

## COLUMBIA CITY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MINUTES

**November 14, 2023**

Members present: President Commissioner Carl Siler  
Vice President Commissioner Scott Gates  
Secretary Commissioner Angela Cotter  
Commissioner Samara Thompson  
Commissioner David Smith (Ex-Officio)

Members absent: Commissioner Tad Varga

Also in attendance: CCRDC Attorney Greg Hockemeyer  
EDC Director Dale Buuck  
Mayor Ryan Daniel

President Siler called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to approve the October minutes. Commissioner Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Gates. A vote was taken; all voted aye.

### **Old Business-**

**LML Property** – The final tests, which will be vapor and heavy metal testing, will cost \$19,800. There is enough money in the LML account to pay for these tests. Any excess funds remaining in the account can be used in the future to redevelop the property. There was a motion by Vice President Gates to accept the proposal from SME, seconded by Secretary Cotter. A vote was taken; all voted aye.

**Jackson-Line Street Site** – Attorney Hockemeyer has not had any contact with Jerry Busche since the last RDC meeting. Mr. Busche has a conditional title to the site right now, but Attorney Hockemeyer is waiting to receive the quick-claim deed from Mr. Busche. Mayor Daniel will follow up with Chip Hill regarding the deed.

**Bomy Singh: 314 W Van Buren** – Attorney Hockemeyer asked for direction from the commissioners—Bomy Singh never showed up to the meeting and Attorney Hockemeyer would like to send a letter to him stating that if payment is not received within 10 days, the RDC will seek foreclosure and Bomy will be responsible for any fees associated. The commissioners agreed that Attorney Hockemeyer should send the letter to Bomy. President Siler said he's been inside the building and the windows, garage doors, and drywall has been replaced.

**Façade Grant Payment Request: Birdhouse Enterprises** – Birdhouse Enterprises submitted an "Application for Grant Payment". Secretary Cotter made a motion to pay Birdhouse Enterprises \$1250, seconded by Commissioner Thompson. A vote was taken; all voted aye.

**Façade Grant Payment Request: Ball Furniture Co.** – Ball Furniture Co. submitted an “Application for Grant Payment”. Vice President Gates made a motion to pay Ball Furniture Co. \$720, seconded by Secretary Cotter. A vote was taken; all voted aye.

**Façade Grant Payment Request: William & Tricia Neely** – William and Tricia Neely submitted an “Application for Grant Payment”. Secretary Cotter made a motion to pay William and Tricia Neely \$3000, seconded by Commissioner Thompson. A vote was taken; all voted aye.

**Façade Grant Payment Request: The Square** – The Square submitted an “Application for Grant Payment”. Vice President Gates made a motion to pay The Square \$3000, seconded by Commissioner Thompson. A vote was taken; all voted aye.

#### **New Business-**

Mayor Daniel said he had a conversation with Steven Zins and Angela Krahulik from Ice Miller regarding insurance recovery. He noted the focus area was going north on Chauncey from the former LML site. Insurance recovery is possible.

#### **Other Business-**

**Presentation on Downtown Revitalization Plan: HWC Engineering** – Catherine Puckett presented on the progress of the Downtown Revitalization Plan. The City of Columbia City and Columbia City Connect have partnered with HWC Engineering on this project. HWC will help the City build upon what is already being done and will help set future goals and obtain funding. A steering committee, First Friday public input event, and a public survey were utilized for input. Catherine presented several ideas to encourage people of all ages to spend more time around “the Square” downtown. She also presented ideas on how to enhance downtown spaces.

**Columbia City Connect: Niki Keister** – Niki Keister shared the first draft of a resource guide for downtown businesses and the commissioners said the draft looks great.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:57pm.

*Submitted by Ashley Buckles, Executive Assistant to the Mayor*