

**MINUTES OF THE MECA TRI-PARK COMPLEX, LLC
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
JANUARY 10, 2022**

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 10, 2022.

Roll Call:

Present or participating via teleconference were: Chairwoman Diane Duren, Ms. Susie Buffett, Mr. Ben Gray, 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 3, 2022, and in the *Omaha World-Herald* on January 3, 2022.

Approval of Minutes:

Ms. Buffett moved for approval of the minutes of the November 16, 2021, MECA Tri-Park Complex, LLC Board Meeting, seconded by Mr. Kelley.

Motion carried: 5-0.

President/CEO Report:

Mr. Roger Dixon noted significant development can be seen at Gene Leahy Mall and deferred to Ms. Katie Bassett to provide a progress report for The RiverFront.

Other Business:

Parks Update

Ms. Katie Bassett reported that mild fall temperatures and the weather leading into December allowed crews to make significant progress at Gene Leahy Mall. Two more play arches were installed in the children’s playground and sod was laid in the lawn areas. The dog park is starting to take shape, as well as refinement around the slides. A stoplight was added at Douglas and 11th Streets which will help with pedestrian access once the park is open. The interactive water feature known as the Cascades has been tented allowing the area to be heated so critical work can continue during winter’s frigid temperatures. A few other heated tents will be raised around the pavilion and the 13th Street art areas to ensure progress through the next several months. There are still numerous projects that can be completed during the winter.

Conversations continue with program partners for community events in the 2022 summer calendar. MECA is also actively planning an exciting opening ceremony for Gene Leahy Mall during the 2022 Memorial Day weekend.

Crews continue utilities installation, dirt and foundation work at Heartland of America Park and Lewis & Clark Landing. This will progress throughout the winter creating a pathway in preparation for spring amenities.

Public Relations Update

Ms. Kristyna Engdahl stated that November and December's earned media value totaled about \$220,400, reaching 5.2 million people in November and closer to 8 million people in December with both traditional and social media stories about the project. Some of these articles were more about ancillary endeavors such as Central Park Plaza's development, but all mention The RiverFront as being a catalyst for growth or positive evolution in downtown Omaha. There were 116 mentions over the last two months. The 2021 total earned publicity was \$628,700.

Another informative newsletter was distributed in December. It provided in-depth information and construction information about Heartland of America Park's Skate Ribbon, as well as the Farnam Pier, revealing that the crane placing the pier will be the largest ever used in downtown Omaha. Following that newsletter, the *Omaha World-Herald* also did a story on the Skate Ribbon with some more information on its progress.

Last week, Ms. Bassett and Ms. Engdahl remotely joined an interview for KETV's Sunday morning Chronicle program, where The RiverFront was included in a list of exciting developments to come in 2022 – namely with Gene Leahy Mall's scheduled reopening for this summer. Topics included the exciting amenities already taking shape within the area, and all the great things still to come throughout the entire park.

The RiverFront will participate in another interview with *Civil Engineering Magazine*. This trade publication is curious about the history of the area and the project's key goals. According to their website, the American Society of Civil Engineers (who this publication serves) has 150 thousand members in nearly 200 countries.

Lastly, likely later this week MECA is planning a media availability with one of the first art pieces destined for the Gene Leahy Mall Sculpture Garden. Reporters will not only see the piece itself, but also receive photos depicting the complicated reconstruction process upon its arrival in Omaha. This story will also provide an opportunity to talk about The RiverFront's partnership with KANEKO in securing these sculptures and possibly even an availability with the artist, who can discuss both the piece and being among the Sculpture Garden selections.

Contract Approvals:

Chairwoman Duren indicated there are two contracts requiring approval.

Van Wall Equipment

RESOLVED, that the Agreement between MECA Tri-Park Complex, LLC and Van Wall Equipment to purchase miscellaneous grounds and maintenance equipment for The RiverFront, as more specifically set out on the attached summary, is hereby approved, and Roger Dixon as President/CEO is authorized to execute the Agreement following its finalization in a form reasonably approved by counsel.

Chairwoman Duren invited public and Board comment and asked for a motion.

Moved by Mr. Gray seconded by Mr. Kelley.

Motion carried: 5-0

Live Nation Worldwide, Inc.

RESOLVED, that the Agreement between MECA Tri-Park Complex, LLC and Live Nation Worldwide, Inc. to assist with identifying and booking live entertainment performers for opening weekend of Gene Leahy Mall, as more specifically set out on the attached summary, is hereby approved, and Roger Dixon as President/CEO is authorized to execute the Agreement following its finalization in a form reasonably approved by counsel.

Chairwoman Duren invited public and Board comment and asked for a motion.

Moved by Mr. Kelley seconded by Ms. Buffett.

Motion carried: 5-0

Next Board Meeting

The next Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 8, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. in the MECA Board Room.

Adjournment

Chairwoman Duren stated the time is 1:10 p.m. and invited a Motion to adjourn. A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Gray seconded by Mr. Kelley.

Motion carried: 5-0.

Adjournment 1:10 p.m.