# MINUTES OF THE MECA TRI-PARK COMPLEX, LLC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OCTOBER 13, 2020

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 9:00 a.m. on October 13, 2020, in the MECA Board Room at CHI Health Center Omaha, 455 N. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Omaha, Nebraska.

### **Roll Call:**

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

As a reminder, both the City and State had waived applicability of the 'public meeting' requirements that would otherwise apply, and therefore the three 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 October 6, 2020, and in the *Omaha World-Herald* on October 6, 2020.

A copy of the Open Meetings Law was posted on the table near the side entrance to the MECA Board Room.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Mr. Warren moved for approval of the minutes of the September 15, 2020, MECA Tri-Park Complex, LLC Board Meeting, seconded by Ms. Buffett.

Motion carried: 5-0.

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

Mr. Roger Dixon announced that Ms. Sue Violi has joined MECA as the Director of Sponsorships and Development for The RiverFront team.

### **Other Business:**

#### Parks Update

Ms. Katie Bassett reported work continues to move along in both Gene Leahy Mall and Heartland of America Park. Construction has been started on Lewis & Clark Landing as crews move to take advantage of the favorable fall weather.

The amenities work for Gene Leahy Mall continues within the Sculpture Garden along Douglas Street. Special soils and irrigation are being trucked in to help ensure a healthy environment for plants and trees to thrive for years to come. Since the last board meeting, a few accolade elms have been planted.

The Design Team continues to advance the design in both Heartland of America Park and Lewis & Clark Landing with continued coordination on cost and constructability. Schedule sequencing of work and intense coordination of all subcontractors continues to be very important.

Excavation of the playground area along Farnam Street is underway, and site wall foundations are being poured. We are preparing to perform some demolition work around the Gene Leahy Mall slides (which will remain) and will soon drive pile for the performance pavilion within the next week.

Lewis & Clark Landing and Riverfront Drive closed a few weeks ago and demolition activity has begun. The team has been working to carefully remove plaques, railing along the flood wall and board walk removal on the south side in preparation for heavier demolition. A time lapse camera is up and running, which will document the progress, in Lewis & Clark Landing for the public to follow.

The embankment within Heartland of America Park is complete with the surcharge fill in place which is required for the settlement period. This will subsequently allow the reopening of 8<sup>th</sup> Street to south bound traffic. The settlement plates installed within Heartland of America Park continue to be monitored and to date movement has been very minimal. This creates the opportunity to minimize some of the light-weight fill that will be installed on the east side of the park which will provide savings to the overall budget.

Finally, Ms. Basset was happy to welcome Ms. Violi as the new Director of Sponsorship and Development to The RiverFront team.

### **Public Relations Update**

Ms. Kristyna Engdahl stated there are a few small, but significant milestones to publicly celebrate, including the installation of a couple new trees in Gene Leahy Mall and the finish of fill at Heartland of America Park. Also, MECA has officially launched a Lewis & Clark progress camera on the project website.

A drone flyover of Gene Leahy Mall and Heartland of America Park is being coordinated to capture not only all the work that's been completed to date, but to help illustrate where some of the parks amenities are already taking shape. This will be a great tool for PR purposes and to give all interested partners a bird's eye view of progress. MECA continues to document every step along the way to ensure the transformation is adequately captured for future generations to understand and appreciate.

Ms. Engdahl is currently working with the Omaha Chamber of Commerce and Visit Omaha to determine what a national pitch regarding Omaha's growing focus on millennial interests might look like. Certainly, The RiverFront will play a key role in that, but also elements such as the ORBT system, the addition of more (smaller) performance venues in downtown Omaha and a growing focus on walkability. Although still a few months from fruition, it's certainly an exciting prospect to look forward to.

## **Next Board Meeting**

The next Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 2, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. in the MECA Board Room.

# **Adjournment**

Chairwoman Duren stated the time is 9:07 a.m. and invited a Motion to adjourn. A Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Warren seconded by Ms. Buffett.

Motion carried: 5-0.

Adjournment 9:07 a.m.