

MINUTES
PUBLIC HEARING – 2023 BUDGET
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
HURON-CLINTON METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2022

The Budget Hearing of the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority’s Board of Commissioners was held on Thursday, Dec. 8, 2022. The meeting was held at the Administrative Office and via remote attendance by members of the public due to the Coronavirus pandemic. The hearing convened in pursuance to a legal notice placed in the Detroit Free Press and Detroit News.

Commissioners Present:

Jaye Quadrozzi
Bernard Parker
Robert W. Marans
John Paul Rea
Stephen Pontoni
Tiffany Taylor
Bill Bolin

Staff Officers Present:

Director	Amy McMillan
Deputy Director	Michael Lyons
Chief of Finance	Shedreka Miller

Others:

Detroit Riverfront Conservancy	Mark Wallace
Miller, Canfield, Paddock & Stone	Steve Mann

1. Motion to Open Public Hearing

Motion by Commissioner Marans, support from Commissioner Rea that the Board of Commissioners open the public hearing for the 2023 budget.

The public hearing was convened at 12:30 p.m.

2. Chairman’s Statement

None.

3. Detroit Riverfront Conservancy Presentation – DRFC Chief Executive Officer Mark Wallace

Director McMillan introduced Mark Wallace, CEO for the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy. Mr. Wallace spoke about the partnership with the Metroparks and the naming opportunity for the Water Garden.

Commissioner Quadrozzi said she is really excited about this partnership and the opportunity.

Commissioner Parker asked if the floating dock would be open to the public. Mr. Wallace said yes.

Commissioner Marans asked if the Metroparks logo would be on the signage and not just the wording? Mr. Wallace said they were trying to keep the look and feel similar to the overall branding.

Commissioner Quadrozzi asked about the timeline. Mr. Wallace said the roads have been laid out and the sport house foundation has started. He said it’s a two-year project and it will hopefully be complete in the fall 2024.

Commissioner Taylor said she is excited about the partnership and the project.

4. 2023 Natural Resources Highlights – Chief of Natural Resources and Regulatory Compliance Tyler Mitchell

Chief of Natural Resources and Regulatory Compliance Tyler Mitchell updated the Board on activities the Natural Resources Department handles throughout the year highlighting 2023 funding requests, managing natural areas, creating and maintaining a mowing plan as well as a storm water management plan. He reviewed the various partnerships the Metroparks has with other organizations along with the Natural Resources mission – Restoration (restoring what we have), Protection protecting what we love, and Sustainability (sustaining our future).

5. 2023 Budget Review

Ms. McMillan thanked Chief of Finance Shedreka Miller, her staff along with the entire Metroparks team for their hard work on preparing the 2023 budget.

Ms. Miller reviewed the 2023 budget highlighting proposed revenue, expenses, the differences between 2022 vs. 2023 as well as the intended use of fund balance.

6. Public Participation

Toni Spears, Dexter, said there was significant increases to the administrative office budget including \$4 million to the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy for naming rights, which appears a line item and that was not included in the preliminary budget presented to the Board in November. Ms. Spears also said there is a \$4.9 million increase in outside services, which deserves more of an explanation.

7. Motion to Close Public Hearing

Motion by Commissioner Marans, support from Commissioner Rea that the Board of Commissioners close the public hearing for the 2023 Budget.

Motion carried unanimously.

The public hearing for the 2022 Budget adjourned at 1:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Shawn Athayde
Recording Secretary