



MINUTES

WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Board of Directors Meeting

February 28, 2024

Members Present

Inga Arvin - Virtual
Oliver Barber - Virtual
Marianne Butler - Virtual
Terri Connolly - Virtual
Kevin Fields
Chris Jones
Troy Miles
Susan Moss – Virtual
Ted Nixon
Kerry Stemler
Kevin Trager – Mayor’s Designee
Joshua Watkins

Members Absent

Secretary Lindy Casebier (excused absence)
Purna Veer (excused absence)
President Markus Winkler (excused absence)

Staff Present

Deborah Bilitski
Emily Clayton
Alex Laughlin
Cordell Lawrence
Catie Nelson
Gary Pepper
Kelley Runyon
Ashley Smith
Alex Vega

Others Present

Travis Fiechter - Virtual

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Chris Jones at 4:00 p.m. on February 28, 2024. The meeting was held at Waterfront Development Corporation, 129 River Road, Louisville, Kentucky.

Approval of the Minutes

Minutes for the December 6, 2023 meeting were approved.

Executive Director's Report:

Deborah Bilitski gave the following updates:

- Announcement of GAZEBO Festival to debut Memorial Day weekend. Jack Harlow and SZA will headline the two-day festival at the Great Lawn.
- Deborah mentioned the Lou Defender article written by Kevin Fields about the Phase IV project.
- Deborah discussed attending LCCC's Reimagine 9th Street event and how the project will involve the development of Phase IV. Ted Nixon asked about progress of the extension of River Road and Rowan Street.
- Deborah is working with Krista Snider on a Belvedere Master Plan.
- Waterfront Park has been selected again as Top 10 Riverwalk in the United States by USA Today. The announcement is under embargo until March and contest will require daily voting.

Financials

Cordell Lawrence presented the financials for the second quarter of FY2021 and explained variances on the income statement and balance sheet. Kerry Stemler asked if Repairs and Maintenance expense for the Boat Storage should come out of Capital Improvement as opposed to Operations. It was further discussed that if it's a relatively small amount Cordell should proceed to take these expenses from the Operations budget.

Development/ Fundraising

Ashley Smith gave an update on the fundraising goal for fiscal year 23-24. The theme for this year's appeals is to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the dedication of Phase I.

Events

Catie Nelson gave an update on the events calendar for 2024. In addition to GAZEBO Festival, there is also a new Sky Soul Festival that will take place in August. Louisville Food & Wine Festival will return in October and another culinary event, Heritage Fire Tour will be at the Brown Forman Amphitheater in August.

Park Maintenance

Gary Pepper reported on the winter projects the maintenance team have completed and plan to have completed before spring. Custom light poles along the ramp of the bridge have been restored and will be reinstalled.

Phase IV Update

Deborah updated the board on the latest progress with Phase IV. Kosair for Kids did not fund our latest request. Proposals have gone out to multiple organizations. We are still waiting for the announcement of the ORLP grant. Gary and Deborah invited the board to come for a site visit to see progress on construction.

Belle of Louisville Riverboats

Krista was absent and Deborah reported that the refurbishment of the Mary M. Miller has been pushed to after the season.

Friends of the Waterfront

Joshua Watkins requested sponsorship recommendations for the Hot Brown Showdown.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:18 p.m.