DOWNRIVER COMMUNITY CONFERENCE REGULAR MEETING – May 3, 2018

Item #3 (P. 1 of 3)

Present:

Allen Park

Mayor Pro-Tem Gail McLeod

Brownstown Twp.

Dearborn

Dearborn Heights Ecorse

Mayor Dan Paletko Mayor Lamar Tidwell

Flat Rock

Gibraltar

Mayor James Gorris / Treasurer Scott Denison

Grosse Ile Twp. Huron Twp. Lincoln Park Supervisor Brian Loftus Supervisor David Glaab Mayor Tom Karnes

Melvindale

River Rouge Riverview Rockwood

Mayor Michael Bowdler

Mayor Andy Swift Mayor Dan Guzzi

Romulus

Southgate Taylor

Dustin Lent, City Administrator

Mayor Rick Sollars

Trenton Jim

Jim Wagner, Economic Development Coordinator

Woodhaven Councilwoman Jan Sikes Wyandotte Larry Stec, City Clerk

Vice Chair, Supervisor David Glaab opened the meeting at 6:41 p.m.

<u>Agenda:</u> Motion by Delegate Wagner, supported by Councilwoman McLeod, to accept the agenda as presented, adding a resolution regarding support for keeping the EPA office in Grosse Ile Township. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes: Motion by Mayor Guzzi, supported by Mayor Tidwell, to accept the minutes of the regular board meeting of 2/1/2018 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive-Finance Committee Report:

Minutes of 3/22/2018: Motion Mayor Guzzi, supported by Alternate Lent, to approve the Executive-Finance Committee minutes of 3/22/2018 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

<u>Audit Presentation</u>: Kristin Hunt of Plante Moran distributed a graph presentation of the audit for Board members to review. She walked the Board members through the <u>DCC audit</u> highlights. The audit received an "unmodified opinion"; <u>the highest possible audit opinion</u>. The General Fund had a \$69,348 net decrease in fund balance, bringing fund balance to \$164,622. The Employment & Training, Weatherization, Transportation, and Mental Health First Aid special revenue funds had fund deficits at year-end, primarily due to a GASB 33 timing difference. There was one "true" deficit in the Employment and Training fund. The Building Fund had a decrease in net position of \$25,420 – net position is now at \$702,608.

The federal program audit had one internal control finding related to Employment Services and Trade Adjustment Assistance. The programs tested were Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Trade Adjustment Assistance, and Employment Services. Unmodified opinion for all programs – highest possible audit opinion. There was a financial statement finding related to journal entries that were required during the audit. A plan has already been put in place regarding PTO (paid time off) accounting on time sheets, to avoid this in the future.

Presentations:

Bethany Sanford, Community Organizer with the SUDD's Coalition at The Guidance Center gave a Power Point presentation: Opposition to the Proposal to "Regulate Marijuana Like Alcohol", Michigan Proposal to Legalize Recreational Marijuana in 2018

- 1. Allows the highest per person possession limit of any state in the nation 10 ounces or approximately 600-880 joints at home and/or 2.5 oz. personal possession in public. In the 7 states that now allow recreational marijuana use, the personal possession limit is 1 ounce. Maine, the exception, allows personal possession of 2.5 ounces. Massachusetts allows the possession of 10 ounces of harvested marijuana at home. Michigan would allow possession in both categories at home and personal possession.
- 2. Every municipality in the State would be forced to allow recreational marijuana businesses (commercial growing and/or retail shops) unless they held an election to "Opt Out". To opt-out or limit the number of recreational marijuana businesses, an individual in the community must petition to initiate an ordinance, gather 5% of the signatures of voters, and create a ballot proposal for a regularly held election (cannot be a special election). In Massachusetts, communities across the state are currently struggling to keep retail marijuana out because of the "opt out" provision in the legalization proposal approved there.
- 3. Despite its name, this proposal does not "Regulate like Alcohol". There is limited specified regulation and the penalty selling to minors is vaguely stated. An additional concern if a young person, 18 to 20 years old, which is under the age of legal purchase, possession, and use in this proposal, buys, possesses, or uses, they need not be advised or required to take drug education or counseling.
- 4. Allows the transfer of 2.5 ounces of marijuana to someone else without any regulation.
- 5. Doesn't regulate the potency of marijuana. Today's drug is much more potent containing up to 3 to 7.5 times more THC, the addictive chemical compound in marijuana, than in the 1980s. The THC level in highly potent marijuana edibles (80% to 90% THC) is not regulated.
- 6. Has unforseen consequences for Business and the Economy, e.g. decreased work safety and productivity with workers under the influence, absenteeism, decreased work force with applicants (and workers) that can't pass a drug test, etc.

