



Milwaukee County

Meeting Minutes *Draft*

Mitchell Park Conservatory & Milwaukee Public Museum Taskforce

Chairperson: Guy Smith, Director

November 26, 2018

9:00 AM

Milwaukee County Courthouse
901 N. 9th Street, Room 212-B
Milwaukee, WI 53233

Call to order at 9:05 am

Present: 11- Smith, Pechacek, Carron, O'Desky, Folaron, Tarantino, Hertzberg, Haas, Ortiz-Velez, Petersen, Lucas

Excused: 0

Absent: 0

1. Introductions – Informational only

Members of the taskforce introduced themselves. This item was informational only with no action taken by the taskforce.

2. Background Information - Informational only

a. Milwaukee Public Museum

Member O'Desky provided a brief background on the history of MPM and the process and reasons for seeking a new building for the collection.

b. Domes

Member Folaron provided a brief background on the capital, operational, and other background information on the Mitchell Park Conservatory, "Domes".

c. Taskforce resolution

Member Smith reviewed the budget amendment authored and sponsored by Supervisor Dimitrijevic and Supervisor Hass that created the taskforce. Member Haas discussed components of the requested elements.

3. Taskforce deliverables discussion – Informational only

a. Market appraisal

Member Hertzberg discussed the appraisal process for 800 W. Wells and the associated timeline. Member Carron discussed assumptions and information as it relates to demolition costs.

b. Site analyses

Member Tarantino discussed factors and considerations for a site analysis at Mitchell Park. The taskforce agreed that due to expertise, internal capacity, and the timeline requested for the report, that an external consultant should be retained. Member Pechacek advised that the Department of Administrative Services could support this expense. Member O'Desky discussed the rationale of using Gallagher & Associates, museum site feasibility experts, to conduct this study. Members Ortiz-Velez and Haas discussed additional components to consider, including other amenities at the park and in the surrounding neighborhoods.

c. Fiscal analyses

Member Lucas discussed a methodology for the County to assess financial projections as it relates to on-going County expenditures at both facilities. An update and more detailed information on these projections will be available at the next meeting.

d. Governance options

Member Pechacek discussed research on local governance models for cultural institutions in the Milwaukee area. Member Carron advised that the Domes taskforce also researched this issue. Member Hertzberg requested additional research for national governance models. Member Petersen agreed to conduct the requested research for the next meeting.

e. Programming study

Members Folaron and O'Desky discussed programming synergies and the overlap in mission. It was agreed to coordinate a meeting between the MPM and Domes programming employees prior to the next taskforce meeting to determine any current state and future state programming opportunities.

4. Timeline and next meeting – Informational only

Members discussed coordinating the first joint meeting between the MPM/Domes taskforce and the Domes taskforce as required by resolution. Future dates to be determined. Member Hertzberg requested additional attendance and operational information on both the Domes and MPM and requested clarification on decision-making authority.

5. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 10:04 am