



RIVERFRONT DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

1315 S. Washington Avenue
Council Chambers – Room 205
989.399.1311
April 12, 2022
MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:

Chair Fischer called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

Present: Abraham Allen, Clint Bryant, Martin Chelekis, Carol Cottrell, Mark Fischer, Glenn Fitkin, Brian Keenan-Lechel, Tom Miller, John Moton, Travis Hare, Robert Gollin

Excused: Aaron Bedford, Fred Czerewko, Mike Hanley, Tim Morales

Absent: Erin Andrus, John Humphreys, Herb Spence

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Moved by Commissioner Miller, seconded by Commissioner Cottrell to approve the March 8, 2022 minutes. Motion approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

CHAIR REPORT:

None.

REPORTS:

• **SVRC ENHANCEMENT PROJECT**

Commissioner Keenan-Lechel reported that he and Commissioner Andrus met with the Saginaw Community Foundation and a grant has been applied for through the Foundation. He stated that the Saginaw DDA has committed to \$10,000 for the project. He and Commissioner Andrus will meet with the City Manager regarding submitting an ARPA funding request and they will arrange to meet with the Morley Foundation for funding sources.

Commissioner Erin Andrus entered the meeting at 5:10 p.m.

• **SAGINAW VALLEY RAIL TRAIL**

Commissioner Keenan-Lechel reported he will meet with the City Engineer for the head trail site and entrance drive review. A proposal for ARPA fund for \$800,000 is planned to be submitted. Plans are to convert the drive into a wide sidewalk.

• **RFDC 20-YEAR MASTER PLAN**

Commissioner Gollin reported that he distributed to the Commission a fillable form to rank the current plan goals. He also asked the Commission to submit their ideas for future planning goals and to rank those. Discussion was held on past ideas and projects that have been completed that can be taken out of the plan. Commissioners will email their ideas to Commissioner Gollin.

- **DDA/Old Town/Land Bank**

Commissioner Miller reported that the Saginaw Soup event is coming up for entrepreneurs to pitch their business and have a chance to win awards. They want to work on getting more options for dining on the riverfront. Work continues with façade grants, community building mission, and “Feet on the Street” concepts similar to Bay City. Discussion was held on possible ideas to consider.

- **RIVERFRONT LOOP**

Commission Miller reported that this project is at status quo due to property easements issues. He has spoken to Rifkin and they are interested in extending the trail. Commissioner Miller agreed to send the map and information out to the Commission.

- **BEAUTIFICATION DAY**

Commissioner Bryant reported that the event will be May 20. Information is at the printers. He is in need of more committee members to assist.

- **RIVERWALK MARKERS**

Commission Andrus reported that she has the edits for the markers and photos. Final steps are near.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Chair Fischer reminded the Commission that the City Manager had requested a letter of support for ARPA funding to be allocated to City projects such as the Ojibway Island Stabilization project.

Chair Fischer announced that the next meeting will be May 10.

ADJOURN:

Moved by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Miller to adjourn the meeting at 6:07 p.m.

Recorded by,

Janet Santos, MiPMC/MMC
City Clerk