



GRAND RAPIDS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, October 27, 2022
4:00 PM

President Blake called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM.

CALL OF ROLL

PRESENT: Commissioner Al Hodnik, Commissioner Mike Korte, President Sholom Blake, Commissioner Tasha Connelly, Commissioner Wayne Bruns

ABSENT: Commissioner Cory Jackson, Commissioner Rick Blake

STAFF: Rob Mattei, Eric Trast

SETTING OF THE REGULAR AGENDA - *This is an opportunity to approve the regular agenda as presented, or to add/delete an agenda item by a majority vote of the Commissioners present .*

Additions include:

Transportation update
2023 Workplan

APPROVE MINUTES

1. Consider approval of the October 13, 2022 regular meeting.

Motion made by Commissioner Connelly, Second by Commissioner Korte to approve GREDA minutes as presented. Voting Yea: Commissioner Hodnik, Commissioner Korte, President Blake, Commissioner Connelly, Commissioner Bruns

APPROVE CLAIMS

2. Consider approval of claims in the amount of \$40,944.69.

Motion made by Commissioner Korte, Second by Commissioner Hodnik to approve verified claims as presented. Voting Yea: Commissioner Hodnik, Commissioner Korte, President Blake, Commissioner Connelly, Commissioner Bruns

PRESENTATION

3. Itasca Economic Development Corporation Annual Report - Tamara Lowney

Tamara Lowney, President & CED of IEDC, provided annual report, specifically noting recent soft opening for coHaus, awards and partnerships, training and outreach. A complete report is available upon request.

PUBLIC HEARING

4. Conduct a public hearing concerning submittal of an application to the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) Minnesota Investment Fund (MIF) program for the Arbor Wood Co. Project

President Blake states the reason for the public hearing, confirming requirements for notices and posting have been met.

Mr. Mattei provided overview of project description and schedule and recommends application.

Motion made by Commissioner Connelly, Second by Commissioner Bruns to open the public hearing. Voting Yea: Commissioner Hodnik, Commissioner Korte, President Blake, Commissioner Connelly, Commissioner Bruns

No one from the public wished to speak, therefore the following motion was made.

Motion made by Commissioner Connelly, Second by Commissioner Bruns to close the public hearing. Voting Yea: Commissioner Hodnik, Commissioner Korte, President Blake, Commissioner Connelly, Commissioner Bruns

BUSINESS

5. Consider adopting a resolution authorizing an application to the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) Minnesota Investment Fund (MIF) grant for the Arbor Wood Co. Project.

Motion made by Commissioner Hodnik, Second by Commissioner Korte to adopt Resolution 22-10, authorizing application to MN DEED Investment Fund grant for Arbor Wood Co. project. Voting Yea: Commissioner Hodnik, Commissioner Korte, President Blake, Commissioner Connelly, Commissioner Bruns

6. Consider the requested termination of the lease agreement with Visit Grand Rapids for Suite 201 of Central School.

Visit Grand Rapids is transitioning to remote work for employees. They have requested that the current lease be terminated prior to expiration. Story Art & Museum is interested in taking over the space and assuming rent for the remaining term. Mr. Mattei recommends approving the request.

Motion made by Commissioner Hodnik, Second by Commissioner Connelly to terminate current lease with Visit Grand Rapids and authorize renting the space to Story Art & Museum for the remaining term of the contract. Voting Yea: Commissioner Hodnik, Commissioner Korte, President Blake, Commissioner Connelly, Commissioner Bruns

7. Consider approval of a lease agreement with Story Art & Museum for Suite 201 of Central School

As previously stated, Story Art and Museum would like to take over the remaining term of the lease with Visit Grand Rapids.

Motion made by Commissioner Korte, Second by Commissioner Bruns to approve lease agreement with Story Art & Museum as presented. Voting Yea: Commissioner Hodnik, Commissioner Korte, President Blake, Commissioner Connelly, Commissioner Bruns

UPDATES

8. ASV Expansion

Update included information regarding executed loan agreement, plan review and facility expansion.

Work Plan Update

Process will begin at the November 17, 2022 meeting. Mr. Mattei encouraged members to review the 2022 plan and come prepared. Also noted that the Downtown Plan is expected December/January.

Transportation Update

Commissioner Hodnik provided overview of meeting at EWS on October 21, 2022 as relative to transportation. Definite interest in conducting a study in 2023 depending on faculty and student availability. Discussed ideas for funding, etc.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:11 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Kimberly Gibeau
Kimberly Gibeau, City Clerk