

DRWC
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
APRIL 24, 2026
MINUTES

A meeting of the Delaware River Waterfront Corporation was held on April 24, 2026 at 8:00 am via zoom conference pursuant to notice duly given under the By Laws and the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act.

Attending: Jay Goldstein, Bill Hankowsky, Mike Hauptman, John Mondlak, Matt Ruben, Donn Scott, Angela Val, Bill Wilson, Ellen Yin, Mario Zacharjasz

Also attending: Joe Forkin, Lizzie Woods, Jackie Lai, Sarah Eberle, Lavelle Young, Jessica Roberts, Larry Bell, Karen Thompson, Erika Joy Erb, Tre Rials, Mike Barone, Jasmine Wiggins, Katie Pistik, Gina DiBiase

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MINUTES

The minutes of the January 30, 2026 DRWC Board of Directors meeting were approved as submitted.

BUDGET & FINANCE

Larry Bell reported that the FY'25 audit was completed and has been circulated to the Board.

He stated that he received a draft of the calendar year 2024 Form 990 and hopes to have it finalized the following week.

Mr. Bell informed the board that DRWC is showing a loss that is \$160,000 worse than budgeted. He added that revenue was \$500,000 better than budget and that expenses were \$600,000 over budget. Larry said that this number is expected to drop as some of the expenses are moved into capital expenses.

Mr. Bell said that DRWC is awaiting a proposal from Citizens Bank and that DRWC is working with a pension consultant on the next phase of suspending the pension. Jay Goldstein said that it has been a long process with the pension suspension and that will have a huge variable on the profit and loss.

EOP

Larry Bell reported that numbers are better this year than last and that DRWC is trying for over 80% local spending.

REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE

Joe Forkin reported that Kimko signed the lease.

I-95 CAP

Lizzie Woods said that 18 steel beams will be installed across Columbus Boulevard and over I-95 northbound in May and in response to a question from John Mondlak, Ms. Woods stated that the beams should be installed simultaneously. She said that DRWC is progressing toward a GMP amendment execution with Keating. She then presented a resolution authorizing DRWC Staff to negotiate and enter into a contract with Geostructures in the approximate amount of \$480,000 to provide special inspection and testing services as part of the construction of the Penn's Landing Park. A motion was made, seconded and the resolution was approved.

DELAWARE RIVER TRAIL

PENN TREATY PARK TO THE BATTERY

Ms. Woods reported that mobilization is expected in May and that completion is expected in 3 to 4 months.

NORTHBANK 2

Lizzie Woods said that the next segment of the trail should have design complete in 2027 and construction should begin in 2028. She then presented a resolution authorizing DRWC staff to apply to the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for a grant to support the Delaware River Trail - Northbank 2 Construction project and confirmed that Joseph Forkin is authorized to sign the grant agreement, if rewarded. A motion was made, seconded and the resolution was approved.

CUMBERLAND STREET CONNECTOR

Ms. Woods reported that NV5 will schedule a pre-application meeting with the Philadelphia Streets Department and PennDOT will draft a concept for DRWC to review by next week.

SOUTH WETLANDS PARK

Lizzie Woods said that responses were submitted for the second round of questions to the joint application and that grants were received to support final construction documentation of Phase 1 of the project and educational/interpretative signage. She then presented a resolution authorizing DRWC staff to negotiate and enter into a contract amendment with Olin in an amount not to exceed \$682,747 to develop construction documents for South Wetlands Park Phase 1 and conceptual plans for the park's educational and identity signage. A motion was made, seconded and the resolution was approved.

WASHINGTON AVENUE CONNECTOR

Ms. Woods stated that the trees and landscaping will be installed on the South side by the end of June and that the project should be completed by the end of August. She then shared a video that an influencer made of the progress.

WATERFRONT SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCY PLAN

Ms. Woods said that the final edits to the report are underway and that staff was developing summary documents for each department. She added that staff is developing first year pilot projects for composting and ecological programming that should be completed this month.

