

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

MINUTES

The Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission met at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 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, Gloria Nealy, Lauren Coney, Martin L. Cousineau, Mike LaPointe, Reggie Smith, and William Brandon.

Absent: Cheryl Sclater, Dale K. Weighill, Jeffrey M. Peake, and Tyler Rossmassler.

Others Present: Mark Emmendorfer, William McIlmurray, Derek Bradshaw, Jason Nordberg, Sheila Taylor, Andy Trudeau, Daniel Moulton, Kristofor Garris, and Nichole Odette.

III. MINUTES

A. Minutes of the February 7, 2023 Regular Meeting

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** William Brandon, **Seconded by** Mike LaPointe, to approve the February 7, 2023 regular meeting minutes as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

(Approved minutes are on file in the GCMPC office)

Jason Nordberg introduced our new Planner, McKenna Dutkiewicz, who will be working in the Transportation Division.

IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR INDIVIDUALS TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

No one spoke at this time.

V. COMMUNICATIONS

Derek Bradshaw stated that William Brandon and Tyler Rossmassler have been re-appointed for another term on the Planning Commission by County Board Chairperson Ellen Ellenburg. The 2022 GCMPC Accomplishments report was distributed to the Commissioners.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Committee Reports.

Chairperson Himelhoch stated that it may be time for the Director's review and requested that Derek Bradshaw confirm the evaluation timeline.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. FPR-02-23-01; GCCARD 2023-2024 Head Start and Early Head Start Grant

Kristofor Garris provided an overview of FPR-02-23-01; GCCARD 2023-2024 Head Start and Early Head Start Grant. Kelli Webb, GCCARD Head Start Director, explained that this is the first year of a five-year grant cycle. GCCARD also receives an Early Head Start Expansion grant, which is a competitive grant opportunity. Grant proposals are submitted each year with updated goals and objectives. Funding amounts remain consistent throughout the five years with the exception of cost-of-living allowances. Discussion ensued.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Reggie Smith, **Seconded by** Martin L. Cousineau, to approve staff recommendations regarding FPR-02-23-01; GCCARD 2023-2024 Head Start and Early Head Start Grant.

Motion carried unanimously.

(Documents on file with minutes)

B. MPR-01-23-01; Montrose Township Master Plan Update

Daniel Moulton provided an overview of MPR-01-23-01; Montrose Township Master Plan Update. The comprehensive Plan meets all requirements of the Michigan Planning Enabling Act. Goals and objectives for the plan were guided by the 500 surveys received by the Township. Mark Emmendorfer, Montrose Township Supervisor, and William McIlmurray, Building Official for the Township, were present to answer questions and provide additional information. Discussion ensued.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Mike LaPointe, **Seconded by** William Brandon, to approve staff recommendations regarding MPR-01-23-01; Montrose Township Master Plan Update.

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** William Brandon, to approve the March Contract, Vouchers and Bills for a total \$4,355.64 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** Martin L. Cousineau, **Seconded by** Reggie Smith, 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 January 31, 2023.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Mike LaPointe, **Seconded by** Reggie Smith, 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 – February 2023 Status Report

Jason Nordberg stated that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) recently completed a certification review of the transportation planning process in Genesee County. Several commendations were received and the FHWA has requested a meeting to learn more about how staff integrated housing into the County's long range plan as a potential nationwide best practice. Staff has begun meeting with various stakeholders regarding the US-23 Traffic Development Study. The Study will determine what improvements should be explored to keep up with current and future development. A Steering Committee will be formed to develop the overall project scope. Discussion ensued.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Martin L. Cousineau, **Seconded** William Brandon, to accept the 3-C Transportation Planning report as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

(Original on file with minutes)

2. Environmental Program Update – February 2023 Status Report

Sheila Taylor stated that the draft Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) received approval by the Solid Waste Management Planning Committee (SWMPC) and has been released for a 90-day public comment period. During this time, three open houses and a public hearing will be held for the public to provide input on the plan. Staff has expanded the battery collection program by providing collection tubes to all senior centers in the County. The 1st quarter Solid Waste fees are approximately \$30,000 less than the average amount collected each quarter.

Derek Bradshaw added that staff has applied for \$10 million in grants through the State to help fund the construction of a permanent recycling facility. Staff is optimistic about receiving an award since there are no recycling facilities in the County and the proposal included plans for on-site solar and rainwater collection. Staff is also working with Congressman Kildee's office to draft another grant application to help fund the construction of the facility. Discussion ensued.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Mike LaPointe, **Seconded by** William Brandon, to accept the Environmental Program report as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

(Original on file with minutes)

3. Community Development Program – February 2023 Status Report

Sheila Taylor stated that the 2023 Action Plan is currently out for public comment through March 22nd. The Action Plan is the County's annual application to HUD to receive CDBG, ESG, and HOME Program funding. HUD has just provided staff with the actual allocation

amount the County will receive, which is approximately \$32,000 less than last year. The public comment period for the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan has ended and now the Plan is going through the Board of Commissioners approval process. Following Board approval, the Allocation Plan will be submitted to HUD for a 30-day review period. The County is anticipated to receive \$3 million in HOME-ARP funds.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Martin L. Cousineau, **Seconded by** Lauren Coney, to accept the Community Development Program report as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

(Original on file with minutes)

4. Housing Program Update – February 2023 Status Report

Andy Trudeau reviewed highlights from last year including the addition of a staff member and the completion of 40 projects totaling \$588,000. The Urgent Repair Program was created a year ago to focus on single point items, such as a leaking roof, municipal water hook-ups, wells, failing septic fields, or HVAC issues. Staff referred 30 homeowners to the Consumers Energy Helping Neighbors Program, which aims to minimize the carbon footprint of homes by replacing non-energy efficient furnaces, hot water heaters, and air conditioners for free. So far in 2023, one Home Improvement project and 4 Urgent Repair Program projects have been completed, with 9 Helping Neighbors referrals submitted. Staff is in the process of working with the Purchasing Department on bond language to be included in bid specs for the NSP and NPRR properties to be rehabilitated.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Reggie Smith, **Seconded by** Mike LaPointe, to accept the Housing Program Report as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

(Original on file with minutes)

5. Report of the Director – February 2023 Status Report

Derek Bradshaw stated that the bid process is underway for several of the ARPA projects that will upgrade watermains and sewers. The State has released a technical assistance grant to help communities apply for and secure federal funding for infrastructure projects; up to \$250,000 in application assistance and \$750,000 in match funding will be available. Projects will be chosen locally, so GLS Region V will choose the projects for Genesee, and Lapeer Counties. The Road Commission and some of the local units have expressed interest in applying for larger-scale and more impactful road projects in the \$50 to \$70 million range. The County's IT Department is leading discussions on how fiber-optics could be provided to all County residents. The mandatory pre-bid walk-through for the County's tower building project is being held today at 10:00 a.m. Discussion ensued.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Reggie Smith, **Seconded by** Mike LaPointe, to accept 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 9:05 a.m.

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