

**Minutes of the Meeting
of the
Downtown Committee
of
Buffalo Urban Development Corporation**

**65 Niagara Square
901 City Hall
January 18, 2023
12:00 p.m.**

Committee Members Present:

Catherine Amdur
Daniel Castle
Darby Fishkin
Nathan Marton
Brendan R. Mehaffy (Committee Chair)
Kimberley Minkel

Committee Members Absent:

Trina Burruss
Dottie Gallagher
Darius G. Pridgen

Officers Present:

Kevin J. Zanner, Secretary

Guests Present: Cristina Cordero, Gardiner & Theobald (via telephone); Alexis Florczak, Hurwitz Fine P.C.; Kevin Gulvin, Gardiner & Theobald (via telephone); and Antonio Parker, BUDC Project Manager

Roll Call: The meeting was called to order at 12:04 p.m. A quorum of the Committee was present.

- 1.0 Approval of Minutes of the November 16, 2022 Meeting** – The minutes of the November 16, 2022 meeting of the Downtown Committee were presented. Ms. Minkel made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Fishkin and unanimously carried (6-0-0).
- 2.0 Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Park – Project Update Presentation** – Mr. Parker presented the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Park project update. Bids for the bridge construction are anticipated to be received in the next two weeks. The City of Buffalo Department of Public Works is completing administrative work on the project labor agreement and the GMP contract between Gilbane and the City of Buffalo. Mr. Marton indicated that the City and Gilbane are close to finalizing these agreements.
- 3.0 Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Park – Fourth Amendment to BUDC-City of Buffalo Wilson Foundation Subgrant Agreement** – Mr. Parker presented his January 18, 2023 memorandum regarding a proposed fourth amendment to the BUDC-City of Buffalo Wilson Foundation Subgrant Agreement. The Committee requested that BUDC staff clarify prior to the Board meeting how the balance of funding held by BUDC would be allocated. Ms. Amdur then made a motion to recommend that the BUDC Board of Directors: (i) approve the Fourth Amendment to the BUDC-City of Buffalo subgrant agreement allowing BUDC to transfer \$13,484,507 in Wilson Foundation funds to the City for Phase 1 construction of Ralph Wilson Park; and (ii) authorize the BUDC President or Executive Vice President to execute the Fourth Amendment to the Subgrant Agreement and take such other actions as are necessary to implement this authorization. The motion was seconded by Mr. Marton and unanimously carried (6-0-0).

- 4.0 Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Park – MLB-MLBPA Youth Development Foundation Subgrant Agreement** – Mr. Parker presented his January 18, 2023 memorandum regarding the MLB-MLBPA Youth Development Foundation subgrant agreement between BUDC and the City of Buffalo. In response to a question from Mr. Marton regarding naming rights, Mr. Parker explained that MLBPA will propose a name for the fields, and the City Division of Parks and Recreation will coordinate the process for securing name approval through the Common Council. Mr. Marton made a motion to recommend that the BUDC Board of Directors: (i) approve the MLBYDF Subgrant Agreement allowing BUDC to transfer grant funds in an amount up to \$960,000 to the City of Buffalo for the field renovation work at Ralph Wilson Park; and (ii) authorize the BUDC President or Executive Vice President to execute the MLBYDF Subgrant Agreement and take such other actions as are necessary to implement this authorization. The motion was seconded by Ms. Minkel and unanimously carried (6-0-0).
- 5.0 Buffalo’s Race for Place – General Update** – Mr. Parker presented an update regarding Buffalo’s Race for Place. The Inner Harbor and Waterfront Public Realm master plan is moving forward. BUDC has entered into a contract with MIG for this work, which is expected to be completed by the end of May 2023. BUDC continues its work with the Project for Public Spaces on the placemaking grant received for the Ellicott Node. The Buffalo and Erie County Public Library has agreed to contribute up to \$23,000 for electrical cost and installation for the library underpass lighting. The Queen City Pop-Up Downtown Dollars program has been extended through Saturday, January 21st due to the December snowstorm.
- 6.0 Partner Updates** – None.
- 7.0 Adjournment** – There being no further business to come before the Downtown Committee, on motion made by Ms. Fishkin, seconded by Ms. Minkel and unanimously carried (6-0-0), the January 18, 2023 meeting of the Downtown Committee was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kevin J. Zanner
Secretary