Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority Board of Commission Meeting Minutes July 13, 2023

A regular meeting of the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority's Board of Commissioners was held on Thursday, July 13, 2023 at Hudson Mills.

Commissioners Present: Jaye Quadrozzi

Bernard Parker Robert W. Marans John Paul Rea Tiffany Taylor William Bolin

Staff Officers Present:

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

Absent:

Commissioner Stephen Pontoni

Others:

Miller, Canfield, Paddock & Stone Steve Mann

1. Call to Order

Commissioner Parker called the meeting to order at 12:36pm.

2. Chairman's Statement

Commissioner Parker thanked the Board of Commissioner members for electing him to the chair position. Commissioner Parker Thanked Commissioner Quadrozzi for the past couple of years of service.

3. Public Participation

None.

4. Approval – June 8, 2023 Closed Session and Regular Meeting Minutes Motion by Commissioner Marans, support from Commissioner Rea that the Board of Commissioners approve the closed session and regular meeting minutes as submitted.

Motion carried unanimously.

5. Approval – July 13, 2023 Full Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Rea, support from Commissioner Quadrozzi that the Board of Commissioners approve the closed session and regular meeting minutes as submitted.

Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

6. Approval – July 13, 2023 Consent Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Marans, support from Commissioner Taylor that the Board of Commissioners approve the consent agenda as submitted.

Motion carried unanimously.

Regular Agenda

7. Reports

A. Administrative Department

1. Report – 2022 Audited Financials

<u>Discussion:</u> Plante Moran representatives, Kristen Hunt and Alissa Flury presented the HCMA 2022 Audited Financials.

Commissioner Parker stated Shedreka Miller and the entire Finance team did a fantastic job on the audit.

Commissioner Marans asked if the amount we funded to The Detroit Riverfront Conservancy is reflected is this audit. Amy stated the \$6 million is reflected, but the \$4 million donated this year in 2023 is not reflected.

Motion by Commissioner Marans, support from Commissioner Rea that the Board of Commissioners receive and file the 2022 Audited Financials as submitted.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Report – Strategic Plan Update & Presentation

<u>Discussion:</u> Director McMillan introduced the Strategic Plan Update that spotlighted HCMA's partnership with the Detroit Public Schools Community District.

Chief of Interpretive Services, Jennifer Jaworski provided an update on the Supplemental Science Lessons there were held at the J R King Academic and Performing Arts Academy on a weekly basis for 4th, 5th, and 8th grade classes. The objective to the initiative was to create programming that provides positive and meaningful experiences for the students that will encourage further explanation of the natural world and the careers within it. The programming also included after school clubs at Riverside West Academy and Weston Charter Academy with 40 visits throughout the school year, totaling 817 engagement hours.

Chief of Marketing and Communications, Danielle Mauter presented on the Physical Education Field Trips throughout the parks.

Commissioner Parker stated that schools in Michigan are rated by test scores. Asked if there any possibility to test students and compare results to students that didn't attend the programming. Jennifer Jaworski stated that testing students wasn't the objective, rather creating the emotional connection and foundation. However, in discussions with the assist principal it was started that test scores did not increase, but the appreciation for science did increase.

Commissioner Marans asked if we have information reading participant information. Jennifer Jaworski answered the MOU we signed with DPSCD was clear that we are not allowed to collect any information or take away from any time the classroom.

Commissioner Rea thanked Jennifer and Danielle for their work. He stated it is incredibly refreshing to see the Metroparks are supplementing and normalizing these interactions. He stated it is imperative that we continue focus on this area and seeing how this will be foundational building blocks of the strategic plan.

A highlight video was debuted at the meeting and will run publicly.

3. Discussion – 2023 Board of Commissioners Retreat

<u>Discussion:</u> The Board of Commissioners discussed the logistics and agenda outline of the 2023 HCMA BOC Retreat. The retreat will be held on October 31, 2023. The Program committee will meet to define the agenda and will present at the August board meeting.

4. Approval – Labor Agreement POLC

<u>Discussion:</u> Miller Canfield representative, Ahmad Chehab presented the outcome of discussions with the Union POLC.

Motion by Commissioner Quadrozzi, support from Commissioner Rea that the Board of Commissioners approve the Labor Agreement POLC as submitted.

Motion carried unanimously.

5. Report – 2023 Legislative Family Day

<u>Discussion:</u> Executive Assistant, Micaela Vasquez presented a new event that will be taking place in Summer 2023 as part of HCMA's efforts to continue work on building relationships with our legislative representatives.

B. Financial Department

1. Report - Monthly Financial Report

<u>Discussion:</u> Chief of Finance, Shedreka Miller updated the Board of Commissioners on the monthly financial report.