In addition, this proposal:

- Doesn't address possible dangerous additives to marijuana cigarettes.
- Doesn't prohibit marijuana and alcohol sale and consumption in the same place of business. This
 further raises concerns about car crashes and fatalities, given the potential for drugged/drunk
 driving.
- Makes it difficult for police to prove a driver is under the influence of marijuana, effecting
 enforcement and potentially accident liability and insurance rates. The PER/SE* (BAC of .08+)
 criterion for driving under the influence of alcohol will not apply.
- Doesn't allow citizens to FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) information to discover who owns/operates a 'grow establishment', even if the business creates a public nuisance.
- Doesn't allow marijuana use/addiction to be used as a factor in determining custody.

Professional Organizations That Oppose the Use and Legalization of Marijuana include:

The American Academy of Pediatrics; The American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry; US Office of National Drug Control Policy; The American Society of Addiction Medicine; and Community of Anti-Drug Coalitions of America. For more information, please visit the website: www.sudds.info or contact Bethany Sanford at 734-556-5534; www.guidance-center.org

<u>The Senior Alliance (TSA)</u> - Tamara Kiger, TSA Executive Director, gave a Power Point presentation about their services:

<u>TSA's Mission</u>: We empower people with needs, to live with dignity in the community they choose, by providing available services.

TSA's office is centrally located within their service area. With 171,813 persons age 60 and over (2000 Census) residing in the service area, TSA serves the second largest senior population in Michigan.

The Senior Alliance program and services include: Home delivered and congregate meals; Non-emergency transportation; MI Choice Medicaid Waiver Services; Care Transition Services; Legal assistance; In-home services; Elder abuse prevention; State Health Insurance assistance Program (SHIP); Disease self-management; Information and assistance call center; Friendly reassurance program; and Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP)

The top ten (10) most requested needs, as identified by the Information Service Department are:
1. Medicare/ Medicaid/ other healthcare benefits; 2. Home health care/ long-term services and supports; 3. Transportation; 4. Chore services; 5. Housing; 6. Food/meals nutrition; 7. Homemaker services; 8. Government/ Veteran services; 9. Healthcare supportive services; and 10. Legal/ consumer affairs

The TSA welcomes donations to their holiday meals program. The Senior Alliance may be reached at 734-722-2830. Web site: www.thesenioralliance.org

New Business:

Supervisor Brian Loftus requested that the Board support a resolution to keep the EPA office located in Grosse IIe. Motion by Supervisor Loftus, supported by Delegate Wagner, to approve the resolution of support as presented: 1) the mission of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is to protect human health and to safeguard the natural environment; 2) a Satellite office of Response Section 1. On-Scene Coordinators has been established within the Downriver area in the EPA building in Grosse Ile Township since the early 1970's; 3) the majority of Region 5. Response Section 1 incidents occur along the I-75 corridor between Toledo and Detroit;4) the relocation of the Section 1 On-Scene Coordinators to the proposed Ann Arbor site would delay responses to such incidents, resulting in increased risk to human and environmental health; 5) the mission of the On-Scene Coordinators is more likely to be successfully executed from its Grosse lle location, which is located outside of a likely target of a mass casualty attack, especially a densely populated urban area; 6) it is in the best interests of the residents and businesses of the Downriver area of Southeast Michigan to keep the On-Scene Coordinators based in its present location, where a timely response to an event is possible. Resolved that the DCC Board of Directors requests that Region 5 of the Environmental Protection Agency retain the presence of their On-Scene Coordinator office in their present location in Grosse Ile Township. The motion passed unanimously. Discussion followed. Councilwoman Jan Sikes of Woodhaven (& former Fire Chief) added that the EPA office has always provided immediate support for the area. She appreciated their immediate support with providing mitigation and gathering samples; she couldn't imagine if they had to come from further away. Also, with all the rail lines downriver and plans in place of dredging the Detroit River – we will need EPA to be local to handle situations.

Motion by Delegate Wagner, supported by Mayor Guzzi to adjourn at 7:24 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Next meeting is scheduled for September 6, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.