

GENESEE COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION
Tuesday, April 2, 2024, 8:00 a.m.

MINUTES

The Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission met at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 2, 2024, 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, Dr. Beverly Brown, Gloria Nealy, Lauren Coney, Martin L. Cousineau, Mike LaPointe, Reggie Smith, Tyler Rossmassler, Jeffrey M. Peake, and William Brandon.

Absent: Cheryl Sclater.

Others Present: Derek Bradshaw, Christine Durgan, Sheila Taylor, Jacob Maurer, Daniel Moulton, and Renate Soto.

III. MINUTES

A. Minutes of the March 5, 2024 Regular Meeting

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Reggie Smith, **Seconded by** Mike LaPointe, to approve the March 5, 2024 regular meeting minutes as presented. Jeffrey Peake abstained.

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

Derek Bradshaw announced that Nichole Odette was promoted to Division Manager of Housing.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Committee Reports.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

VIII. FINANCES

A. Contract, Vouchers and Bills

Derek Bradshaw reviewed the Contract, Vouchers and Bills. Discussion ensued.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** William Brandon, **Seconded by** Jeffrey Peake, to approve the April Contract, Vouchers and Bills for a total \$2638.33 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** Jeffrey Peake, **Seconded by** Martin Cousineau, 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 February 29, 2024. Currently, we have expended about 33% of staff costs budgeted for the year, which is in line with where we should be at this time of the year. Discussion ensued.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Jeffrey Peake, **Seconded by** Lauren Coney, to approve the Financial Update as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

(Documents on file with minutes)

D. Budget Transfer Requests

Derek Bradshaw reviewed the Budget Transfer Requests.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Reggie Smith, **Seconded by** Martin Cousineau, to approve the Budget Transfer Requests as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

(Documents on file with minutes)

IX. OLD BUSINESS

A. Project Status

1. 3-C Transportation Planning – March 2024 Status Report

Jacob Maurer stated that Rowe, our US-23 Corridor Traffic Study consultant, has made some good progress on collecting preliminary data analysis, including severity and types of crashes, on the main intersections along US-23. Next, they will be looking at the US-23 corridor itself, analyzing freeway exit queue lengths, and stacking of vehicles that have backed up onto the freeway and possible solutions to keep traffic flowing at an efficient manner. A website for public engagement on the study will be available soon. Staff has released the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Safe Streets for All (SS4A) grant, which are due in about 2 weeks. Staff is making good progress with the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), with two local road projects to be obligated. The goal is that all federal funds received in Genesee County get expended. Staff is also working on an improved

way to present the TIP projects to make it easier to view at Committee meetings. Discussion ensued.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Dr. Beverly Brown, **Seconded** Reggie Smith, to approve the 3-C Transportation Planning report as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.
(Original on file with minutes)

2. Environmental Program Update – March 2024 Status Report

Sheila Taylor stated staff 12 bids were received for the McDonald Dairy site demolition, the future site of a permanent recycling drop-off center. Burnash Wrecking, the low bidder, was selected by staff and approved by the Board of Commissioners last week. Once the contract is signed, demolition work is expected to begin in the next 30 days. Staff is holding a Genesee County Earth Day Photo contest for area K-12 classes and groups to submit a photo to reflect their Earth Day spirit. Announcements have been sent to all Genesee County schools. Staff has received 3 entries, and the deadline is April 12th, by 5:00 pm. Commissioner Himelhoch inquired about the next stages in the development of the permanent recycling center. Derek Bradshaw provided a summary of future actions regarding the site. Discussion ensued.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Jeffrey Peake, **Seconded by** Martin Cousineau, to approve the Environmental Program report as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.
(Original on file with minutes)

Chairperson Himelhoch left the meeting at 8:30 am. Vice Chairperson LaPointe took over as Chair of the meeting.

3. Community Development Program – March 2024 Status Report

Sheila Taylor stated the draft 2024 Action Plan has been published for public comment. A public hearing will be held April 4, in Room 222, in the Genesee County Administration Building. The Action Plan cannot be submitted to HUD until the actual allocation amounts have been released, which are expected in the next 60 days. Recently, staff completed a press release regarding our Down Payment Assistance Program. The assistance for this program has been increased from \$5,000 to \$10,000. This has generated interest, and staff has been working with our approved vendors to get potential homeowners approved for the program.

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

Motion passed unanimously.
(Original on file with minutes)

4. American Rescue Plan Act – March 2024 Status Report

Daniel Moulton gave a presentation on the status of the American Rescue Plan Act. GCMPC staff manages ARPA projects totaling \$47,500,000. Mr. Moulton gave a highlight summary of some of the projects that have been completed or are in progress with ARPA funding, including the Genesee County Land Bank Authority Demolitions, the Buick City redevelopment, the Village of Otisville improvements, the Southern Lakes Water Extension and the allocation of funds to each of the 16 Genesee County Senior Centers. Discussion ensued.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Jeffrey Peake, **Seconded by** Lauren Coney, to approve the American Rescue Plan Act Report as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

(Original on file with minutes)

5. Report of the Director – March 2024 Status Report

Derek Bradshaw stated that an intern should be selected soon. Mr. Bradshaw gave an update on the Tower project, indicating significant progress has been made in the construction. The former bank vault has also been relocated in the building. Commissioner Brandon asked that the Planning Commissioners be included on the next available tour of the new building. Discussion ensued.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Dr. Beverly Brown, **Seconded by** Jeffrey Peake, 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.

Reggie Smith stated that Crossover Outreach, a non-profit organization that provides clothing, food, and services to those in need, has completed their Capital Campaign, which resulted in the completion of a \$2.6 million dollar facility to house the organization. There will be a grand re-opening celebration for the new facility at 414 Court St., on April 8, from 10am-2pm, which will include a ribbon-cutting ceremony, self-guided tours through the building and refreshments.

Mike LaPointe stated he is very impressed with the Annual Report, recently completed by GCMPC staff. The report captures everything that staff does in a very concise and readable format.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Vice-Chairperson LaPointe adjourned the meeting at 9:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Renate Soto, Secretary
Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission