



Charter Township of Meridian
Meridian Economic Development Corporation
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864
Thursday, December 6, 2018- Minutes

Members

Present: Trustee Kathy Ann Sundland, Mikhail Murshak, Jade Sims, Kimberly Thompson, Brenda Chapman, Shawn Dunham, Joel Conn, Adam Carlson, Township Manager Frank Walsh, David Ledebuhr, and Tom Conway

Members

Absent: None.

Staff/Boards

Contributing: Treasurer Phil Deschaine, Planning Commission Vice-Chair John Scott-Craig, Principal Planner Peter Menser, Executive Assistant Michelle Prinz, and Economic Development Director Chris Buck

Others

Present: Trustee Pat Jackson.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Sims called the meeting to order at 7:33 am and Member Thompson read the mission statement. Welcome to new member Trustee Kathy Ann Sundland.

2. **MISSION:** Set the standard in creating an entrepreneurial culture, be the example for revitalization of our business districts, and be the leaders in building sustainable public/private partnerships.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION BY MEMBER CHAPMAN TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER THOMPSON. MOTION PASSES 11-0.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes-October 11, 2018
- b. Financial Report
- c. Development Projects Update

MOTION BY MEMBER CARLSON TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER THOMPSON. MOTION PASSES 11-0.

5. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

6. OLD BUSINESS

a. Engaging Public Schools

Director Buck reported that Okemos High School has an entrepreneurial class. The class is planning a Shark Tank type of program in February. This may be an opportunity for the EDC to be involved.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. 2019 Goals

2018 was very productive and most goals were achieved. The EDC fell short two goals: working with the schools and business attraction and retention plan and will be carried over into 2019. A new list of proposed goals were presented and some changes were discussed. Director Buck will make revisions and welcomes others via email and will present an updated list of 2019 goals for consideration, discussion and hopefully adoption at the January 2019 meeting.

b. 2019 Officers

MOTION BY MEMBER MURSHAK TO NOMINATE JADE SIMS AS CHAIR, KIMBERLY THOMPSON AS VICE-CHAIR AND FRANK WALSH AS SECRETARY FOR 2019. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER CONN. MOTION PASSES 11-0.

c. Resolution to Change Signature Cards on EDC Accounts

For the purpose of removing Treasurer Brixie and adding Treasurer Deschaine.

MOTION BY MEMBER LEDEBUHR TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO CHANGE SIGNATURE CARDS ON EDC ACCOUNTS. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER CONN. MOTION PASSES 11-0.

d. CADL Letter of Support for DDA TIF Plan

Discussion was had around encouraging everyone to consider writing their own letter to CADL. Sample talking points were given in the packet.

e. Planning Commission Vacancies

There are currently two vacancies on the Planning Commission. Planner Menser discussed the responsibilities for a Commissioner and encouraged applications for folks that are already serving the Township. Trustee Jackson also commented on her favorable experiences working on the Planning Commission.

8. TOWNSHIP REPORT

a. Township Board

- 2019 goal setting
- Medical marihuana ordinance
- Recent presentation for a senior housing community

- New Treasurer-Phil Deschaine
- Citizen Survey was recently mailed to 1,400 random households

b. Township Manager

- Investigative contract
- Fire Department ISO rating recently changed from 4 to 3
- Work on PICAs for 2019

c. Planning Commission

Planning Commission Vice-Chair John Scot-Craig provided a summary of recent Planning Commission activities.

d. Chair

- Chair Sims reinforced the need for a business retention and attraction plan and discussed a desire to update to the bylaws in 2019.

e. Staff

- Obtained Redevelopment Ready Communities Certification
- Working on the DDA TIF Plan
- Director Buck and Director Perry visited mall leadership in TN

9. COMMUNITY REPORTS

a. Meridian Mall

- Launch Trampoline Park is scheduled to open in January
- Santa ribbon cutting is coming up
- Holiday tenants are on the rise

b. Farmers' Market

- Deeds are prepared for land swap
- Working on a grant through the Greater Lansing Realtors Association
- Meeting with MEDC and LEAP regarding grant funds

c. MABA

Member Conway reported that MABA is now meeting at the MSUFCU community room on Mt. Hope and Farm Lane.

10. OPEN DISCUSSION/BOARD COMMENTS

Treasurer Brixie's farewell party is tomorrow from 12:00pm-1:30pm. Trustee Deschaine's swearing in as Treasurer will follow at 2:00pm.

11. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

12. NEXT MEETING DATE

- January 10, 2019 at 7:30am

13. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objection, Chair Sims adjourned the meeting at 9:12 am.