

Riverfront Improvement Commission
Minutes
February 25, 2020

Present: Bill Ashton, Dee Bruemmer, Bill Churchill, Randall Goblirsch, Kelli Grubbs, Gwendolyn Lee, Breanna Pairrett, Ryan Reed, and Karl Rhomberg

Others Present: Alderwoman Lee, City Council; Ald. Gripp, City Council Liaison; Lorrie Beaman, Freight House Farmer's Market; Michael Schertz, Parks Liaison; Zach Peterson, Public Works; and Steve Ahrens, Riverfront Improvement Commission

Chairman Bruemmer called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance. Ahrens announced that a quorum for the meeting had been met.

Ashton moved to approve the minutes of the January 28 meeting. Grubbs seconded the motion and it carried.

Finance

Ahrens presented the previous month's disbursements, aged receivables report and the FY2020 Lease Report. Rhomberg moved to approve the disbursements. Grubbs seconded the motion and it carried.

Projects

Ahrens presented the proposed recommended budget for FY2021. Following discussion, Grubbs moved to approve the budget. Rhomberg seconded the motion and it carried.

Ahrens introduced Lorrie Beaman with the Freight House Farmer's Market. Beaman provided an update on the physical and organizational improvements for the market, including progress on the interior renovation work at the Freight House Indoor Market, organizational changes for the new restaurant, and enhancements to the layout for the seasonal outdoor market.

Staff presented a plan to initiate a facilitated planning effort for RiverWest, which includes strategic planning for Credit Island and the causeway. The larger area of RiverWest includes the area west of the Crescent Bridge to Nahant Marsh. The effort will get underway in early April.

Staff provided an update regarding both the interior and exterior post flood restoration projects for Union Station.

Ahrens provided an update regarding proposed restoration projects for each railroad crossing, the City awaits responses from Canadian Pacific regarding certain discussions relating to the riverfront railroad and Canadian Pacific's decision to elevate the line. The expectation is for all crossings to be permanently restored by the end of the 2020 construction season. In addition, Bruemmer expressed

her desire to ensure synergy with the Main Street Landing Design Competition RFQ and the larger area needs, flooding elevations and railroad crossings.

Staff Report

Ahrens provided updates on a variety of topics, including:

- Freight House railcar signage
- Joint Workgroup update
- Freight House deck project update

Parks Liaison, Michael Schertz, provided an update regarding a number of Parks initiatives, including the Party in the Park initiative.

Other Business

With no public with business to present to the Commission, and with no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.



Ryan Reed, Secretary