

**STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
The Metropolitan District
July 17, 2024**

PRESENT: Commissioners Joan Gentile, James Healy, Allen Hoffman, Gary Johnson, Bhupen Patel, David Steuber, Alvin Taylor, and District Chairman Donald M. Currey (8)

REMOTE ATTENDANCE: Commissioners Andrew Adil, Kyle Anderson, Richard Bush, Esther Clarke, Byron Lester, Jackie Mandyck and Pasquale Salemi (7)

ABSENT: Commissioners John Avedisian, William DiBella, John Gale, Jean Holloway and Diane Lewis (5)

ALSO PRESENT: Commissioner Dimple Desai (Remote Attendance)
Scott W. Jellison, Chief Executive Officer
Christopher Stone, District Counsel
John S. Mirtle, District Clerk
Christopher Levesque, Chief Operating Officer
Susan Negrelli, Director of Engineering (Remote Attendance)
Thomas Tyler, Director of Facilities
Julie Price, Executive Assistant
Jacob Aviles, IT Consultant (Remote Attendance)
Matthew McAuliffe, IT Consultant (Remote Attendance)

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Gentile called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM

PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATIVE TO AGENDA ITEMS

No one from the public appeared to be heard.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 27, 2024

On motion made by Commissioner Johnson and duly seconded, the meeting minutes of May 15, 2024 were approved.

CURRENT MDC MISSION STATEMENT

Chairperson Gentile led a discussion with the Committee members regarding the current MDC mission statement and stated that she will bring back verbiage for approval at the next Strategic Planning Committee meeting.

CURRENT DISTRICT CORE VALUES

Chairperson Gentile led a discussion with the Committee members regarding MDC core values.

Commissioner Steuber entered the meeting at 5:30 PM.

UPDATE ON MEMBER TOWN MEETINGS

Chairperson Gentile informed the committee that the East Hartford Commissioners and Citizen Members met with East Hartford Mayor Connor Martin.

District Chairman Currey updated the Committee on his meetings with member towns, having already met with Hartford and West Hartford. He has a meeting scheduled with Bloomfield on July 24th and plans to contact Windsor shortly to set up a meeting.

OPPORTUNITY FOR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Judy Allen, of West Hartford, stated that she believes the language in the core values needs to be looked at. As an example, she believes the word “tolerance” is not appropriate and the language should be more inclusive and appropriate. She also wondered if the core values should wade into the territory of sexual orientation as something that MDC values. She believes it is important that the core values and mission statement are also included in the employee handbook.

Mary Pelletier, of Hartford, is a former member of the MDC Citizen Advisory Committee and founder of the Park River Group. She stated that watershed of MDC is very different from the drinking water watershed. She would like to stay involved in this process and receive notice of these meetings via email going forward.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:51 PM

ATTEST:

John S. Mirtle, Esq.
District Clerk

Date of Approval