

**DOWNRIVER COMMUNITY CONFERENCE
REGULAR MEETING – September 7, 2023**

Item #3 (P.1 of 2)

<u>Present:</u>	Allen Park	Mayor Gail McLeod
	Brownstown Twp.	
	Dearborn	
	Dearborn Heights	Mayor Bill Bazzi
	Ecorse	Councilwoman LaTonya Lamb
	Flat Rock	
	Gibraltar	Councilman Cody Dill
	Grosse Ile Twp.	Treasurer David Nadeau
	Huron Twp.	
	Lincoln Park	
	Melvindale	
	River Rouge	
	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	Councilwoman Jan Sikes
	Wyandotte	Larry Stec, City Clerk

The meeting was opened by the Board Secretary, Mayor Dan Guzzi at 6:15 p.m., followed by roll call and introductions.

Agenda: Motion by Councilwoman Sikes, supported by Mayor Rzeppa, to accept the agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes of 5/11/2023: Motion by Councilwoman Lamb, supported by Councilman Dill, to accept the minutes of the regular board meeting of 5/11/2023 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Presentation/Special Tributes:

Beth Bialy, formerly of Plante Moran: Jim Perry congratulated Beth on her retirement and expressed DCC's appreciation for her many years of commitment and dedication to DCC and DMA as our Auditor. Beth was presented with the tribute and all those present applauded. Beth conveyed her thanks to DCC and DMA for the recognition and for all their support through the years, adding she is from Downriver and that she felt fortunate to work with DCC leadership and the Downriver communities. She referenced how unique DCC was as a Public Act 7 agency. She wished everyone all the best!

Conference of Western Wayne (CWW): Jim Perry said that CWW is celebrating their 45th anniversary at a special event on September 14th. Jim referenced a special tribute that we will present at the event on behalf of the DCC and DMA Board of Directors.

Robert Jones, formerly of AT&T: Jim Perry congratulated Robert and expressed DCC's appreciation for his many years of commitment and dedication to DCC and DMA, adding that he was an exceptional advocate in a multitude of areas. Robert was presented with the tribute and all those present applauded. Robert conveyed his thanks and appreciation to DCC and DMA for the recognition and said how much he enjoyed working with the communities on various projects. He gave history of his experiences at Michigan Bell (initially) in 1975; working with the Southern Wayne County Regional Chamber where he met so many great leaders and elected officials and worked together for the region. He retired as Executive Director of External and Legislative Affairs.

New Business:

- 1) Support efforts to Mitigate Flooding and Support Climate Economic Resiliency: Jazmine Danci presented a resolution for DCC to commit to supporting a targeted effort to improve the economic competitiveness and sustainability of the region through the advancement of resiliency projects. It is DCC's intent to continue to partner with the Wayne County Drain Commission, GLSLCI, and all other potential partners to provide services benefiting Wayne County Communities. Motion by Mayor McLeod, supported by Councilwoman Lamb, that the DCC Board supports initiatives from GLSLCI and Wayne County to mitigate flooding and promote a climate-resilient economy. The motion passed unanimously.
- 2) Summary of HB 4382 & 4383 regarding Watershed and Drain Code: Jazmine Danci referenced a handout with a summary about the two house bills (still in committee) that DCC is working together with partner CWW. The handout included areas related to Statewide Stormwater Challenges, Toolbox currently available to address stormwater management needs, and a proposal for a new system to create a plan to address needs at the local level.

Informational Items:

- 1) Economic Development Activities Update (included in the board packet). Jazmine Danci asked board members to let her know if there are any questions.
- 2) Brownfield Board meeting minutes of 6/14/23 (included in the board packet). For information.

Remarks from the Audience:

- 1) Commissioner Ray Basham: Stated the Commission is in discussions about increasing the maintenance on Wayne County Drain Projects; they received good news that the bond rating is up.
- 2) Ron Hinrichs: The Downriver Summit (premier leadership gathering for the year with key partners) is scheduled for October 10th at the Brownstown Event Center – sponsored by DTE. Admission is free but RSVP is required. Please register at www.swcrc.com.
- 3) Mayor Gail McLeod: Allen Park has partnered with DART for a Styrofoam Recycling Collection effort scheduled for Saturday, September 16th and Sunday, September 17th from 9am – 3pm at the Allen Park DPS. Fliers were available for reference and Cari will forward a copy to the board.

The next DCC Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 5th at 6:00 pm.

Motion by Alternate Larry Stec, supported by Councilwoman Lamb, to adjourn at 6:40 pm. The motion passed unanimously.