



RIVERFRONT DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

1315 S. Washington Avenue
Council Chambers – Room 205
989.399.1311
February 11, 2025
MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:

Vice Chair Moton called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Aaron Bedford, Martin Chelekis, Joshua Daniels, Steve Gerhardt, John Huphreys, Brian Keenan-Lechel, John Moton, Kevin Rooker, Tim Morales, Robert Gollin

Absent: Abraham Allen, Erin Andrus, Carrie Davis, Marck Fischer, Steve Hensley, Vee Murugan, Travis Hare.

NEW BUSINESS:

New members Steve Gerhardt, Joshua Daniels, and Kevin Rooker introduced themselves to the commission.

Commissioners Andrus and Davis entered the meeting at 5:02 p.m.

Commissioner Hensley entered the meeting at 5:04 p.m.

Vice Chair Moton announced the election of the position of Chair and called for nominations. Commissioner Keenan-Lechel nominated Commissioner Humphreys, and he accepted the nomination. Vice Chair Moton called for nominations two additional times. There were no further nominations and Vice Chair Moton closed the nominations.

Moved by Commissioner Rooker, seconded by Commissioner Keenan-Lechel to elect Commissioner Humphreys as Chair of the Commission. Motion approved.

Chair Humphreys took his seat and announced the election of the position of Vice Chair. Commissioner Keenan-Lechel volunteered for the position. Chair Humphreys called for nominations three times. There were no nominations and Chair Humphreys closed the nominations.

Moved by Chair Humphreys, seconded by Commissioner Gollin to elect Commissioner Keenan-Lechel as Vice Chair of the Commission. Motion approved.

Commissioner Allen entered the meeting at 5:09 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Moved by Commissioner Gerhardt, seconded by Commissioner Rooker to approve the January 14, 2025 minutes. Motion approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

CHAIR REPORT:

None.

REPORTS:

- **SVRC ENHANCEMENT PROJECT**

Commissioner Davis reported that she is verifying that there is enough funding to cover the purchase of the plaques, and the plan is to install them in the spring.

- **SAGINAW VALLEY RAIL TRAIL**

Vice Chair Keenan-Lechel reported that the long-term plan is to connect to the western border of the Saginaw River Headwaters area and ultimately to the Iron Belle Trail. He suggested replacing this item on the agenda with Medical Diamond updates and the riverwalk from Wickes Park to Ojibway Island.

- **CITY MANAGER**

Manager Morales reported the following:

- Bid documents are being finalized for the Medical Diamond infrastructure work.
- SCAPE Landscape Architecture will present an update on the Riverfront Park improvement plans at the February 24 City Council meeting.
- Ojibway Island is closed for shoreline stabilization for at least a month, potentially longer.
- Ojibway Island stage restoration bid is out and that work will be done this summer.
- The parking ramp above the CSO basin in Old Town is closed right now for rehabilitation and will be open in the fall.

Chair Humphreys stated that adding the Medical Diamond as an agenda topic would be beneficial.

- **DDA/Old Town**

Commissioner Hensley reported that the MEDC has rolled out Match on Main grants again. The grant is a \$25,000 reimbursement grant that requires a \$10,000 match from the business.

- **RIVERFRONT LOOP**

No report.

Commissioner Rooker left the meeting at 5:48 p.m.

- **BEAUTIFICATION DAY**

Chair Humphreys gave a brief overview of past activity for the new members.

- **MISCELLANEOUS**

Commissioner Andrus reported that work continues on Les Tincknell's memorial marker.

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ADJOURN:

Moved by Vice Chair Keenan-Lechel seconded by Commissioner Gerhardt to adjourn the meeting at 6:01 p.m.

Recorded by,

Kristine Bolzman, MiPMC/CMC
City Clerk