

**Mid-Illinois Medical District Commission  
Lincoln Land Community College  
Virtual Meeting  
12:00 p.m., Friday, April 9, 2021**

MINUTES

**Present:**

Ryan Croke, President	Charlene Aaron, Commissioner
Rex Brown, Commissioner	Egbe Egiebor, Commissioner
Aaron Gurnsey, Commissioner	Joe Hurwitz, Secretary
Dr. Gurpreet Mander, Commissioner	Jack Mazzotti, Commissioner
Ramona Metzger, Treasurer	Norm Sims, Commissioner
John Stremsterfer, Commissioner	

**Absent:** None

**Other Guests:**

Kayla Graven, Downtown Springfield Inc.	Erica Austin, SIU
Kevin England, Memorial	Rob Cross
Ryan McCrady, Springfield Sangamon Growth Alliance	Aly Grady, DCEO
Mayor Jim Langfelder, City of Springfield	Brian McFadden, Sangamon County
Senator Doris Turner, IL State Senate	Blake Pryor "rje2072"
Marcia Short	217-254-4162
Ozma Rahman, Sangamon Co. Medical Society	Dr. Jerry Kruse, SIU
John Horvat, SIU	Allen Mays, SIU Paul O'Shea

**Call to order and roll call**

President CROKE called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm after noting a quorum was present.

**Approval of the Minutes of the February 11, 2021 Commission meeting**

On a motion by Commissioner SIMS, seconded by Commissioner GURNSEY, Commission members unanimously approved the minutes of the June 11, 2021 meeting.

**President's Report**

President CROKE welcomed new members and thanked out-going members for serving on the commission. Reviewed goals for the MIMD and summarized activities since the February meeting.

## Stakeholder Updates + Requests

- Kevin England, Memorial Senior VP, and Chief Administrative Officer: Memorial is holding on major campus development until they know what things will look like post-pandemic. Workforce development is a priority. Proud to be a partner on the development of the new Downtown YMCA at 4<sup>th</sup> and Carpenter.
- Commissioner MANDER, for St Johns HSHS, echoed the healthcare workforce issue raised by Memorial. The pandemic emphasized that partnership and collaborations are key in a community.
- Dr. Kruse, Provost at SIU School of Medicine, agreed with the stated Memorial and St John's workforce challenges. Capital development is on hold due to pandemic. Dr. Kruse also identified need to beautify the district and recognizes the medical needs of the residential community around the MIMD.
- Ozma Rahman, Sangamon County Medical Society, expressed thanks for being included.
- Mayor Langfelder thanked everyone for their participation and noted that Erica Austin will be the City's next appointee to the MIMD Commission. Appreciates the partnership with Memorial for the YMCA. Also identified housing as a need in the MIMD.
- Brian McFadden, Sangamon County: thrilled to see the high level of participation.
- Ryan McCrady, Springfield Sangamon Growth Alliance (SSGA): Echoed the concerns around workforce development and appropriate housing. Shared that SSGA will launch a portal geared to workforce development and trailing spouse programs.
- Senator Turner congratulates President Croke and new appointees. States that MIMD is posed to be a crown jewel for the 48th. Encourages Commissioners and stakeholders to reach out. The Senator wants to be a full partner in moving things forward and creating opportunities.
- Aly Grady, DCEO Team Regional Economic Development, offers assistance in facilitating interactions between MIMD and DCEO.
- Commissioner STREMFERFER asks if there are adequate resources for workforce development currently or if we need more. Kevin England noted the progress of nursing training, especially through the UIS program. He identified the need for more outreach to encourage people to enter the medical field.
- Commissioner AARON noted that St John's College of Nursing is a department of St. John's hospital that has been in existence for 135+ years. 95% of the graduates go to work at St. John's hospital. Teaching program has evolved to include more online opportunities, which has allowed the program to grow. Identified need to increase the diversity of nursing students, and has begun outreach.
- Ozma Rahman: the Medical Society is working on a program with the NAACP to encourage students to enter the healthcare field. Just getting started and looking for volunteers to talk to students as part of an after-school program. Will distribute a flyer.

- Dr. Kruse mentioned SIU's pipeline program that focuses on diversity, inclusion, and equity. There are now 296 med students at SIU, then go on to residency training (360 students). Takes about \$150,000/year to fund a medical student.

### **Financial Report**

**On a motion by Commissioner STREMERFER, seconded by Commissioner HURWITZ, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the January - March 2021 Financial Report.**

### **Program + Committee Reports and Recommendations**

- Biennial Report; President CROKE noted the required report has been filed and is available online at the MIMD website.

#### **Executive Committee**

- By-Laws Revisions: Need 10 days to review. President CROKE proposes a special meeting at 1pm on Wednesday April 21<sup>st</sup>. Will also elect a VP for the MIMD Commission at that time.
- Remote Meeting and Public Comment Policy

**Commissioner SIMS moves to approve the remote meeting policy as presented and Commissioner HURWITZ provides second. Unanimous approval.**

The public comment policy was tabled, to be considered as part of the bylaws revision.

### **Public Comment**

None.

### **Old Business**

- Incentive areas within the District.  
Abby Powell reviewed the Enterprise Zone, Opportunity Zone, and TIF tools.
- Signage.  
Abby Powell shared the locations of all MIMD signs in Springfield, Commissioner SIMS thanked the City Public Works Department.
- Comprehensive Master Plan  
President CROKE notes that this plan was issued in 2005 and it may be appropriate to update it to reflect current priorities. Thanked the Mayor for his offer to help that initiative.

**New business**

- Temporary Committee on the American Rescue Plan  
President CROKE asks for interested Commissioners to contact him directly. Emphasizes that we are at a crucial juncture for the commission and wants to be sure we are maximizing opportunities for funded projects in the MIMD.
- Advisory Boards  
President CROKE asks for ideas on public participants in MIMD advisory boards on Housing, Technology, Culture, Beautification, and Marketing.

**Adjournment**

On a motion from Commissioner HURWITZ, Second by Commissioner AARON, the meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Submitted by:

Joe Hurwitz, MIMD Commission Secretary