

GENESEE COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION
Tuesday, February 7, 2023, 8:00 a.m.

MINUTES

The Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission met at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 7, 2023, in the Harris Auditorium of the Genesee County Administration Building, 3rd Floor, 1101 Beach Street, Flint, Michigan.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Himelhoch called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Alan Himelhoch, Cheryl Sclater, Dale K. Weighill, Gloria Nealy, Martin L. Cousineau, Mike LaPointe, Reggie Smith, Tyler Rossmassler, and William Brandon.

Absent: Jeffrey M. Peake and Lauren Coney.

Others Present: Janet Cousineau, Derek Bradshaw, Christine Durgan, Jason Nordberg, Sheila Taylor, Cody Roblyer, Daniel Moulton, and Nichole Odette.

Chairperson Himelhoch welcomed the two new County Commissioners, Martin Cousineau and Dale Weighill, to the Planning Commission.

III. MINUTES

A. Minutes of the January 3, 2023 Regular Meeting

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Reggie Smith, **Seconded by** Mike LaPointe, to approve the January 3, 2023 regular meeting minutes as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

(Approved minutes are on file in the GCMPC office)

IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR INDIVIDUALS TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

No one spoke at this time.

V. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Notice of Intent to Update Master Plan – City of Montrose

Derek Bradshaw stated that the Notice of Intent is part of the notification process when updating a Master Plan. Master Plans should be reviewed to see if updates are needed every five years.

B. GCMPC 2022 Accomplishments Report

Derek Bradshaw presented the GCMPC 2022 Accomplishments Report. Over \$170 million was invested in Genesee County during the year. Highlights included the completion of

the Dort Highway Extension project, capital improvement projects funded through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), and a new latex-based paint Recycling Program.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chairperson Himelhoch stated that the two new Commissioners have been placed on GCMPC Committees. Dale Weighill, being Vice Chairperson of the County Board, will be a member of the Local Unit Committee and Martin Cousineau will serve on the Rules Committee.

Tyler Rossmuessler and William Brandon have terms expiring at the end of March. Letters should be addressed to the County Board Chairperson and given to either Derek Bradshaw or Joshua Freeman if they would like to continue serving as members of the Planning Commission.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Solid Waste Budget Transfer Request

Cody Roblyer explained that staff is in the process of changing the Recycle Day events, with the long-term goal of moving all household hazardous waste collection to a permanent location. Staff has been setting aside funding in a restricted line item for the construction of a recycling facility. Staff would like to transfer \$300,000 of the current Solid Waste fund balance to the Restricted for Construction of Solid Waste Recycling Facility line item. This transfer would result in a new restricted fund balance of \$750,000. The former McDonald Dairy property is being considered for the location of the recycling facility, along with other County buildings. Discussion ensued.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Mike LaPointe, **Seconded by** William Brandon, to approve the transfer of \$300,000 from the Solid Waste fund balance to the Restricted for Construction of Solid Waste Recycling Facility line item.

Motion passed unanimously.

(Documents on file with minutes)

VIII. FINANCES

A. Contract, Vouchers and Bills

Derek Bradshaw reviewed the Contract, Vouchers and Bills.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Reggie Smith, **Seconded by** Gloria Nealy, to approve the February Contract, Vouchers and Bills for a total \$22,799.97 and to authorize the proper authorities to sign the checks.

Motion passed unanimously.

(Documents on file with minutes)

B. Commission Expenses and Per Diems

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Reggie Smith, **Seconded by** Gloria Nealy, to approve the Commission Expenses and Per Diems.

Motion passed unanimously.

(Documents on file with minutes)

C. Financial Update

Derek Bradshaw reviewed the Financial Update ending December 31, 2022.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Reggie Smith, **Seconded by** Gloria Nealy, to approve the Financial Update as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

(Documents on file with minutes)

IX. OLD BUSINESS

A. Project Status

1. 3-C Transportation Planning – January 2023 Status Report

Jason Nordberg stated that staff is currently reviewing the results of the 2020 Census. The Flint Urbanized Area boundary no longer includes the City of Fenton, which may reduce the amount of federal transportation funding Genesee County receives annually. Staff has received a \$412,000 *Safe Streets and Roads for All* grant to perform a safety study on Genesee County roads. A safety study must be in place for the County to access \$1 billion in annual funding made available through the new transportation legislation designated for safety projects. Possible projects can range from road improvements and reconfigurations to new signage or advertisements, all with the goal of reducing severe injuries and fatalities. Discussion ensued.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Gloria Nealy, **Seconded** Mike LaPointe, to approve the 3-C Transportation Planning report as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

(Original on file with minutes)

2. Environmental Program Update – January 2023 Status Report

Sheila Taylor stated that the draft Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) Amendment has been provided to the Solid Waste Management Planning Committee (SWMPC) for review and approval. Following approval, the plan will enter a 90-day public comment period starting March 1st, which will include three open houses and a public hearing for residents to learn more about the plan and provide feedback. Following the public comment period, the final draft of the plan amendment must receive approval by the SWMPC, the Board of Commissioners, and the local units of government before being sent to the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy for review and approval.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Gloria Nealy, **Seconded by** Tyler Rossmassler, to approve the Environmental Program report as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

(Original on file with minutes)

3. Community Development Program – January 2023 Status Report

Sheila Taylor stated that staff has completed the draft 2023 Action Plan, our annual application to HUD detailing the CDBG, ESG, and HOME projects and activities planned for the upcoming Program Year. Genesee County receives approximately \$3 million annually from HUD for these programs. The draft Action Plan will be released for a 30-day comment period before submittal to HUD in March. Staff has also finalized the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan which is required to receive an additional \$3 million in funding to be spent on projects that assist homeless or near homeless populations in the County. Based on consultations, public involvement, and data analysis, staff is recommending that the HOME-ARP allocation go towards the development of affordable rental housing.

Genesee County currently lacks 7,000 affordable housing units for low-income residents. The Allocation Plan will be released for a 15-day public comment period, followed by submission to HUD. Once the County receives the funding, staff will announce a Call for Projects for developers interested in working with the County to build affordable housing units. Discussion ensued.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Gloria Nealy, **Seconded by** Martin Cousineau, to approve the Community Development Program report as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

(Original on file with minutes)

4. Report of the Director – January 2023 Status Report

Derek Bradshaw stated that a new Planner is set to begin on February 15th, which fills the last open Planner position. A summer Intern position will be posted in the next few weeks. The architect working on the County's new tower building is wrapping up the final bid specs and will be meeting with the team heading up the project next week. It is anticipated that the project will be sent out to bid in the next couple of weeks. The building's two roofs were replaced last year and new elevators are currently being installed.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Reggie Smith, **Seconded by** Mike LaPointe, to approve the Report of the Director as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

(Original on file with minutes)

B. Commissioner Comments

Commissioners made comments at this time.

Gloria Nealy gave an update of the Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission's meetings and events.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Himelhoch adjourned the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nichole Odette, Program Services Specialist
Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission