



West Dearborn Downtown Development Authority MINUTES

West DDA Board Meeting
April 16, 2025; 09:00 AM

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Tahrik Alcodray, Vice Chair Devon O’Reilly, Secretary-Treasurer Chris Small, Director Tom Clark, Director Sam Abbas, and Director Mariam Jalloul

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mayor Abdullah Hammoud, Director Zaineb Hussein, Director Karl Makky, Director Moe Hider

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: CITY OF DEARBORN: Laura Aceves- Sanchez (ED), Rebecca Schultz (Legal), Courtney Skora (Finance), Adel Al-Adlani (ED), Angela Fortino (ED), Amanda Sancen (ED), Deena Berri (ED), Lara Rayshouny (ED),

GUESTS: Councilwoman Leslie Herrick

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Tahrik Alcodray called the meeting to order at 9:11 am.

2. ROLL CALL

A role call for Board Members was called. A quorum was present.

3. APPROVAL OF WDDDA MEETING MINUTES

A motion to approve the West DDDA meeting minutes of March 19, 2025 was made by Chair Tahrik Alcodray, seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Chris Small. The motion passed unanimously. Minutes approved.

4. REVIEW AND FILING OF TREASURER'S REPORT

Courtney Skora from the Finance department presented the financial statement for March 2025. Vice Chair Devon O’Reilly motioned to acknowledge the financial statement.



5. WDDDA ACTION ITEMS

- a. **Resolution WD 25-04-01:** The WDDDA awards \$60,000.00 from the Dearborn Forward Grant Program: \$19,000.00 to The Great Commoner, \$10,000.00 to Treat You Better, \$6,000.00 to Village Picture Framing & Art Gallery L.L.C, and \$25,000.00 to WCW HOLDINGS LLC. Director Sam Abbas motioned to approve and Vice Chair Devon O'Reilly seconded the motion. A voice vote passed unanimously. Motion approved.
- b. **Resolution WD 25-04-02:** The East and West DDDAs approve the amendment to the Dearborn Forward program requirement regarding project commencement, such that the current requirement stating: "An applicant must commence a project within 60 days of the application approval date" is replaced with the following: "Eligible expenses may be reimbursed from the date that the program application is submitted by the eligible applicant". Director Chris Small motioned to approve and Chair Tahrik Alcodray seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Minutes approved.
- c. **Resolution WD 25-04-03:** The WDDDA agrees to fund the planting services provided by Ground Control, for a cost not to exceed \$17,832 from Planting Materials account number contingent upon inclusion of a warranty clause valid for defects in plant materials but excluding misuse, general wear and tear, or acts of God. Director Chris Small motioned to approve and Director Sam Abbas seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Minutes approved.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. **Amendment to the Bylaws (First Reading)**
Economic Vitality Manager Laura Aceves-Sanchez provided an explanation of the legal department's recommendation to amend the bylaws.
- b. **Trash Can Options Discussion**
Economic Vitality Manager Laura Aceves-Sanchez shared a selection of trash bins to choose from for upcoming purchase.

7. DDDA ACTIVITY UPDATES

- a. **Program Update:** Economic Vitality Manager Laura Aceves-Sanchez announced that the Pocket Park RFP is scheduled for release by April 30th, followed by the Holiday Light RFP to be released by May 30th.
- b. **Business Liaison Updates & Data Reporting:** Business Liaison, Deena Berri, provided updates about new upcoming businesses such as Level Zero and a new BBQ spot replacing the Lue Thai space. She also mentioned that Bar Louie and Resolute Realty are vacant and available to lease.
- c. **Events Update:** The Special Events and Outreach Manager, Amanda Sancen, provided an



update on the application process and upcoming events, including the Bet on Dearborn Expo and Pilates in the Park.

8. CITY UPDATES

N/A

9. CALL TO BOARD

N/A

10. CALL TO AUDIENCE

N/A

11. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Secretary-Treasurer Chris Small at 10:07 AM and was seconded by Chair Tahrik Alcodray. A voice vote was passed unanimously. Motion was approved and the meeting was adjourned.