

**MINUTES OF THE MECA TRI-PARK COMPLEX, LLC  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 18, 2026**

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 Wednesday, February 18, 2026.

**Roll Call:**

Present were: Chairwoman Diane Duren, Ms. Susie Buffett, Mr. Ben Gray and Mr. Tom Kelley.

**Proof of Publication:**

Notice of the meeting was published in *The Daily Record* on February 11, 2026, and in the *Omaha World-Herald* on February 11, 2026.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Ms. Buffett moved for approval of the minutes of the January 15, 2026, MECA Tri-Park Complex, LLC Board Meeting, seconded by Mr. Gray.

Motion carried: 4-0.

**President/CEO Report:**

Mr. Adam Straight reported that he has launched a new series of informal discussions titled “*Coffee & Conversation*” with team members across the organization. The initiative is designed to encourage open dialogue, share different perspectives, and strengthen engagement throughout the staff.

A session was held this morning at The RiverFront, and Mr. Straight noted it was a beneficial and positive experience. He looks forward to continuing the series on an ongoing basis, with no predetermined end date, as a meaningful way to connect and engage with all staff members.

**Other Business:**

**Park Update:**

Ms. Katie Bassett reported that over the past month, The RiverFront team has focused on proactively preparing for what is expected to be a busy spring and summer season. The operations team has been diligently refreshing decomposed granite and gravel areas, replenishing sand and play mulch, and continuing plant and tree cutbacks. These efforts are in preparation for a larger-scale cleanup and seasonal mulch installation in the coming weeks.

Ms. Bassett shared that the events team has successfully mapped out the annual event calendar. Program partners are returning with their established annual events, and nearly all self-produced fan favorites have been confirmed. The full event calendar is expected to be announced in March. The team also capitalized on favorable weather conditions this week by hosting spring cleaning activities, live music, arts programming, game carts, and small festivities to activate the parks.

During warmer days, ice skating operations have continued, and while The RiverFront's goal remains to maintain ice through the month of February, that target has not yet been fully achieved. Ice conditions continue to be closely monitored, particularly as the forecast indicates a return to colder temperatures.

Chairwoman Duren inquired about what changes are being implemented in light of the fireworks incident that occurred on New Year's Eve, specifically as it relates to planning for the Independence Day Celebration. Ms. Bassett responded that the key distinction between the two events is that the Independence Day Celebration is fully self-produced by The RiverFront. As a result, The RiverFront will maintain direct oversight and control over all security protocols, planning, and security personnel for the event.

### **Public Relations Update:**

Ms. Kristyna Engdahl reported over the past month, there has been strong and positive media coverage of The RiverFront, particularly highlighting its role as both a community gathering space and an educational resource.

Earlier this month, the Black History Month History Walk received live coverage on KETV's newscasts. The segment not only outlined the installation itself but also reinforced The RiverFront's ongoing commitment to hosting educational displays and cultural programming throughout the year. It was a great opportunity to showcase how the space continues to be activated in meaningful ways.

Gene Leahy Mall was also mentioned multiple times during KMTV weather forecasts as one of the most popular downtown destinations during February's unseasonably warm days. These organic mentions position The RiverFront as a go-to gathering place and reinforce its role as a driver of downtown foot traffic, especially when the weather cooperates.

Media coverage also helped the team proactively communicate the closure of the skate ribbon, ensuring that regular visitors were informed and helping to manage expectations clearly.

Most recently, KETV covered The RiverFront's Fat Tuesday celebration. They included quotes from community members calling the event "so much fun," which helped capture the energy and enthusiasm of these activations. It's also a good reminder that MECA's regular monthly press outreach continues to pay off, helping keep The RiverFront visible - especially as warmer weather starts to bring more guests back to the parks.

Overall, the coverage shows The RiverFront remains highly visible and actively used, with strong community participation as we move into spring.

### **Contract Approvals**

Chairwoman Duren indicated there is one contract for approval.

#### **Omaha Symphony and Orchestra**

**RESOLVED**, that the Agreement between MECA Tri-Park Complex, LLC and Omaha Symphony and Orchestra for performances during Independence Day celebrations at The RiverFront, as more specifically set out on the attached summary, is hereby approved, and Adam Straight 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 Mr. Gray.

Motion carried: 4-0

### **Next Board Meeting**

The next Board of Directors Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, March 18, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in the MECA Board Room.

### **Adjournment**

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

Motion carried: 4-0.

Adjournment 1:10 p.m.