

**BISMARCK RENAISSANCE ZONE AUTHORITY
MEETING MINUTES
January 13, 2022**

The Bismarck Renaissance Zone Authority met on January 13, 2022 in the Tom Baker Meeting Room in the City-County Office Building at 221 North 5th Street and remotely via the online platform Zoom. Chair Christianson presided.

Authority members present were Jim Christianson, Mike Connelly, Joe Fink, Dustin Gawrylow, Todd Van Orman, Curt Walth and Greg Zenker.

Design Advisor Bruce Whittey was present. (Secretary's note: Starting in January 2022, Technical Advisors are now referred to as Design Advisors)

Staff members present were Sandra Bogaczyk (Office Assistant II), Jannelle Combs (City Attorney), Allison Jensen (City Assessor) and Daniel Nairn (Senior Planner).

Guests present were Kate Herzog (The Downtowners), Eric Hoffer (JLG Architects) and David Witham (Denizen Partners).

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Christianson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

The minutes of the December 9, 2021 meeting were distributed prior to the meeting.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Zenker and seconded by Mr. Van Orman to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2021 meeting. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote with members Connelly, Fink, Gawrylow, Van Orman, Walth, Zenker and Chair Christianson voting in favor.

OTHER BUSINESS

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION – NEW AUTHORITY MEMBER AND SELECTION OF DESIGN ADVISORS

Mr. Nairn stated that Mike Connelly has joined the Authority, as accepted by the City Commission on Tuesday, December 28, 2021.

Chair Christianson and Authority members welcomed Mr. Connelly.

Mr. Nairn stated that, as Authority members requested, a call for more Design Advisors was issued, and two Design Advisors have submitted applications to assist the Renaissance Zone Authority and Downtown Design Review Committee.

Eric Hoffer and David Witham were asked to answer a few questions regarding their abilities

and qualifications for joining the Authority and each presented their interest and qualifications.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Fink and seconded by Mr. Gawrylow to approve the nominations of Eric Hoffer and David Witham as Design Advisors to the Renaissance Zone Authority and Downtown Design Review Committee. The motion passed with members Connelly, Fink, Gawrylow, Van Orman, Walth, Zenker and Chair Christianson voting in favor.

Chair Christianson and Authority members welcomed Mr. Hoffer and Mr. Witham.

REPORT FROM STAFF

Mr. Nairn stated that it may be possible to have a member of the Historic Preservation Commission also serve as an advisor to the Renaissance Zone Authority on matters related to historic preservation.

Mr. Fink stated that he would welcome any guidance from the Historic Preservation Commission, but that a formal appointment is not necessary.

There was consensus to welcome Historic Preservation Commission members as needed.

Mr. Nairn updated members on the Development Plan amendments and stated that the Authority would need an affirmative vote from Burleigh County, Bismarck Public Schools and Bismarck Parks and Recreation District to secure approval for a five-year extension of the Renaissance Zone program.

Mr. Fink suggested that more outreach to the voting entities was needed and stated that he would agree to address these groups before the July deadline. Chair Christianson agreed.

Mr. Gawrylow stated that he would like to formally take action on the five-year extension soon before bringing the request to the other political subdivisions. Mr. Nairn stated he would recommend waiting until May for any changes to the Renaissance Zone boundaries, because this was referenced in letters already distributed, but would arrange a public hearing for the extension request in February.

Mr. Connelly suggested that since many members of the three voting entities will be at the ITG Political Subdivisions meeting, that it could be an opportunity to gather support. Mr. Fink volunteered his time to go to the meeting.

REPORT FROM THE DOWNTOWNERS

Ms. Herzog updated Authority members about the Comprehensive Plan for Downtown stakeholders, that the Downtowners would like to see funds used for technical assistance and more private investment, and stated that a partnership with data profiles is starting up.

NOMINATION AND INSTALLATION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

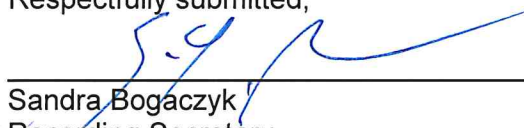
Chair Christianson stated that the terms of office for Chair and Vice-Chair need to be determined. Chair Christianson and Vice-Chair Van Orman both expressed their willingness to serve another annual term.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Fink and seconded by Mr. Walth to approve the nominations of Mr. Christianson as Chair and Mr. Van Orman as Vice-Chair to the Renaissance Zone Authority for the term beginning January 2022. The motion passed unanimously with members Connelly, Fink, Gawrylow, Van Orman, Walth, Zenker and Chair Christianson voting in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting of the Bismarck Renaissance Zone Authority adjourned at 4:34p.m. to meet again on February 10, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra Bogaczyk
Recording Secretary

Jim Christianson
Chair