

**Mid-Illinois Medical District Commission  
Lincoln Land Community College  
Capital City Training Center  
4:00 p.m., Thursday, June 9, 2016**

MINUTES

**Present:**

Dr. Charlotte Warren, President  
Mitch Johnson, Secretary  
Guerry Suggs, Commissioner  
Rob Cross, Commissioner  
Michael Boer, Commissioner

Jack Mazzotti, Vice-President  
Sheila Stocks-Smith, Commissioner  
Rex Brown, Commissioner (by-phone)  
Ramona Metzger, Commissioner  
Jennifer Lee, Commissioner

**Absent:**

Dave Olejniczak, Commissioner

Dr. Elvin Zook, Commissioner

**Other Guests:**

Josh Collins  
Lothar Soliwon

Norm Sims  
Steve Myers

**Convening of the regular meeting of the Commission**

C. Warren called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm. M. Johnson initiated the roll call and verified that a quorum was present.

**Guest Speakers**

C. Warren informed the Commission that due to a scheduling conflict the guest speakers would go first on the agenda. N. Sims is the Executive Director of the Springfield & Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission. He also previously served as the Director of the Office of Planning & Economic Development for the City of Springfield and as Director of the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Development. N. Sims was also involved in the creation of the Medical District.

N. Sims discussed the property inventory that was completed for downtown. He informed the Commission that doing a similar inventory for the Medical District would take money and time. He then asked how the inventory would fit with the commission's strategy.

N. Sims then informed the group that the Medical District was created to serve as a tactic for a strategy with the strategy being for Springfield to be seen as a center for medical excellence. He

informed the group that this strategy was part of the Springfield 2020 plan and handed out relevant parts of the plan.

N. Sims then suggested some action steps that the commission could take to better promote the Medical District:

- Ask partnering institutions to mention that they are within the Mid-Illinois Medical District on their websites.
- Include information on the Mid-Illinois Medical District website that site selectors would want to see such as; information on research activities, workforce information, demographics & available properties.
- Utilize social media.
- Create a drop sheet promoting the medical district that could be easily downloaded off the website and that partnering organizations could utilize.

N. Sims also brought two new maps of the Medical District boundaries for commissioners.

L. Soliwon was in attendance to discuss how he is involved with promoting medical tourism with the SIU School of Medicine. L. Soliwon volunteered to work with the Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau to include portions of the Medical District, specifically the hospitals on the downtown map of Springfield provided by the Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau. By consent, the commissioners endorsed this idea and asked Mr. Soliwon to proceed with that idea. L. Soliwon also suggested adding signage at the entrances of the Medical District.

M. Johnson bought copies of the Marketing Plan that was done by Hill & Knowlton in 2006 and briefly discussed the plan.

The Commission members then discussed ideas of having someone carry out the plan. On a motion by J. Lee, seconded by G. Suggs, the Commission voted to discuss a job description for an employee at the next Commission meeting.

### **Approval of the minutes of the April 14, 2016 Commission meeting**

On a motion by G. Suggs, seconded by J. Lee, the Commission members present unanimously voted to approve the minutes of April, 142016 meeting.

### **Financial Report**

On a motion by J. Lee, seconded by S. Stocks-Smith, the Commission members present unanimously voted to approve the March & April 2016 Financial Reports.

### **Old Business**

- a. J. Collins informed the Commission that the new MIMD website went live in April and reminded the Commission that the website is simple to update.
- b. S. Stocks-Smith gave an update on the housing market study that was being conducted by the Springfield Housing Authority. S. Stocks-Smith also informed the group that in her discussions with Jackie Newman it was made clear that the MIMD Commission would need to take the lead on any housing project that involved the Springfield Housing Authority.

### **New Business**

There was no new business.

### **Reports of Commission officials**

There were no reports by Commission members.

### **Presidents Report**

There was no report by the President.

### **Public Comment**

S. Myers informed the Commission that he would ask the commercial realtors to list all properties within the Medical District boundaries as being in the Mid-Illinois Medical District. He then informed the group that a property near the Medical District was about to be listed for sale and that a property within the Medical District Boundaries was also about to be listed for sale. The property within the boundary of the Medical District was the property where the Korean War Museum was originally going to be located.

### **Adjournment**

On a motion by M. Johnson, seconded by J. Mazzotti, the Commission members present unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 5:43 p.m.

Submitted by:

Mitch Johnson  
MIMD Commission Secretary