DATA & RESEARCH

Tre Rials reported that this fall marks the 15th anniversary of the release of the Master Plan for the Central Delaware and that a report card was created to examine how DRWC has adhered to the principles of the plan and the goals set forth. He said that this report would be shared in the coming weeks. He then added that pedestrian counters were installed on the trail and at access points that will measure the impact of the trail.

FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS

FERRY

Lavelle Young reported that the ferry service will open on May 9th and there will be cross promoting with Camden and that the concerts at Freedom Mortgage Pavillion will have a huge impact on the number of riders.

DELAWARE RIVER TRAIL NORTH/I-95 HEADQUARTERS

Mr. Young stated that DRWC signed an agreement with the PPA and that signage is being placed on the site. He said that DRWC is working with the 26th Police District for in-kind services for them to park their vehicles and they will assist DRWC with security of the sites. Mr. Forkin added that the 26th District has been excellent in helping DRWC with security issues.

TRIENNIAL PIER INSPECTIONS

PENN'S LANDING

Mr. Forkin stated that inspections are needed for Penn's Landing infrastructure (main pier, quay pier, connecting pier, and Chart House Pier. He then presented a resolution authorizing DRWC staff to negotiate and enter into a contract with Childs Engineering for inspection services for DRWC pier and marine infrastructure in the not-to-exceed amount of \$100,000. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

CHERRY STREET PIER SUBSTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

Mr. Forkin said that multi-year repairs to the substructure are needed based on the last inspection report and that the first year focuses on 25 most critical bents.

He then presented a resolution authorizing DRWC staff to negotiate and enter into a contract with AP Construction for construction services for Cherry Street Pier Substructure Improvements Project in the approximate amount of \$1,600,000. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

RACE STREET PIER & PENN'S LANDING SUBSTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

Joe Forkin presented a resolution authorizing DRWC staff to negotiate and enter into a contract with AP Construction for construction services for the Race Street Pier and Penn's Landing Substructure Improvements Project in the approximate amount of \$600,000. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

PARKS & ATTRACTIONS UPDATE

Jackie Lai reported the Cherry Street Pier season is beginning and that Spruce Street Harbor Park will open on May 22nd with new marina basin attractions

including wheels of fun, Swan boat rentals, Surrey bike rentals, Chili boats and pontoon pedal boat rentals.

BLUE CROSS RIVER RINK SUMMERFEST

Mr. Lai said that Blue Cross RiverRink Summerfest will open Memorial Day weekend and described this year's offerings.

Joe Forkin then congratulated Sarah Eberle on her promotion to Vice President of Arts and Programming.

PROGRAMMING & EVENTS

Sarah Eberle reported that Spruce Street Harbor Park and Summerfest have a full calendar of programs all season long. She added that there will be Friday night jazz and that the barge will host a Thai Chi program and Summerfest will host Latin nights and a DJ.

Ms. Eberle said that the Cherry Street Pier has a full calendar every weekend and that there has been great success with the events. She said that there will be a lantern festival the coming weekend that all 750 tickets have been claimed.

Ms. Eberle stated that the Race Street Pier will host Wellness on the Waterfront 3 days per week and Fishing with Friends will take place on Pier 68. In response to a question from John Mondlak, Ms. Eberle said that a fishing license is not required.

Sarah then informed the board that major exhibitions are planned for the quincentennial celebrations. She added that this is the 40th year for the Caribbean Festival and that Celebrate Asia is back. She said that the Independence Day weekend fireworks are planned for June 27th at 9:30.

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

Erika Joy Erb reported on the top 5 winter wins: Winterfest Instagram grew 17%, TikTok had 2.6M views, DRWC.com reached 572K users, December media coverage reached 50M+, and Valentine's Day campaign generated more ticket sales and revenue since 2020. She then described plans for the new brand and the new website.

PROMENADE

Joe Forkin told the board that an email, requesting the support of the DRWC board for ticket sales and sponsorships, is forthcoming. He urged the board to show their support.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There being no public comment, the meeting was adjourned.