

Southfield Redevelopment Authority  
Advisory Board Meeting  
Wednesday, June 21, 2017 @ 7:00pm  
Conference Room, SRA Office

Members Present: Carol Karlberg, Chairman  
Bruce Hughes, Vice Chairman  
Eric Hart, Secretary  
William Koplovsky  
Eric Miller  
Joseph Shea  
Martin Pillsbury  
Lawrence Leahy

Members Participating Remotely: Ben Stone  
Members Unable to Attend: Jesse McSweeney

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Mr. Stone requested remote participation. The Chairman completed the remote participation checklist, determined that his geographic distance made his physical attendance unreasonably difficult, and contacted Mr. Stone using the phone in the conference room.

The Chairman read a message from Jesse McSweeney into the record noting that he was asked by Rockland Officials not to attend the meeting; he would soon be moving out of town and was suddenly recalled as a Rockland representative to the Advisory Board. Mr. McSweeney conveyed his reasons why the Advisory Board should carry on with a conservative approach to the FY18 Budget, and to continue with another 25% reduction to Director Compensation. He also thanked his fellow Board members for the collective value they brought to the table at every meeting.

**VOTED: Motion of Bruce Hughes, seconded by Eric Hart, to send a letter of appreciation to Jesse McSweeney**

**Unanimous 9-0 roll call vote**

The Advisory Board chose to table the topic of Director Compensation to their next meeting pending further clarification on the future role of the Board of Directors, after learning they recently voted to hire an Executive Director.

Minutes

**VOTED: Motion of Eric Miller, seconded by Joseph Shea, to approve the minutes of the Advisory Board meeting held on June 6, 2017**

**Unanimous 8-0-1 roll call vote Leahy abstained**

#### FY18 SRA Budget Discussion

Concerns were raised on SRA's reliance on Free Cash to fund Budget expenditures because of unpaid bills due from the Master Developer. Consideration was given to request a review by the Attorney General (AG) on the Master Developer's long history of late/non payments, and the negative effect on SRA's cash flow. A lengthy discussion ensued on the funding obligations in the recently negotiated Disposition and Development Agreement (DDA) between SRA and LStar. A majority of the Advisory Board was inclined to show support for the DDA, pending actual year end revenues for FY2017. Mr. Shea and Mr. Hughes felt an AG review was still a matter of urgency.

It was noted that the unemployment line was insufficiently funded (\$500) for FY18, in light of the elimination of two SRA staff positions.

**VOTED: Motion of Eric Hart, seconded by Martin Pillsbury, to move the FY18 Budget recommendations forward to the SRA Board of Directors**

**7-2 roll call vote - Shea and Hughes opposed**

Board members agreed their knowledge and skills were under-utilized this year by the SRA, and that the Directors should have kept them better informed on financial matters (as per Legislation). They planned to schedule quarterly joint meetings with the Directors going forward. Mr. Hart would bring their concerns to the Directors at their next meeting.

**VOTED: Motion of Martin Pillsbury, seconded by Joseph Shea, to authorize Eric Hart to express the Advisory Board's concerns to the SRA Directors**

**Unanimous 9-0 roll call vote**

A discussion ensued on a perceived ethics violation with LStar's proposal to reimburse the SRA for engaging the Collins Center to recruit an Executive Director, and whether or not a conflict of interest would occur if LStar paid for the contract. The Board felt strongly that the SRA Directors should ask for clarification from the Ethics Commission.

**VOTED: Motion of Eric Hart, seconded by Bruce Hughes, to recommend to the SRA Directors that they seek an opinion from the Ethics Commission if LStar paid to recruit an Executive Director**

**Unanimous 9-0 roll call vote**

#### Advisory Board By-Laws

A discussion ensued on the Legislative requirement of the SRA to provide the Advisory Board with administrative support, an issue soon to be discussed with the Directors. Mr. Hart volunteered to write a letter of thanks to the departing Administrative Assistant for her long term support to the Advisory Board.

Next Meeting – The Board will be polled for a date in September.

**VOTED: Motion of Eric Hart, seconded by Martin Pillsbury, to adjourn the meeting**

**Unanimous 9-0 roll call vote**

The meeting ended 8:00pm

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Mary Cordeiro, Recording Secretary

Carol Karlberg, Chairman

Documents reviewed during the meeting:

FY18 Budgets and Projected Revenue Sources

Funding Obligations section of DDA

Letter from Mayor Hedlund regarding Director Stipend