibility. She added that the hospital is moving forward with ICU and NICU upgrades and renovations.

d. Guardian Alarm - Tom Earhardt excused

e. Health Rise Solutions – Ryan McKindles

For Healthrise, Ryan McKindles informed the Board that hospital volumes are down and while some clients are asking for a pause in service others have sought counsel on how to face the uncertain future.

f. Kenmar Corporation - Aric Rusk

Aric Rusk informed the Board that Kenmar's 62 employees have been working virtually from home. Kenmar also was able to access the Payroll Protection Program and offset some costs.

g. Oak Park Schools - Dr. Jamii Hitchcock

Dr. Hitchcock noted that Oak Park schools were opening virtually due to the health risk imposed by COVID-19. The District also worked with Ascension to provide a nurse to assist with their needs.

h. Community Update – Michael McFarland

Mr. McFarland noted the uptick in drag racing on Greenfield and the great job that Outback has been doing to keep the restaurant busy as we have lost several during the State lockdown.

i. James Ralph Agency – James Ralph

James Ralph indicated that he has not been to the office for over two months and continues to work from home.

j. City of Southfield - Mayor Siver

Mayor Siver commented on Southfield having the highest COVID rate in Oakland County. In addition, Southfield took part in PPE distribution for city businesses and opened city hall on June 15.

k. COVID 19 Oakland County Assistance - Al Aceves

Executive Director Aceves informed the Board that the SDDA helped distribute over 600 PPE kits from Oakland County intended for small businesses and the Small Business Stabilization Fund helped many businesses with grants.

l. New SDDA Tenants – Al Aceves

Mr. Aceves informed the Board that Epiicentre and Kenmar buildings have new owners with Epicentre seeing many updates in and outside the building. Discussions are being held regarding development on the eastside lot of 18000 W. Nine Mile.

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. Northland Redevelopment Update

Director Aceves informed the Board about ongoing discussions with Contour Development Group who would like to perform due diligence on the property with the possibility of repurposing part of the mall.

8. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS

Resident Kathleen McNelis commented on the high number of COVID cases in Southfield and also encouraged everyone to complete the 2020 Census so Southfield has accurate numbers.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Ralph announced there being no further business adjourned the meeting at 11:35 AM.

Jamii Hitchcock, Secretary