

**DOWNRIVER COMMUNITY CONFERENCE
REGULAR MEETING – May 11, 2023**

Item #3 (P.1 of 2)

<u>Present:</u>	Allen Park	Mayor Gail McLeod
	Brownstown Twp.	Supervisor Edward Smith
	Dearborn	
	Dearborn Heights	Mayor Bill Bazzi
	Ecorse	Councilwoman LaTonya Lamb
	Flat Rock	
	Gibraltar	Councilman Cody Dill
	Grosse Ile Twp.	Supervisor James Budny
	Huron Twp.	Supervisor David A. Glaab
	Lincoln Park	
	Melvindale	Mayor Wheeler Marsee
	River Rouge	Mayor William Campbell
	Riverview	Mayor Andy Swift
	Rockwood	Mayor Dan Guzzi
	Romulus	Kevin Krause, Director, Community Safety/Devel.
	Southgate	Dan Marsh, City Administrator
	Taylor	Mayor Tim Woolley
	Trenton	Mayor Steven Rzeppa
	Woodhaven	Councilman Robert Toth
	Wyandotte	Mayor Rob DeSana

The meeting was opened by the Chair, Supervisor David A. Glaab at 6:22 p.m., followed by roll call and introductions.

Agenda: Motion by Mayor Guzzi, supported by Alternate Dan Marsh, to accept the agenda as presented, adding one new business item – DCC Audit. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes of 3/2/2023: Motion by Mayor Guzzi, supported by Supervisor Budny, to accept the minutes of the regular board meeting of 3/2/2023 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Presentation: Jazmine Danci, Economic Development Administrator, and John D’Addona, Brownfield Program Manager, provided updates and a Power Point presentation on both DCC’s Economic Development and Brownfield Programs.

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Economic Development: Jazmine Danci explained how the new program began as a result of EDA grant funds to support the DCC’s Strategic Plan developed in 2017-2018, working together with U of M Growth Initiative. The three-year project will help to re-develop the five riverfront communities along the W. Jefferson Corridor between the two DTE coal fire plants: River Rouge, Ecorse, Wyandotte, Riverview, and Trenton. A planning team will be hired to help with the strategy to build on visions in those communities. As part of the project, funds are available to each of the five communities for three businesses in each community to receive up to \$10,000 if they were impacted by the pandemic or from the closure of the power plants. Tim Keyes asked that board members let us know if they have businesses that need DCC’s help through this program.

Brownfield Re-Development: John D'Addona gave an overview of the Brownfield program that assists member communities with redeveloping buildings. He said the program needs new projects to be submitted for consideration. Projects can include recreational, parks, commercial, industrial, and housing development. The City of Southgate has a large project with the redevelopment of the former PNC Bank Building to develop apartments – Southgate Towers.

Jim Perry thanked Larry Steckelberg with the State and Tim Keyes who have been instrumental in with helping DCC to boost economic development in this area. He added that these projects create jobs for all the downriver community residents. He thanked the DCC Board for all their support of these programs.

New Business:

DCC FY 2021/2022 Audit: Kristin Hunt with Plante Moran walked the Board through the DCC audit highlights. The audit received an “unmodified opinion;” the highest possible audit opinion. The General Fund had a \$3,621 net decrease in fund balance, bringing the fund balance to \$10,735; adding that \$6,986 of the fund balance is assigned for use in 2022/23. The Workforce Development Fund and Transportation Fund had fund deficits at year-end, due to GASB 33 timing difference. The Building Fund had a decrease in net position of \$121,870 – net position is now at \$306,144, with an unrestricted net position of \$52,303. The expenses for the building fund include depreciation of \$38,321. Kristin gave an overview of the Central/General Fund balance from 2018-2022, noting to exercise extra caution this next year on this account as it is the only discretionary funds available – now at \$10,735. She gave an overview of the graph reflecting Building & Grounds Fund - Net Position over the years 2013-2022. She gave an overview of trends in grant revenue from 2014-2022. DCC had \$6.8 million in Federal expenditures in 2021/2022 which are reflected on the SEFA: \$3.5 million is passed through SEMCA, \$2.5 million is passed through DESC; and \$0.8 million is from other sources (EPA Brownfield; Weatherization).

The federal compliance audit had no findings in the current year. All resulted in an unmodified opinion for all programs, which is the highest possible audit opinion. Kristin thanked Maria Mancos and her team for all their cooperation and support.

A new Accounting Standard GASB 87 is in place. There were no significant concerns noted and nothing identified in any journal entries.

Motion by Mayor McLeod, supported by Supervisor Budny, to accept the DCC Audit as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

New Board Member/Alternate: Chair Glaab welcomed Councilman Robert Toth of Woodhaven to the table.

Remarks from the Audience:

Robert Pawlowski: Provided updates from the transit advisory committee he is on, adding that his term is ending June 1st. The Committee is currently looking for additional candidates to advocate for transit in the region.

The next DCC Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 7th at 6:00 pm.

Motion by Mayor Guzzi, supported by Mayor Swift, to adjourn at 6:51 pm. The motion passed unanimously.