



Dix-Vernor Business District Improvement Authority

Board Meeting Minutes

D.A.C. - Room 1D

January 24, 2024; 3:00pm EST

16901 Michigan Ave, Dearborn, MI 48126

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Janet Thompson, Secretary- Treasurer Brigitte Fawaz-Anouti, Mayor Hammoud, Director Mahdi Ali, Director Lucius Anthony, Director Ronald Berry, Director Mohammed Abdullah, Director Imad Asofuy.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Vice- Chair Anthony Rugiero.

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT:

CITY OF DEARBORN: Angela Fortino (ED) Laura Aceves-Sanchez (ED), Saeid Alawathi (ED), Mohammed Rezaq (ED), Rebecca Schultz (Legal), Courtney Skora (Finance), De’Janae Douglas (ED), Zaineb Hussein (Mayor’s office).

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Thompson called the meeting to order at 3:06p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

A roll call of Board members was called. A quorum was present.

3. APPROVAL OF REGULAR DVBDIA NOVEMBER 27, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

Chair Janet Thompson presented the meeting minutes on pages 3-4 of the agenda. Director Ronald Berry made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of November 27, 2023. He was seconded by Director Lucius Anthony. Motion passed unanimously. Motion approved.

4. TREASURER’S REPORT

Courtney Skora from the Finance Department presented the monthly financial statement. There were no questions. Chair Janet Thompson motioned to receive and file the December 2023 financial statement. The motion passed unanimously. Motion approved.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- a. A resolution was introduced for the Removal of Telephone Voting option from the DVBDIA bylaws. The Dix-Vernor Business Authority Board bylaws included Article IV, (F). (Attendance) which permitted board members to vote by telephone for not more than two (2) regular or special meetings per year. However, Section 3a(1)(c) of the Open Meetings Act, MCL 15.263a(1)(c), provides that a meeting of a public body may be held electronically by telephonic or video conferencing only in circumstances requiring accommodation of members absent due to military duty. Therefore, DVBDIA board voted to amend Article IV,



Item F. (Attendance) of the Bylaws to remove the telephone voting option.

A motion was made for this resolution by Director Mahdi Ali and seconded by Mayor Abdullah Hammoud. A voice vote passed unanimously. Motion approved.

- b. A resolution was introduced for the 2024 Office Elections. Per the bylaws, the DVBDIA Board elects the Officers at the first meeting of the year and each officer so elected shall hold office until December 31 of the year in which they are elected or until their term expires, or upon resignation or removal, whichever occurs first.
 - Acting Chair Janet Thompson called the nominations for the Chair to order. Director Brigitte Fawaz-Anouti nominated Janet Thompson for the Chair of the DVBDIA. Acting Chair Janet Thompson asked if there were any other nominations and there was none. Janet Thompson accepted the nomination and was therefore elected as the DVBDIA Chair.
 - Chair Janet Thompson opened the nomination for the Vice-Chair of the DVBDIA. Director Brigitte Fawaz-Anouti nominated Director Anthony Rugiero for the Vice-Chair. Chair Janet Thompson asked if there were any other nominations and there was none. Anthony Rugirro was not in attendance to accept the nomination, therefore, Chair Thompson announced that Anthony Rugirro was elected for the DVBDIA, subject to his acceptance during the next meeting.
 - Chair Janet Thompson opened the nomination for the Secretary-Treasurer of the DVBDIA. Director Lucius Anthony nominated Director Brigitte Fawaz-Anouti. Chair Janet Thompson asked if there were any other nominations and there was none. Director Brigitte Fawaz-Anouti accepted the nomination and was announced as the Secretary-Treasurer of the DVBDIA.

A motion was made for this resolution by Mayor Abdullah Hammoud and seconded by Director Ronald Berry. A voice vote passed unanimously. Motion approved.

- c. A resolution was introduced for the Dearborn Restaurant Week Participation. The DVBDIA commits to a contribution of \$200.00 towards Dearborn Restaurant Week and authorize a reallocation of \$200.00 from account # 250-6100-911.34-90 “Development Contractual Services” to account #250-6100-911.51-00 “Community Promotion”. The DVBDIA will be allowed to collect participation fees from restaurants within its boundaries as revenue. A motion was made for this resolution by Mayor Abdullah Hammoud and seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Brigitte Fawaz-Anouti. A voice vote passed unanimously. Motion approved.

6. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Shade Plaza Update:
Updates, including the fact that the contractor has completed the electrification of the clock tower, were provided by Laura Aceves-Sanchez.
- b. Business District Liaison Update:
Business Liaison Saeid Alawathi provided updates about new business in the district including a new restaurant replacing Sheeba restaurant which closed out. He also mentioned the illegal dumping issue at Northern Street and the City Multi-Departmental efforts to keep



it clean. Saeid Also mentioned that he is coordinating a Legal Fair in the district, which is aiming to provide resources for the residents and business in the district.

7. CALL TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Director Ronald Berry inquired about the timeline for the Miller Bridge Project and Mayor Hamoud noted that it is scheduled to be completed in 2026.

8. CALL TO AUDIENCE

None at this time

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Director Ronald Berry was seconded by Mayor Abdullah Hammoud. A voice vote was passed unanimously. Motion was approved and the meeting was adjourned.