

**DOWNRIVER COMMUNITY CONFERENCE
REGULAR MEETING – March 4, 2010**

Item #3

Present:

Allen Park	Alternate Mike Donofrio
Brownstown Twp.	Trustee Barbara Warren
Dearborn	Alternate Bill Irving, Asst. Corporation Counsel
Dearborn Heights	Mayor Dan Paletko
Ecorse	Mayor Pro-Tem Darcel Brown
Flat Rock	Mayor Jonathan Dropiewski
Gibraltar	Mayor James Gorris
Grosse Ile Twp.	
Huron Twp.	Supervisor Elke Doom
Lincoln Park	
Melvindale	Mayor Valerie Cadez
River Rouge	Mayor Michael Bowdler
Riverview	
Rockwood	Mayor Daniel Guzzi
Romulus	Delegate Tim Keyes, Economic Development Director
Southgate	Mayor Joseph Kuspa
Taylor	Mayor Jeffrey Lamarand
Trenton	Councilman Terry Teifer
Woodhaven	Mayor Pro-tem Jeffrey Harris
Wyandotte	

The meeting was opened by the Chair Terry Teifer, at 6:21 p.m. with community roll call and introductions.

Agenda: Motion by Mayor Bowdler, supported by Mayor Dropiewski, to accept the agenda as presented, with one new item (Executive Committee to Act for the Board). The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes: Motion by Delegate Keyes, supported by Mayor Guzzi, to accept the minutes of 2/4/10 as written. The motion passed unanimously.

Finance Committee Report: Treasurer Tim Keyes reported.

Finance Minutes of 2-10-10: Motion by Mayor Guzzi, supported by Mayor Cadez, to receive and place on file. The motion passed unanimously.

2009 DCC Audit Presentation: Beth Bialy and Kristen Hunt, of Plante & Moran, reported.

Beth Bialy explained the items to be reviewed, adding that DCC's federal funding increased from \$6.4 million to \$8.2 million last year. Kristen Hunt walked the board members through the DCC audit highlights.

- 1) Unqualified Opinion – highest possible audit opinion.
- 2) DCC's General Fund had a \$2,499 net decrease in fund balance, bringing the fund balance to \$152,902.
- 3) The Employment Programs (E&T), Economic Development (ED), and Transportation special revenue funds each had a fund deficit at year-end; mainly due to GASB 33 timing differences.
- 4) The E&T fund had a "true" fund deficit of \$2,163.
- 5) The ED fund and Transportation fund had no "true" fund deficits.
- 6) The Weatherization special revenue fund had a fund balance of \$0.
- 7) The Building Fund had a net income of \$61.00.
- 8) The federal program audit had a finding related to Work First (the programs tested were Work First, WIA Cluster, Brownfield Revolving Loans, Weatherization, and Employment Services).
- 9) Recommendation to maintain documentation of submission and review of Weatherization programmatic reports.

2009 DCC Audit Presentation (continued):

Beth and Kristen thanked Kim Donahey, Nicole Chavez and the Fiscal staff for helping with the audit. Discussion followed. Motion by Mayor Paletko, supported by Trustee Warren, to accept the 2009 audit report as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

- Executive Committee to Act: Motion by Mayor Guzzi, supported by Mayor Bowdler, to cancel the April 1st board meeting and authorize the Executive Committee to act on behalf of the full board until the next meeting on 5-6-10. The motion passed unanimously.
- Automotive Personal Property Tax: Chair Terry Teifer reported that the process the State uses for determining automotive personal property tax has changed, and how serious this issue is for Trenton, Flat Rock, Dearborn, and for many communities with an industrial tax base. This will cause a 50%, 60% or possibly 70% reduction in automotive personal property tax. Detailed discussion followed of how this affects the communities. He added that the City of Dearborn is taking the lead on this and is requesting a special meeting with the Governor, and if anyone is interested in attending, to contact Mayor O'Reilly's office in Dearborn.

Information Items: There was one item for information included in the board packet – resolution from Wyandotte re: Jobs for Main Street.

Remarks from the Audience:

- Cindy Dingell of the Wayne County Executive's Office: A Storm Water Ordinance meeting was held last year at DCC; Cindy reported that a follow-up meeting will be provided next month on this issue.
- Jill Ferrari with Wayne County Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP): Jill with Wayne County's Community Development Department gave updates on the NSP. They are working on the second round of contracts improving homeless prevention - \$2.3 million in federal funding is being funneled through Wayne Metro and Lighthouse to assist with homeless prevention and rental assistance. She explained ways communities can do development thru a private developer once a property becomes an eligible site for demolition. Communities may reach Jill at (313) 461-7833 for additional information.
- Welcome to new Board Members: Chair Terry Teifer welcomed Mayor Jeffrey Lamarand of Taylor and Mayor Pro-Tem Darcel Brown of Ecorse to the board of directors, first time attending. Everyone applauded.

Motion by Delegate Keyes, supported by Mayor Guzzi, to adjourn at 6:55 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.