

DOWNRIVER COMMUNITY CONFERENCE
REGULAR MEETING – May 9, 2024

Item #3 (P.1 of 2)

Present:

Allen Park	Mayor Gail McLeod
Brownstown Twp.	Supervisor Edward Smith
Dearborn	
Dearborn Heights	Mayor Bill Bazzi
Ecorse	
Flat Rock	Mayor Steven Beller
Gibraltar	Mayor Garrett Shumate
Grosse Ile Twp.	Supervisor Jim Budny
Huron Twp.	Supervisor David A. Glaab
Lincoln Park	
Melvindale	
River Rouge	
Riverview	
Rockwood	
Romulus	
Southgate	Mayor Joseph Kuspa
Taylor	Mayor Tim Woolley
Trenton	Mayor Steven Rzeppa
Woodhaven	Councilwoman Jan Sikes
Wyandotte	Mayor Rob DeSana

The meeting was opened by the Board Chairman, Supervisor David A. Glaab, at 6:35 p.m., followed by roll call and introductions.

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

Minutes of 3/7/2024: Motion by Mayor Bazzi, supported by Supervisor Smith, to accept the minutes of the regular board meeting of 3/7/2024 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Presentation: DTE (Street Lighting & EV Chargers)

Chris Hartley with DTE provided a presentation about DTE's Street Lighting program to enhance safety and security for years to come (property and personal). DTE believes a safer, more welcoming downtown promotes increased street/pedestrian traffic, and in turn, tax revenue for your municipality. Their outdoor lighting program offers experts who understand how to properly compensate for light loss, subjective brightness, glare and other important factors while preserving the look and feel of nostalgic historical village or bustling metropolis, and anything in between. They have a variety of customizable, energy-efficient options for electric customers. The program benefits include affordable, predictable monthly rates; service and maintenance included property remains well-lit from dusk until dawn; and energy efficient lighting to help communities manage their overall energy costs. He explained about old lights versus new lights, and about options for more decorative lamp post lighting. DTE contact information can be found at www.dteenergy.com/streetlighting.

Ali Tellaih – with DTE provided additional information about DTE's Business Charge Connect program, which provides businesses with turnkey EV charger installation and engineering support – all through a dedicated team of professional DTE experts. DTE's team of professional service experts will be tasked with planning, designing, and executing your EV charging infrastructure. Some of the technical details their experts will manage include Applying for EV charger rebates; Surveying your site; Engineering and Design; Permitting;

DTE Presentation (continued):

and Electrical Construction. If interested, please contact them via e-mail at evchargeconnect@dteenergy.com for a quote. Discussion followed including if a study was done on electrical capacity/load; and electric chargers located at local stores like Kroger and Meijer. Chair Glaab thanked both Chris Hartley and Ali Tellaih for their presentations.

New Business:

Special Tribute – Ray Basham: Jim Perry presented former Wayne County Commissioner Ray Basham with a special tribute; congratulated him on his recent retirement and thanked him for his many years of support to DCC, especially to our DPS Directors' group. Ray Basham thanked everyone for the tribute; he enjoyed working with the DCC, and the Mayors and Supervisors in the DCC communities, as well as the CWW Board. He commended his staff for all their support, as well. All applauded.

Remarks:

- 1) Beverlyn Hilton with Wayne County Treasurer's Office said Treasurer Eric Sabree wants homeowners to keep their homes and not lose them in tax foreclosure. She asked communities to get the word out that their office has payment programs to assist. Office number is 313-282-3355, or Beverlyn can be reached at Bhilton@waynecounty.com.
- 2) Probate Court Judge David Perkins encouraged folks to seek help with available tax support services, before getting to the probate court level.
- 3) Carol Zuniga, CEO of Hegira Health (formerly merged with Community Care Services), said they serve families, ranging from infants to adults. They are currently partnering with the Downriver Council for the Arts with adolescents in a self-expression program, with an art exhibit set for the next three weeks; 5:00-8:00 pm at the Arts Council building in Wyandotte.
- 4) Victoria Houston with Governor Whitmer's office introduced herself – she is the new Outreach Specialist covering the Downriver area – she is a life-long Downriver resident and said she looks forward to working together with everyone.
- 5) The agenda packet included information updates on the DCC programs, for board members reference.

The next DCC Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 5th, 2024, at 6:00pm.

Adjournment: Motion by Mayor Bazzi, supported by Supervisor Budny, to adjourn at 7:12 pm. The motion passed unanimously