



**DEARBORN
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT**



**WEST DEARBORN DOWNTOWN
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

CITY OF DEARBORN | ABDULLAH H. HAMMOUD, MAYOR

West Dearborn Downtown Development Authorities MINUTES

**Board Meeting
February 19, 2025**

**Dearborn Administrative Center, Council Chambers
16901 Michigan Ave, Dearborn, MI 48124**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chair Tahrik Alcodray, Vice-Chair Devon O'Reilly, Secretary-Treasurer Chris Small, Director Thomas Clark, Director Sam Abbas, Director Zaineb Hussein,

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mayor Abdullah Hammoud, Director Moe Hider, and Director Karl Makky

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT:

CITY OF DEARBORN: Courtney Skora (Finance), Rebecca Schultz (Legal), Angela Fortino (ED), Deena Berri (ED), Amanda Sancen (ED), Laura Aceves-Sanchez (ED)

AGENDA

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** Chair Tahrik Alcodray called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.
- 2. ROLL CALL** A roll call for board members was called. A quorum was present.
- 3. APPROVAL OF WEST DDA NOVEMBER MEETING MINUTES**

Chair Tahrik Alcodray presented the meeting minutes on page 3-4 of the agenda. He made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of January 22, 2025 and was seconded by Chris Small. The motion passed unanimously. Motion approved.

4. REVIEW & FILING OF TREASURER'S REPORT

Courtney Skora from the Finance Department presented the monthly financial statement for January 2024. Chair Tahrik Alcodray motioned to acknowledge the financial statement.

5. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Resolution WD-25-02-01:** A resolution was introduced to accept the resignation of Director Amanda Bright McClanahan. Secretary-Treasurer Chris Small motioned to approve and Director Tom Clark seconded.
- b. Resolution WD 25-02-02:** A resolution was introduced to renew the maintenance, landscaping and sanitation contract with ground control property services for 6 months instead of 12 months for \$114,167.50 and \$15,000 for planting activities.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS



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Economic Vitality Manager Laura Aceves-Sanchez shared that the DDA will be purchasing new trash cans, benches, and planters.

Events and Outreach Manager Amanda Sancen provided positive updates and analytics about marketing and social media efforts that have been implemented to advertise businesses in the DDA. Bolt Cyber Solutions was hired to create business highlights and help develop a documentary of Dearborn's coffee scene. Filming has already begun and will continue for the next couple of months.

7. DDA ACTIVITY UPDATES

- a. **Business Liaison Updates & Data Reporting:** Business Liaison Deena Berri provided an update about a new upcoming business called Mason St. Cafe that offers coffee, bagels, and sandwiches. She also provided updates about approaching businesses in need of grants, implementing safety measures in the district, 15 minute parking, wayfinding signage, and alleyway activation opportunities.

8. CITY UPDATES

- a. Director Zaineb Hussein provided updates on the City's efforts to improve long-term economic development and sustainability. She shared that some of the economic development staff has been participating in a Bloomberg study facilitated by Harvard to evaluate Dearborn's economic conditions and opportunities.

9. CALL TO BOARD

- a. Director Sam Abbas inquired about the Pocket Park RFP and asked for improvements to be made to the alleyway behind Brome. Secretary-Treasurer Chris Small requested that the parking study be shared with stakeholders in the district.

10. CALL TO AUDIENCE

No audience members were present.

11. CALL TO ADJOURNMENT

Chair Tahrik Alcodray motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:04 a.m and was seconded by Vice Chair Devon O'Reilly.