# **DOWNRIVER COMMUNITY CONFERENCE REGULAR MEETING** – October 3, 2019

Present:

Allen Park

Mayor William Matakas Supervisor Andy Linko

Brownstown Twp. Dearborn

Bill Irving, Asst. Corporation Counsel

Dearborn Heights

Mayor Dan Paletko

Ecorse

Flat Rock Mayor Jonathan Dropiewski

Gibraltar Mayor Jim Gorris / Alt. Scott Denison

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

Melvindale

River Rouge Mayor Michael Bowdler Councilman Elmer Trombley Riverview

Rockwood Mayor Dan Guzzi

Alternate Jazmine Danci, Economic Dev. Director Romulus

Southgate

Taylor

Mayor Kyle Stack

Trenton Woodhaven Wyandotte

Councilwoman Jan Sikes Larry Stec, City Clerk

The Chair, Mayor Jonathan Dropiewski, opened the meeting at 6:15 p.m., and welcomed new board member from Romulus, Jazmine Danci.

Agenda: Motion by Supervisor Glaab, supported by Mayor Guzzi, to accept the agenda as presented, with one additional item of Checks over \$5,000 (Item #4c). The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes: Motion by Supervisor Glaab, supported by Mayor Guzzi, to accept the minutes of the regular board meeting of 9-5-19 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Executive-Finance Committee Report:**

Assessment Dues: Motion by Supervisor Glaab, supported by Mayor Guzzi, to approve the the DCC Assessment Dues as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

FY 2019-2020 Budget: Motion by Supervisor Glaab, supported by Mayor Guzzi, to approve the DCC Budget as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Checks for approval over \$5,000: Motion by Mayor Guzzi, supported by Supervisor Glaab, to approve the check for \$5,000 for the No Kids Without a Christmas program through the City of River Rouge. Question if associated with the No Child Without a Christmas fundraiser run by the Goodfellows. Sue Pilon responded that DCC serves as the applicant fiduciary for the DTE Foundation – it is only a 'pass-through' for funds being donated through the DTE Foundation. Mayor Bowdler explained the program's success last year with helping 387 kids receive gifts. The motion passed unanimously.

### Nominating Committee Report:

Mayor Dan Guzzi, Nominating Committee Chair, reported that we need to fill the Board Secretary position that was vacated by Tim Keyes. Interest was requested at the September board meeting. Mayor Kyle Stack of Trenton was the only response received. Motion by Mayor Bowdler, supported by Councilman Trombley, to support electing Mayor Stack as the new Board Secretary. The motion passed unanimously.

# The Senior Alliance Board Re-appointment:

Motion by Supervisor Glaab, supported by Mayor Paletko, to approve the re-appointment of Mayor Kyle Stack to The Senior Alliance Board as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

## SEMCA Workforce Board Appointment:

Motion by Supervisor Glaab, supported by Mayor Guzzi, to appoint Debra Temrowski of Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital to fill the vacancy previously held by Hannan Deep. The motion passed unanimously.

#### New Business:

<u>Huron Township Resolution</u>: Supervisor David Glaab provided an update that today Wayne County Commission formally approved the sale of the Pinnacle Property in Huron Township to the Hillwood Corporation. The DCC Board had passed a resolution in September, which he expressed his appreciation for. He also thanked Wayne County Treasurer Eric Sabree and his office for their support, along with State Representative Darrin Camilleri, Andrew Kandrevas with the County Executive's Office; there were a lot of people who worked hard to make this happen. He appreciates everyone's efforts. Hillwood is the master developer – this will be a 'mixed-use' development.

## Remarks from the Audience:

Updates from Wayne County Treasurer Eric Sabree:

- 1) Auction registration opens October 10th
- 2) November 21<sup>st</sup> Veterans' Resource Fair (Jim thanked Mr. Sabree for all the support to our veterans)

#### State Representative Darrin Camilleri updates:

He thanked the DCC Board for supporting the Pinnacle Project in Huron Township.

<u>Grade Separation – Railroad Crossing</u>: Rep. Camilleri announced that he and Senator Chang worked on the effort to obtain State funding for the grade separation. Twelve million dollars has been budgeted toward the grade separation in Woodhaven. He will be working with Woodhaven, the County and MDOT to pursue the rest of the funds needed to cover the cost. The State hopes to develop a permanent fund for grade separations in the future. They want to create parameters related train yards; need a single source of revenue for these types of needs. He is planning to introduce his bill in the next three weeks. He will be holding a 'Coffee Hour' conversation on October 25<sup>th</sup> if anyone wants to attend. Councilwoman Jan Sikes thanked Representative Camilleri for his efforts on the grade separation.

Discussion followed of other communities getting involved with supporting funding to help with a grade separation; and the possibility of creating a Regional Bridge Authority.

Andrew Kandrevas with the Wayne County Executive's Office thanked Jim Perry and Don Howard (American Legion) for assistance with relocating the Wayne County Veterans Center to its new location on Monroe Street in Detroit (now more accessible), and the hope of locating an office in the DCC Building to make it even more accessible to veterans.

<u>Elmer Trombley</u> thanked Jim Perry for all his support with helping veterans at the DCC building. Jim Perry added that the American Legion in the DCC Building has assisted over 9,000 veterans since it opened, and with obtaining \$1.6 million in veteran benefits.

Mayor Bill Matakas: Due to term limits in Allen Park, Mayor Matakas stated this will be his last meeting. He thanked Jim Perry, DCC staff and the Board of Directors for their support with working together on shared issues and for coming together for the common good. He commended the communities for working together through the years and referenced the airplane crash in Romulus at the airport several years ago and how everyone worked so well together. He added that with the railroad being so close to the pipeline in Allen Park, he is glad that Downriver Mutual Aid is in place to assist if needed.

Mayor Dan Paletko thanked Mayor Matakas for all his years of service in Allen Park and service to the DCC Board. Everyone present applauded.

Jim Perry thanked Mayor Matakas as well for all his support through the years, including serving on the former Private Industry Council and the Brownfield Board. Jim expressed his hope for Mayor Matakas to continue his service on the Brownfield Board. He thanked him for his great service, emphasizing he is an outstanding human being.

Motion by Supervisor Loftus, supported by Mayor Guzzi, to adjourn at 6:38pm. The motion passed unanimously.