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The 35W Solutions Alliance Meeting

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Richfield Bartholomew Room

6700 Portland Avenue

Minutes

Members and Guests Present

Board members present were Sue Sandahl, Gene Abbott, Jan Callison, Mike Eastling, Zach Johnson, Karl Keel, Hank Marotske, Jon Oleson, Ryan Peterson, John Powell, John Quincy, Mary Sherry, Tom Wolf, and Liz Workman; and member staff and visitors, Charles Carlson (Metro Transit), Steve Cramer (Minneapolis Downtown Council), Steve Elkins (Met Council), Kristine Elwood (Dakota County), Joe Gladke (Hennepin County), Steve Hay (Minneapolis), Andy Hingeveld (Scott County), Beverley Miller (MVTA), Jeff Pearson (Richfield), Jon Solberg (MnDOT), Mike Turner (previous Board member), Rob Vanasek (Vanasek Consulting), Kim Larson (Bloomington), and Bob Tennesen (Tennesen Law).

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 a.m. by Chair Sue Sandahl.

Approval of Minutes

Upon motion made and seconded, the minutes of the November 13, 2014 meeting were approved.

Acceptance of Treasurer's Report

Upon motion made and seconded, the treasurer's report was approved subject to audit.

Lobbyist Search Committee

After publishing an RFP for a Government Relations Representative, reviewing proposals, interviewing candidates, and reviewing the qualifications of each applicant, members of the search committee recommended to the board that Rob Vanasek of Vanasek Consulting, assisted by Samuel Walseth of Capitol Hill Associates, Inc., be engaged as lobbyists for the Solutions Alliance.

The chair of the search committee, seconded by its other committee members moved that:

Rob Vanasek of Vanasek Consulting, assisted by Samuel Walseth of Capitol Hill Associates, Inc., be retained as lobbyists for a period of two years beginning January 1, 2015, for a fee of \$36,000 per year plus reasonable expenses, and that the chair of the board prepare and execute a contract to effectuate this resolution.

The motion was unanimously adopted.

Nominations Committee Report and Election

Tom Wolf, Chair, reported the recommendations of the committee and nominated the following for the office indicated:

- Liz Workman – Chair
- Tom Wolf – Vice Chair
- Jan Callison – Secretary/Treasurer

Receiving no additional nominations, the chair called for a vote on the nominations. The board voted unanimously to elect the persons nominated to the positions indicated.

The board thanked the outgoing chair Sue Sandahl for her six years of service as chair and 16 years of service on the board of directors.

Website Task Force

John Quincy, Chair, reported the website will be updated with the new officers and the meeting minutes.

Orange Line Governance Committee

Charles Carlson, Staff, said that there was no update.

Legislative Update

Bob Tennessen presented his final Legislative Report, included with the agenda packet. Bob was thanked for his 22-plus years of service representing the Solutions Alliance and wished well in his retirement.

Legislative Priorities Committee

Jon Oleson, John Quincy, Tom Wolf, Liz Workman, and Charles Carlson agreed to be on the committee to review the legislative priorities for 2015.

Minneapolis Downtown Council Perspective Presentation

Steve Cramer, Minneapolis Downtown Council President, discussed the *Intersections 2025 Plan* – the framework to guide development of Downtown, which is a ten point plan. He discussed the first point: leading the nation in transportation options. Mr. Cramer also talked about residential growth, job growth, parking, and transit for the region.

Project Updates

- TH 13/5 – Up and running!
- 494 Corridor Commission – Met yesterday. See MnDOT Metro Division Project Summary handout.
- Hwy 169 Corridor Coalition – Study regarding transit and managed lane opportunities to begin in spring.
- Red Line – Initiated implementation plan update. Anticipate more interest in that area.

Future Topics

- January, 2015 – I-35W River Bridge Replacement , MnDOT

Next Meeting

The next Board meeting is scheduled for January 8, 2015, at the Richfield City Hall.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:36 a.m.