

**DETROIT LAND BANK AUTHORITY**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**GUARDIAN BUILDING**  
**500 Griswold St, Suite 1200 • Detroit, Michigan**  
**(Belle Isle Conference Room)**

**Tuesday, June 19, 2018**

**11:00 AM**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Erica Ward Gerson  
Richard Hosey  
Patricia Pernell-Shelton  
Rasul Raheem  
Carol Walters

**ABSENT:**

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Public, DLBA Staff

**CALL TO ORDER**

Board Chair, Erica Ward Gerson called the June 19, 2018 meeting to order at **11:07 a.m.**

**ROLL CALL**

Member Raheem called roll. Four of five members were present, and a quorum was met. Member Hosey arrived at 11:41 a.m.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Board Chair Erica Ward Gerson stated that Resolution 06-08-2018 needed to be added to the agenda and called for a Motion to amend and approve the agenda. **Motion by Member Raheem to amend and approve the agenda. Supported by Member Walters. MOTION APPROVED.**

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Board Chair Erica Ward Gerson called for a motion to approve the May 15, 2018 Board of Directors meeting minutes. **Motion by Member Walters for approval of minutes. Supported by Member Pernell-Shelton. MOTION APPROVED.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Board Chair Erica Ward Gerson opened the floor to public comment.

- Vanessa Peak, Detroit resident expressed concerns about the poor lawn maintenance in the City of Detroit and the mess that is left behind. Ms. Peak also stated that she called and spoke to Darnell Adams, Director, Inventory about purchasing 19450 St. Louis, a vacant lot due to demolition and was told that it is not yet available. Ms. Peak stated that she would like to see it maintained.
- John Lauve expressed his appreciation for the improvements made to the format of the meetings specifically the microphones. Mr. Lauve suggested that materials be projected on the screen or hard copies be made available to everyone and data displaying the status of properties be added to the agenda. Mr. Lauve also suggested that we create a plan in the future for the DLBA to collaborate with Realestate /HUD to assist with selling properties in our inventory. Mr. Lauve

stated that he should not be required to sign in to attend the meetings as it is a violation of the Open Meetings Act (OMA).

- Ethelyn Carroll, Detroit resident commented that she would like to see collaboration with the Block clubs in District 10 and that properties should be made available to Block clubs before others. Ms. Carroll stated that she called to inquire about the status of 60906 Northville, a vacant lot that is full of debris, received 2 follow up calls and is awaiting another call back. Reginald Scott, Director, Disposition offered to assist Ms. Carroll.
- Joanne Warwick, Detroit resident expressed concern about unfavorable activities in the NorthEnd and would like to see more community engagement in the neighborhood. Ms. Warwick also inquired about the Realestate committee.

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

Saskia Thompson Executive Director stated that she would provide a report next month.

#### **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### **Finance and Audit**

Member Raheem reported that the Committee met last week and provided a brief update.

##### **Project Review**

Member Pernell-Shelton reported that a quorum was not met for the June meeting.

##### **Community Engagement**

Member Pernell-Shelton reported that the Committee met last week and provided an update. Member Pernell-Shelton stated that she heard one of our new commercials on the radio this morning and is excited about things to come in the future.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Irene Tucker, CFO, distributed and reviewed the May 30, 2018 financials with the group and discussion ensued.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **a. Resolutions**

**06-01-2018 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AN AMENDMENT TO AN EXISTING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH RIGHTSIZE FACILITY PERFORMANCE OF MICHIGAN, LLC.** Erica Ward Gerson, provided background. **Motion by Member Walters to approve resolution. Supported by Member Pernell-Shelton. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

**06-02-2018 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH PRICEWATERHOUSE COOPERS PUBLIC SECTOR LLP.** Erica Ward Gerson provided background and Michael Brady, General Counsel stated that section 12 of the agreement is currently under review by PWC and is subject to change. Board Chair Ward Gerson called for a motion to approve the contract as attached with a possible change. **Motion by Member Walters to approve resolution. Supported by Member Pernell-Shelton. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.** Board Chair Ward Gerson requested that Michael report back to the group on the status of the contract.

**06-03-2018 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A SECOND AMENDMENT TO AN EXISTING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH VISIONSOFT INTERNATIONAL, INC.**

Erica Ward Gerson provided background. **Motion by Member Pernell-Shelton to approve resolution. Supported by Member Walters. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

**06-04-2018 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH GJC.** Erica Ward Gerson provided background. **Motion by Member Walters to approve resolution. Supported by Member Raheem. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

**[Member Hosey arrived at 11:41 a.m.]**

**06-05-2018 RESOLUTION APPROVING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH BUFFALO STREET FARM LLC AND TO WAIVE THE FIVE-YEAR, FIFTY PERCENT TAX CAPTURE ON THE SUBJECT PROPERTY.** Erica Ward Gerson provided background. **Motion by Member Raheem to approve resolution. Supported by Member Walters. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

**06-06-2018 RESOLUTION APPROVING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH BRITTANY BRADD.** Erica Ward Gerson provided background. **Motion by Member Raheem to approve resolution. Supported by Member Walters. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

**06-07-2018 RESOLUTION TO WAIVE THE FIVE-YEAR, FIFTY PERCENT TAX CAPTURE ON PROPERTY SOLD TO BRUSH PARK ERSKINE, LLC.** Erica Ward Gerson provided background. **Motion by Member Raheem to approve resolution. Supported by Member Hosey. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

**06-08-2018 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO DISPOSE OF OBSOLETE PERSONAL PROPERTY.** Saskia Thompson, Executive Director provided background. **Motion by Member Hosey to approve resolution. Supported by Member Walters. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

**Board Chair Erica Ward Gerson called for a Motion to enter Closed Session. Motion by Member Hosey. Supported by Member Walters. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

Member Raheem called roll for each Board Member to go into Closed Session. Each of the five (5) members voted yes to move into closed session. **MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. Board Chair Erica Ward Gerson moved to Closed Session at 11:44 a.m.**

#### **CLOSED SESSION**

Permitted purposes of closed session were “to consult with its attorney regarding trial or settlement strategy in connection with specific pending litigation” as permitted in MCL 15.268(e); “to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute,” specifically Section 13(1)(g) of Michigan’s Freedom of Information Act, which protects the attorney-client privilege, as permitted in MCL 15.268(h); and “to consider ... a periodic personnel evaluation of ... [an] employee ... if the named person requests a closed hearing” as permitted in MCL 15.268(a).

**Returned to open session at 12:47 p.m.**

**06-09-2018 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOARD CHAIR TO ENTER INTO THE FIRST AMENDED AND RESTATED EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH SASKIA THOMPSON, EXECUTIVE**

**DIRECTOR.** Member Hosey introduced a motion authorizing the Board Chair to enter into a First Amended and Restated Employment Agreement revising the salary of the Executive Director of the Detroit Land Bank Authority to one hundred sixty thousand dollars per year (\$160,000), which is slightly below the midpoint of the salary range for that position as determined by the independent salary banding study previously conducted by the organization. Supported by Member Walters. Discussion ensued, including agreement by all Members that Ms. Thompson has done a great job in her first year as Executive Director. Member Raheem expressed concern at the increase in the salary level, not because of performance issues but from the point of view of the taxpayer. **MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE: Yea: Members Hosey, Walters and Ward Gerson. Abstained: Members Raheem and Pernell-Shelton.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Board Chair Erica Ward Gerson called for a **Motion to adjourn. Motion by Member Raheem to adjourn the meeting. Supported by Member Walters. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.** The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.