



MINUTES

WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Board of Directors Annual Meeting

October 23, 2024

Members Present

Inga Arvin (Virtual)
Kevin Fields
Kris Kiser
Troy Miles
Susan Moss
Ted Nixon
Kevin Trager
Markus Winkler

Members Absent

Oliver Barber (Excused)
Secretary Casebier (Excused)
Terri Connolly (Excused)
Chris Jones (Excused)

Kerry Stemler (Excused)
Purna Veer (Excused)
Joshua Watkins (Excused)

Staff Present

Deborah Bilitski
Emily Clayton
Cordell Lawrence
Catie Nelson
Kelley Runyon
Ashley Smith (Virtual)
Krista Snider

Others Present

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Susan Moss at 4:02 p.m. on October 23, 2024. The meeting was held at Waterfront Development Corporation, 129 River Road, Louisville, Kentucky.

Executive Director's Report:

Deborah Bilitski gave the following updates:

- Introduction of Kris Kiser to the board. Kris Kiser is CEO of OPEI and the TurfMutt Foundation.
- Naming dedication of the TurfMutt Great Lawn as part of a \$1 million donation to the park over a 10-year period.
- Deborah was nominated by Kevin Fields and was awarded an Outstanding Professional Achievement award from the Louisville Defender.
- On November 11th COPA will meet to make the final decision for mural on the MSD floodwall at 10th Street entrance of PlayPort.
- WDC and BOLR has released an RFP for Festival Plaza and Wharf redesign and relocation of the Belle of Louisville.

Approval of the Minutes

Minutes from August 28, 2024 meetings was approved.

Election of Officers

Markus Winkler motioned the approval of a new slate of officers: Susan Moss, Board Vice Chair; Kerry Stemler, Treasurer; and Kevin Fields, Secretary. Kevin Fields Seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved the slate of officers.

Financials

Cordell Lawrence provided a review and highlights of the first quarter financials for FY 2025. The annual audit will be presented at the December meeting.

Park Maintenance

Deborah Bilitski reported on park maintenance projects. The Overlook restoration project is nearing completion. The Swing Garden encountered challenges this year with high traffic events and severe weather, the team has been working with arborist to address the challenges and develop a plan to improve the space.

Events

Catie Nelson gave an update on events such as the wrap up of another Waterfront Wednesday season. Coming up there is a Silent Disco with Louisville Downtown Partnership at the base of

the Big Four Bridge, the Hungry Turkey 5k will take place on Thanksgiving and Christmas Tree Lane returns at the end of November.

Development/ Fundraising

Ashley Smith gave an update on fundraising and the outcome of the Give for Good campaign. We surpassed our fundraising goal for the campaign and contribute this success to our board members and staff that had personal peer-to-peer campaigns.

Phase IV Update

Deborah Bilitski invited the board for hard hat tours of the site that will continue to be scheduled. Catie discussed use of the new event space within PlayPort. Kris Kiser inquired about our efforts to encourage girls in STEM programming and how this could be implemented at the new playground. Kevin Fields suggested we pursue a kids Ironman contest at the new playground site.

Belle of Louisville Riverboats

Krista Snider gave an update on Belle of Louisville Riverboats. Attendance for events is up 3% year-to-date. The Broadus is going to the shipyard for maintenance and repairs. The Belle celebrated its 110th Birthday. The team had a busy October and focusing on 2025.

Friends of the Waterfront

Emily Clayton reported Friends of the Waterfront. The organization worked with two different events this year as the nonprofit partner and successfully executed the Sailing into Summer event in June.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:21 p.m.