

# Columbus Redevelopment Commission

Regular Board Meeting

June 20, 2015

6:00 PM

City Council Chambers

1 of 7



## Minutes

The Redevelopment Commission met in Regular Session on Monday, June 20, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

### Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by the President.

### Attendees:

Commissioner:

Sarah Cannon, Pres.     John Dorenbush, V-P     Don Trapp, Sec.  
 Umar Farooq             Robert Abrams             Al Roszczyk

Other attendees:

Heather Pope, Redevelopment Director; and Stan Gamso, counsel.

### Discussion Items:

1. Bicentennial Mural in Jackson Street Parking Garage – Lloyd Brooks, Professor Ivy Tech Art and Design Program.

Lloyd Brooks, Professor at Ivy Tech art designer, appeared to discuss a Bicentennial mural for the Jackson Street parking garage.

Mr. Brooks noted that his students in the past have worked with downtown merchants to include art to the various parts of downtown all in an effort to help support the merchants and economic growth.

He noted that his students have also created various urban walls, participated in design workshops, have recently assisted with concept drawings for the State Street corridor and bridge and assisted in the development of the Bike Share program. In

# Columbus Redevelopment Commission

Regular Board Meeting

June 20, 2015

6:00 PM

City Council Chambers

2 of 7



addition, his students have taken over 5000 photographs throughout the community all supporting the downtown, many of which have been used in and throughout the community.

He created a workshop for this summer for the purpose of developing murals and other work for the Friendship Alley and students have developed ideas for brightening the walkway and walls inside the Jackson Street parking garage from the alley bordering the East side of the garage through and including the Jackson Street exit.

Lloyd presented a timeline regarding the student's work. There are 19 students in the program divided into six (6) teams and they will be developing various designs for the breezeway in the Jackson Street parking garage and those designs will be presented at a public meeting on July 20 and a committee from the community will be making a final determination towards the end of July.

Heather Pope noted that the garage manager is developing a list of contractors and requesting quotes to implement the infrastructure work as part of the project.

It is anticipated that next month the necessary construction estimates will be available for the Commission to consider for this project.

## **Action Items:**

2. Resolution #16-2016 of the Columbus Redevelopment Commission to Grant Central T.I.F. dollars to the Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation for iGrad, S.T.E.M. and Transition Planning programs for the 2016 calendar year – Vaughn Silva and Bill Jensen – BCSC

At the May 2016 meeting the Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation presented through Bill Jensen, Vaughn Silva and Dr. Quick their request for a grant to be used for three programs that the School Corporation has identified as beneficial to the local workforce. These programs were iGrad, S.T.E.M. and Transition Planning.

Commissioner Trapp informed the president that because of his work with the education coalition he felt it best to abstain from discussion and voting on this particular topic.

# Columbus Redevelopment Commission

Regular Board Meeting

June 20, 2015

6:00 PM

City Council Chambers

3 of 7



In all three programs there was a deficiency of funding available to the School Corporation and because these programs are directly related to making students self-sufficient and preparing them for the workforce, the School Corporation representatives thought the Commission might entertain a grant in some amount to assist them with various programs.

Sarah opened the conversation on this topic and opined that she favored supporting the iGrad and Transition Planning programs. She also noted for the Commissioners that it will be necessary for this meeting to determine the amount of funding, if any that the Commission would be willing to make available by way of a grant to the School Corporation and then secondly determine which program or programs these funds should be applied to, whether this would be a one-time or multi-year grant and finally if this would be a multi-year grant, what measurements and metrics should the Commission examine and/or request of the school Corporation prior to fulfilling the grants.

The Commissioner had a discussion regarding various programs, the benefits each offered, the benefit to local employers, the community at large and considered metrics and measurements for each program. There was general consensus that all three of these programs offered unique opportunities for students and these opportunities would also benefit the workforce and economic development within our community.

Bob Abrams, the school board representative on the Commission, commented that the programs are very beneficial to the students and the community and as an emissary from the School Corporation he wanted the Commission to know the School Board was very thankful that the Commission was considering a grant.

Sarah called for public input and input was received from a number of members of the public. Mr. Tom Heller reported that in his view the revenue stream that the Commission has enjoyed from the T.I.F. district will change dramatically within the next couple of years due to the property tax circuit breaks. He suggested that the Commission should have another discussion with their financial advisors to determine the effect of the circuit breaks and tax neutralization on T.I.F. revenues.

Ricky Berkley from Cummins noted that there are many unfilled high-tech positions that he's aware of and he supports any program that could help assist in filling that gap.

