# MINUTES OF THE MECA TRI-PARK COMPLEX, LLC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING JANUARY 13, 2021

A meeting of the Board of Directors of MECA Tri-Park Complex, LLC, a Nebraska limited liability company, was called to order by Chairwoman Diane Duren at 1:00 p.m. on January 13, 2021.

#### **Roll Call:**

Present and participating via teleconference were: Chairwoman Diane Duren, Mr. Thomas Warren, Ms. Susie Buffett, Mr. Tom Kelley and Mr. Jay Noddle.

As a reminder, during the continuing pandemic, both the City and State had waived applicability of the 'public meeting' requirements that would otherwise apply, and therefore all Board members who were attending the meeting by telephone were eligible to participate.

#### **Proof of Publication:**

Notice of the meeting was published in *The Daily Record* on January 6, 2021, and in the *Omaha World-Herald* on January 6, 2021.

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

Mr. Warren moved for approval of the minutes of the December 2, 2020, MECA Tri-Park Complex, LLC Board Meeting, seconded by Mr. Kelley.

Motion carried: 5-0.

### **President/CEO Report:**

Mr. Roger Dixon stated that Ms. Katie Bassett would provide a progress report for the RiverFront.

#### **Other Business:**

### Parks Update

Ms. Katie Bassett reported work continues to move forward on The RiverFront regardless of the onset of winter weather. The electrical and telecommunications duct was installed within Gene Leahy Mall. Minor earthwork continues to advance, and the pile caps for the performance pavilion have been finalized.

Demolition work progresses within Lewis & Clark Landing; the board walk and some concrete were removed west of the flood wall, and light poles and umbrella bases are being removed east of the flood wall.

MECA continues to work closely with the Kiewit Luminarium team on construction phasing and coordinating design to ensure a seamless experience is created for the visitors of both the science center and The RiverFront.

The colder weather has brought the opportunity for the team to do some careful springtime planning for Heartland of America Park. MECA continues to monitor the settlement meters and are reviewing the sequencing plan for when the surcharge is removed. The removal sequence will be important as amenities work is likely to occur at the same time.

The team has also had planning discussions in the last several weeks for the Farnam Pier, which will weigh 380 thousand pounds and will have to be set in place with multiple cranes in a short window over the railroad tracks.

Team focus is shifting from winter to spring with careful consideration for planting, specialty concrete and landscaping installations. There are many detail contractors that will be working simultaneously within the park and it will take significant coordination to keep it moving forward smoothly.

Overall design is nearing completion with the issuance of bids for Heartland of America Park and Lewis & Clark Landing amenities coming out before the first week of February. Issuance of these drawings will kick off a significant procurement cycle in February and March with over ten major packages for those amenities being put out for public bid.

### **Public Relations Update**

Ms. Kristyna Engdahl stated MECA continues to engage with the community and stakeholders on The RiverFront's growing social media platforms and have used those tools to propagate coverage of the construction and design process. The project was recently featured on Grow Omaha, a weekly Saturday morning radio show on KFAB dedicated to progress and innovation around the City. They also routinely feature The RiverFront's progress photos on their social media and continue to celebrate the overall vision for the parks.

It's a slowly growing audience, but The RiverFront's Facebook page has 723 likes, Twitter has 467 and Instagram has 228. These are organically generated followers, but the audience is anticipated to grow with time. As the parks reopen these pages serve as sources of information for upcoming activations and events.

The December e-newsletter was well received with plenty of seasonal information, painting a picture of what wintertime activation will look like in the parks such as holiday pop-up shops and bundled-up concerts under the city skyline. The email distribution list has grown to 446, adding nearly 50 more people since the last board meeting.

According to media monitoring efforts, MECA ended the year reaching nearly 11 million people online with stories about The RiverFront, and accumulatively 1.5 million local TV viewers. That's a significant jump from last month, likely due to the publicity associated with the Omaha New Year's Eve fireworks show relocation because of construction and many local news year end recaps that revisited stories about the project. The updated total publicity value (from earned media coverage) is just under \$346 thousand.

Lastly, the presentation description and very initial preparations have been finalized for The RiverFront's engagement opportunity at the Omaha Chamber's Young Professionals (YP) Summit. It will be a virtual presentation this year, and The RiverFront will have an hour to present materials, field questions and seek feedback from this key demographic.

### **Contracts Recently Awarded:**

The Construction Manager, Kiewit Infrastructure Company (KIC), has awarded the following bids on the indicated portions of the Tri-Park Complex Project. KIC is following a process to bid out any work over \$20,000 and submitting their recommendations from the bids received to MECA management, who will approve same and apprise the Board of all such recent activity.

The following recent bids have been awarded:

• Lewis & Clark Landing Utility Potholing, awarded to General Excavating Company.

#### **Next Board Meeting**

The next Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 16, 2021, at 1:00 p.m. in the MECA Board Room.

## **Adjournment**

Chairwoman Duren stated the time is 1:08 p.m. and invited a Motion to adjourn. A Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Kelley seconded by Ms. Buffett.

Motion carried: 5-0.

Adjournment 1:08 p.m.