

DWELLING PLACE OF GRAND RAPIDS  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
UNAPPROVED MINUTES  
March 10, 2020

**MEMBERS PRESENT** Annamarie Buller, David Byers, Juan Daniel Castro, Francine Gaston (via phone), Rick Stevens, Larry Titley, Renee Williams (via phone)

**STAFF PRESENT** Zoe Post, Dennis Sturtevant

The meeting was convened at 8:04 AM by Ms. Buller.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** **Minutes of the Dwelling Place Executive Committee meeting of January 14, 2020 were approved by motion of David Byers, supported by Larry Titley, and carried unanimously.**

**REVIEW MISSION STATEMENT** The committee discussed the value of including, “community building and engagement” in the Dwelling Place mission statement, a phrase that has growing use within the NeighborWorks network. Committee members noted that the phrase “neighborhood revitalization” holds significance beyond the housing sector and is sufficiently descriptive for the broad audience that the mission aims to reach. The committee opted to keep the mission statement as is, but to continue efforts toward including more information about CB&E programming to the community and the board.

**APPROVAL OF MCACA GRANT** Dwelling Place received a \$7,400 grant in July 2019 from the Michigan Council for Art and Cultural Affairs (MCACA) to support Dwelling Place community art projects. **Approval of the grant was made by motion of Rick Stevens, supported by Larry Titley, and carried unanimously.**

**APPOINTMENT OF CEO SEARCH COMMITTEE** There was considerable discussion about who should serve on the CEO search committee and how that might be determined. Committee members agreed that a diversity of board members should be involved, particularly those with terms that will extend into the tenure of the new CEO, and that community stakeholders may also be consulted through surveys or focus groups. Mr. Sturtevant and Ms. Buller will send information to the board in advance of the board packet to allow time to prepare for generative discussion at the April meeting. Discussion points may include the makeup and structure of the search committee, an estimated timeline, and expected time and participation commitments.

**UPDATES**

**Project Updates**

**Harrison Park:** A March 13 open house/ribbon cutting is scheduled.

**Pine Ave:** Lease-up is slightly behind schedule; estimated completion April 30.

**Ferguson:** Waiting on EGLE approval; aiming for a start date of April 6.

**Plaza Roosevelt:** Looking to identify potential commercial tenants or buyers for the first floor space.

**Madison Lofts:** Expected to close in June

**Holland:** A visioning meeting with the congregations of Hope Church and First UMC of Holland will occur later this week; possible October tax credit application submission.

**FUSE Update**

Around 80 participants attended the January kickoff meeting and the core and data-sharing groups have begun regular meetings. Dwelling Place intends to help get the project off the ground and then have another entity (perhaps the City of Grand Rapids) take over.

**CLT Update**

Interviews for a CLT Director will take place this month. Staff recently met with the City of Newaygo about possible land donation for future CLT units and down payment assistance from local employers for companies with employees hoping to purchase a CLT home.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

During its March 9 meeting, the RED & Asset Management Committee recommended that the board authorize joint venture proceedings with Union Suites at Michael LLC (Nick Lovelace and Tom Ralston) as a development partner. Dwelling Place is currently working with this group in another joint venture, Madison Lofts. Dwelling Place would be a 10% owner in this low-income senior housing development. **Motion to approve this authorization was made by Rick Stevens, seconded by Larry Titley, and carried unanimously.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Executive Committee was adjourned at 9:28 AM by Annamarie Buller.