# Columbus Redevelopment Commission

Regular Board Meeting

June 20, 2015

6:00 PM

City Council Chambers

4 of 7



A representative from ARC of Bartholomew County spoke in support of funding the Transition Planning Program.

Following no additional public comment, Sarah took the opportunity to pole the members of the Commission.

Mr. Roszczyk supports funding all three programs 100% for two years.

Mr. Farroq suggested funding all programs for one year.

Mr. Dorenbusch suggested funding all or some of the programs for no more than one year.

Discussion was had regarding the S.T.E.M. program and where the funding would come from to acquire assets necessary for that program. There was dialogue between the Commissioners and the representatives of the School Corporation and the consensus was that some of those funds could be had by local employers but in many cases it was necessary for the School Corporation to acquire the assets in order to meet the training needs.

In the final analysis, the Commission opted to make a grant to the School Corporation in the amount of \$750,000 broken down as follows: \$253,825 to iGrad, \$246,796 to the Transition Planning program and the balance \$249,379 to be applied to the S.T.E.M. program. Further discussion was had regarding the duration of the funding and any metrics and it was the consensus that this grant should be made for one year and nothing would preclude the School Corporation from coming back a year from now to request additional grants, but at that time if they did, the Commission might want to see some measurements of number of students in the program, success, etc. but that is not a requirement for this grant.

Motion was made by John to adopt resolutions 16 – 2016 of the Redevelopment Commission with the specific finding that the iGrad, S.T.E.M. and Transition Planning programs that are presently offered by the Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation and are all designed to prepare individuals for employment in the competitive and global economy and that the Commission finds these programs are beneficial to the community, citizens and employers within the city. Further, that the Commission has authority pursuant to Indiana Code § 36-7-25-7 to

# Columbus Redevelopment Commission

Regular Board Meeting

June 20, 2015

6:00 PM

City Council Chambers

5 of 7



make a grant of T.I.F. funds for educational and training purposes and does hereby elect to make said grant from the central allocation district.

That the Commission does further recommend that a grant of these funds in the amount \$750,000 allocated as follows: \$253,825 to iGrad, 246,796 to Transition Planning Program and the balance \$249,379 allocated to the S.T.E.M. program.

And further, that because the amount of this grant exceeds the spending authorization of this Commission, that this Resolution is to be deemed a recommending resolution to the Common Council of the City of Columbus to adopt a Resolution that authorized the expenditure of these funds for the purpose of making a grant to the Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation as set forth above.

The Motion was seconded by AI, there was no additional discussion. Upon voice vote the motion passed unanimously.

### 3. Approval of Minutes: May 16, 2016 Regular Meeting

Review of the May 16, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes was had, no corrections or changes were noted. Don moved and John seconded a motion to adopt same. There being no discussion the motion passed unanimously.

### 4. Review and Approval of Claims

Heather presented six (6) claims to the Commission for consideration. The Commissioners had previously examined the claims, Umar moved and John seconded a motion to approve the claims. Upon voice vote the claims were approved for payment unanimously.

## **Committee Updates**

### Railroad Community Committee Update – John Dorenbusch

John reported that on May 31<sup>st</sup> there was a community meeting to discuss the plans and ideas regarding the railroad. Then on June 13<sup>th</sup> the working committee met with American Structurepoint, and on June 15 the Mayor, City Engineer and John met with L&I Railroad who will be increasing the rail traffic through Columbus. The next Community meeting is June 30, 2016.

# Columbus Redevelopment Commission

Regular Board Meeting

June 20, 2015

6:00 PM

City Council Chambers

6 of 7



John said they are attempting to set up additional meetings with CSX railroad.

Also, an initial report demonstrated that at the State Road 46 crossing there are some 46 school buses crossing that intersection daily during the school year. Overall for Bartholomew County there are 362 buses crossing across all the railroad crossings daily.

Riverfront – Sarah Cannon

Sarah noted there would be the first Community meeting this Wednesday night. The purpose is to discuss the project, history and deliverables.

State Street – Al Roszczyk and Umar Farooq

Al commented that United has been asked to develop Phase II for the 2017 calendar year.

Trail enhancements have been designed and surveyed and the next step is to meet with the property owners, over whose parcels the trail will cross.

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business, John moved and Don seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Approval of \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2016 minutes.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Vice-President

# Columbus Redevelopment Commission

Regular Board Meeting

June 20, 2015

6:00 PM

City Council Chambers

7 of 7



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Secretary

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Member

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Member

Date: \_\_\_\_\_