

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

**Tuesday, April 17, 2018**

**11:00 AM**

**MINUTES**

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

**EXCUSED:** Richard Hosey

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Public, DLBA Staff

**CALL TO ORDER**

Board Chair, Erica Ward Gerson called the April 17, 2018 meeting to order at **11:10 a.m.**

**ROLL CALL**

Board Chair Erica Ward Gerson called roll. Three of five members were present and a quorum was met. Member Raheem notified members that he would be late and arrived at 12:00 p.m.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Board Chair Erica Ward Gerson called for a Motion to approve the agenda. **Motion by Member Walters to adopt the agenda. Supported by Member Pernell-Shelton. MOTION APPROVED.**

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Board Chair Erica Ward Gerson called for the approval of the March 13, 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 Peake, Detroit resident stated that the St. Louis Dryer/Gable community, a 9-block area in which DLBA is a major stakeholder, is heavily blighted and commented that she would like to see the community become revitalized. Ms. Peak specifically inquired about 1954 St. Louis a vacant home, and 1940 St. Louis. Board Chair Erica Ward Gerson asked Ms. Peak to provide her information so that she could be connected with the proper staff to address her concern.

Myrtha Grice, Detroit resident, stated that a "Notice to Owner" posting had been placed on her property and that she received a slip and was unsure as to the reason. Ms. Grice suggested that the Detroit Land Bank first send a letter to owner's informing them of the issue before posting. Board Chair Erica Ward Gerson asked Michael Brady, General Counsel to assist Ms. Grice.

Mr. Williams, Detroit resident purchased a property on Burchers and inquired about purchasing the side lot. Mr. Williams stated that Annie Mendoza, Sales and Programs Manager, suggested that he attend the meeting today to address his concern. Mr. Williams commented that the property needs major clean up due to illegal dumping and he was willing to purchase and maintain the property. Reginald Scott, Director, Disposition left the room with Mr. Williams to address his concern at that moment.

Ethelyn Carroll, Americorp, stated that she has been working closely with the Wildmere community and has noticed that there are properties that are not being rehabbed within the 6-month time period as required. Board Chair, Erica Ward Gerson stated that in some cases, the compliance team will assist with extensions if some progress is being made to the property. Ms. Carroll also stated that a side lot located at 6092 Northside has building materials and they are unable to remove the debris. Board Chair Erica Ward Gerson asked Ms. Peak to provide her information to Rhonda Anderson or Adela Bejo to assist her with the connecting to the appropriate staff to address her concern.

### **STAFF REPORTS**

Each department provided a brief staff report.

### **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 the Committee met last week and reported that she was very pleased with the new developments in the Community Affairs department. She also expressed concern about the status of properties in our inventory and if they are owned or not owned by the DLBA. She suggested that we work with the City to clean up their records.

#### **Community Engagement**

Member Pernell-Shelton reported that the Committee met last week and provided an update.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Irene Tucker, CFO, distributed and reviewed the March 31, 2018 metrics with the group and discussion ensued. Irene highlighted that sales revenue is moving in a positive direction versus the budget but is being offset by an increased need for professional service and we have issued approximately over \$1M in discounts (i.e., Educator, COD Employee). Member Pernell-Shelton commented that we should consider adopting a HUD model to sell properties. Board Chair Erica Ward Gerson inquired as to if we had reported out on the Lead project with the health department and also requested that the information be placed on the website.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **a. Resolutions**

**04-01-2018 RESOLUTION AMENDING SIDE LOT SALES POLICY, SECOND AMENDED.** Reginald Scott, Director, Disposition, provided background and recommended revisions to the policy. **Motion by Member Pernell-Shelton to approve resolution. Supported by Member Walters. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

**04-02-2018 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A VENDOR SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH EXCELLENT CONSTRUCTION, LLC.** Veronica Jackson, Rehabbed and Ready Manager provided background on the Rehabbed & Ready Program . Doug Parker, Staff Attorney, Disposition, reviewed the details of the service agreement with the group and discussion ensued. **Motion by Member Walters to approve resolution. Supported by Member Pernell-Shelton. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

**04-03-2018 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A VENDOR SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH D&D INNOVATION.** Veronica Jackson provided background. **Motion by Member Walters to approve resolution. Supported by Member Pernell Shelton. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

**04-04-2018 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AN AMENDMENT TO AN EXISTING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH DETROIT WALL STREET PROPERTIES, LLC** Irene Tucker, CFO, provided background and discussion ensued. Member Pernell Shelton asked if the lawn could be manicured slightly better than in the past. Ms. Tucker stated that funding from the City will take care of that as well as an allowance for backyards. **Motion by Member Pernell-Shelton 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 Walters. Supported by Member Pernell-Shelton. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

Member Raheem called roll for each Board Member to go into Closed Session. Each of the four (4) members voted yes to move into closed session. **MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.** Board Chair Erica Ward Gerson moved to Closed Session at **12:35 p.m.**

#### **CLOSED SESSION**

*In accordance with the State of Michigan's Open Meetings Act, Section 8, Closed Sessions are permitted. The conditions of such a Closed Session includes the following: 1) The Session must be for a "limited purpose," 2) the Session must be conducted during the course of an open meeting and 3) per Section 9(1) of the OMA, the minutes of the open meeting must include the purpose for which a closed session is held.*

Permitted purpose of closed session was "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).

Return to open session at **1:48 p.m.**

#### **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 **2:03 p.m.**