Motion by Commissioner Rea, support from Commissioner Taylor that the Board of Commissioners receive and file the June Monthly Financial Report as submitted.

Motion carried unanimously.

C. Department Updates

1. Report – Natural Resources Update

<u>Discussion:</u> Chief of Natural Resources, Tyler Mitchell updated the Board of Commissioners on the Natural Resources department.

Motion by Commissioner Rea, support from Commissioner Taylor that the Board of Commissioners receive and file the Natural Resources Update as submitted.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Report – Marketing Update

<u>Discussion:</u> Chief of Marketing and Communications, Danielle Mauter updated the Board of Commissioners on the Marketing department.

Commissioner Rea asked when we will have the program data available. Danielle stated we will have closer to end of summer.

Commissioner Taylor asked about the status of the social media ambassador program. Danielle stated the first meetup at Stony Creek has taken place, the topic for July is water focused. Overall the program is going really great.

Motion by Commissioner Rea, support from Commissioner Quadrozzi that the Board of Commissioners receive and file the Marketing Update as submitted.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Report – Planning and Development Update

<u>Discussion:</u> Interim Chief of Planning & Development, Janet Briles, updated the Board of Commissioners on the Planning & Development department.

Motion by Commissioner Quadrozzi, support from Commissioner Marans that the Board of Commissioners receive and file the Planning & Development Update as submitted.

Motion carried unanimously.

4. Report - Interpretive Services Update

<u>Discussion:</u> Chief of Interpretive Services, Jennifer Jaworski updated the Board of Commissioners on the Interpretive Services department.

Motion by Commissioner Rea, support from Commissioner Taylor that the Board of Commissioners receive and file the Interpretive Services Update as submitted.

Motion carried unanimously.

5. Report – DEI Update

<u>Discussion:</u> Director McMillan stated Chief of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Artina Carter was out sick.

Motion by Commissioner Rea, support from Commissioner Taylor that the Board of Commissioners receive and file the DEI Update as submitted.

Motion carried unanimously.

D. Planning & Development

1. Report - NOAA Dam Removal Feasibility Study Presentation
Discussion: GEI representative, Janeen McDermott presented on
the Flat Rock – Huron Dam Removal Feasibility Study. The project
is funded by a grant through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

Motion by Commissioner Rea, support from Commissioner Taylor that the Board of Commissioners receive and file the NOAA Dam Removal Feasibility Study Presentation as submitted.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Approval – DNR Waterways Grant Agreement for Engineering for Lake St. Clair North Marina

<u>Discussion:</u> Interim Chief of Planning & Development, Janet Briles, provided a review of the DNR Waterways Grant Agreement for Engineering for Lake St. Clair North Marina.

Motion by Commissioner Marans, support from Commissioner Taylor that the Board of Commissioners approve the DNR Waterways Grant Agreement for Engineering for Lake St. Clair North Marina as submitted.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval – Land & Water Conservation Grant Agreement for the Lake St. Clair West Boardwalk

<u>Discussion:</u> Interim Chief of Planning & Development, Janet Briles, provided a review of the Land & Water Conservation Grant Agreement for the Lake St. Clair West Boardwalk.

Motion by Commissioner Rea, support from Commissioner Marans that the Board of Commissioners approve the Land & Water Conservation Grant Agreement for the Lake St. Clair West Boardwalk as submitted.

Motion carried unanimously.

E. Engineering

1. Approval - Change Order Willow Big Bend Huron River Remediation and Habitat Restoration

<u>Discussion:</u> Chief of Engineering Services, Mike Henkel provided a review of the Change Order Willow Big Bend Huron River Remediation and Habitat Restoration project goals.

Motion by Commissioner Bolin, support from Commissioner Rea that the Board of Commissioners approve the Change Order Willow Big Bend Huron River Remediation and Habitat Restoration

Motion carried unanimously.

8. Public Participation

Toni Spears – Hudson Mills Volunteer, stated many great things were presented today. Congratulated HCMA on the DSPC program.

9. Other Business

None.

10. Leadership Update

Director McMillan stated the updates today reflect how well the projects align with our strategic plan and congratulated staff how well the work is being done and how it represents the organization.

Director McMillan commented on the engineering grant at the LSC Marina, engineering and planning and development. Thanked and congratulated the staff for all the work.

11. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Parker commented on the \$5 million for LSC Marina and congratulated the staff.

12. Motion to Adjourn

Motion by Commissioner Marans, support from Commissioner Rea, that the Board of Commissioners adjourn the regular meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Micaela Vasquez Recording Secretary

Micaela Vasquez