

GENESEE COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION
Tuesday, June 4, 2024, 8:00 a.m.

MINUTES

The Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission met at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 4, 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, Jeffrey M. Peake, Lauren Coney, Martin L. Cousineau, Mike LaPointe, Reggie Smith, and William Brandon.

Absent: Tyler Rossmassler and Cheryl Sclater

Others Present: Derek Bradshaw, Christine Durgan, Sheila Taylor, Jacob Maurer, Nichole Odette, McKenna Dutkiewicz and Renate Soto.

III. MINUTES

A. Minutes of the May 7, 2024 Regular Meeting

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Reggie Smith, **Seconded by** Mike LaPointe, to approve the May 7, 2024 regular meeting minutes as presented.

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

There were no Communications.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Committee Reports.

Derek Bradshaw announced that at the next meeting, if any Commissioners are interested, there will be a short tour of the Tower Project directly after the meeting, lasting around 25 minutes or so. A reminder will be sent out prior to the meeting.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. FOS-05-24-04; Clayton Township – Kelly Walker Farm, LLC. – Application for Farmland Agreement

McKenna Dutkiewicz provided an overview of FOS-05-24-04; Clayton Township – Kelly Walker Farm, LLC. – Application for Farmland Agreement. The parcel meets the criteria for enrollment in P.A. 116, as it is larger than 40 acres and at least 51% agriculturally active. The proposed length of protection under P.A. 116 is 30 years. Discussion ensued.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Jeffrey Peake, **Seconded by** Lauren Coney, to approve staff recommendations regarding FOS-05-24-04; Clayton Township – Kelly Walker Farm, LLC. – Application for Farmland Agreement.

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 May Contract, Vouchers and Bills for a total \$36,246.10 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 April 30, 2024.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** William Brandon, **Seconded by** Mike LaPointe, 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 – May 2024 Status Report

Jacob Maurer stated that in the past month staff has rated over 800 miles of the Federal Aid Road network in Genesee County. Staff is currently working on finishing up the roads in the remaining Cities and Villages. The data collected will be used for the next Call for Projects in the fall. Mr. Maurer recently had the opportunity to meet with four other MPO's from around the nation as part of a nationwide peer-exchange to discuss how to facilitate the TIP Call for Projects electronically, with the ultimate goal of developing a system to be ready for the FY 2029-2032 TIP cycle. Staff has been working with the City of Clio and MDOT regarding the South and North Mill Street projects, and were able to get

that funding obligated, with construction expected to begin in Fall of 2024 and end in Spring of 2025. No proposals were received for the Safety Action Plan, so the RFP has been revised based on feedback from some consultants and will be sent out for a re-bid process. Discussion ensued.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Jeffrey Peake, **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 – May 2024 Status Report

Sheila Taylor stated that on May 18, a tire recycling collection was held in cooperation with the City of Flint. Approximately 2,700 tires were collected at the event funded by a Scrap Tire Recycling Grant from Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE). On May 21st, the first Recycle Day event of the year was held at Mott Community College. 187 vehicles dropped off HHW at the event out of the 200 scheduled appointments. Registration is opening this morning at 9:00 am for the next event on June 18. Demolition of the McDonald Dairy site is expected to start any day. The contractor bid challenge that was mentioned at last month's meeting was addressed by the Genesee County Purchasing Department and has been resolved. Discussion ensued.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

(Original on file with minutes)

3. Community Development Program – May 2024 Status Report

Sheila Taylor stated that we have received our allocation from HUD for the 2024 Action Plan. The Action Plan will be submitted to the Board of Commissioners for approval next week and once approved, staff will submit it to HUD in late June. Staff has begun work on our annual report, the Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER), for Program Year 2023. The CAPER provides details of expenditures for projects funded through HUD.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

(Original on file with minutes)

4. Housing Program – May 2024 Status Report

Nichole Odette stated that the Housing Program has completed 15 projects since January: 7 under the Home Improvement Program and 8 under the Urgent Repair Program. There are currently 10 other projects underway, some of which should be completed within the next couple weeks. The NSP home in Burton is nearly complete, with some minor touchups to be completed soon. The next step will be to list the home for sale in coordination with a realtor. The bid language for the NPRR home in Clio has been received back from the Purchasing Department and will be reviewed by staff this week. Once approved, Purchasing can then release the project for bid. Last month, staff applied jointly with Habitat for Humanity, for a MSHDA grant to administer a roof repair program countywide. Total project funding is \$2.6 million. The goal for this funding

would be to complete 60 roof replacements across the county over the next 2 years. Discussion ensued.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Jeffrey Peake, **Seconded by** Laruen Coney, to approve the Housing Program Report as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.
(Original on file with minutes)

5. American Rescue Plan Act – May 2024 Status Report

Chris Durgan stated that the process for senior center projects is taking longer than expected, due to extensive historical review requirements under the environmental review process. If all goes as planned, staff is expecting to have contracts in place by the end of the summer. Staff has been continually meeting with Senior Center staff to ensure that the process is going smoothly, and everyone knows what to expect. It was reported at the last meeting that the Buick City/Ashley Capital project would be underway in May, but it was discovered that there were some approvals still needed by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy. Work is expected to start soon as the approvals were obtained last week. Discussion ensued.

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

Motion passed unanimously.
(Original on file with minutes)

6. Report of the Director – May 2024 Status Report

Derek Bradshaw stated that since that last meeting, one of our Housing Rehab Specialists resigned, so we are currently in the process of filling that position. A new secretary has been hired and will be starting tomorrow and our summer intern started in her position last month. As part of our regional housing initiative, staff member Anthony Kelly recently attended a national housing conference, at which he learned some innovative ideas, including other options to fund housing projects. Staff also attended the Building Michigan Communities Conference in May.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Reggie Smith, **Seconded by** William Brandon, 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.

Mike LaPointe gave an update on solar farms being built in Thetford Township. A large-scale project is moving forward in the Township in November that will be about 1,400 acres. The Township has hired the planning firm, Wade Trim, to assist with the solar ordinance and help guide them through the process.

Martin Cousineau thanked Mike LaPointe for all his efforts in Thetford Township and his role in the Planning Commission.

Mike LaPointe and Derek Bradshaw mentioned that GCMPC staff were able to utilize the disc golf course at Buell Lake Park in Thetford Township during a staff outing.

X. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,
Renate Soto, Program Services Specialist
Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission