



Charter Township of Meridian
Meridian Economic Development Corporation
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864
Thursday, February 7, 2019– Minutes

Members

Present: Treasurer Phil Deschaine, Shawn Dunham, Mikhail Murshak, Jade Sims, Kimberly Thompson, Brenda Chapman, Joel Conn, Adam Carlson, David Ledebuhr, and Tom Conway

Members

Absent: Trustee Kathy Ann Sundland and Township Manager Frank Walsh

Others

Present: Planning Commission Vice-Chair John Scott-Craig, Director of Community Planning and Development Mark Kieselbach, Executive Assistant Michelle Prinz, and Economic Development Director Chris Buck

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Sims called the meeting to order at 7:34 am and Member Chapman read the mission statement.

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 CARLSON TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER LEDEBUHR. MOTION PASSES 10-0.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes-January 10, 2019
- b. Financial Report
- c. Development Projects Update
- d. Final 2019 Goals

MOTION BY MEMBER DUNHAM TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER CONN. MOTION PASSES 10-0.

5. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

6. OLD BUSINESS

a. Committee Reports

i. Bylaws

The committee has been reviewing the bylaws and looking for necessary updates and compliance. They did discover the bylaws state elections are every other year in even years. So, the EDC will begin that process in 2020. In addition, it states a deputy secretary is an additional person needed on the Board.

MOTION BY CHAIR SIMS TO NOMINATE BRENDA CHAPMAN TO SERVE AS DEPUTY SECRETARY THROUGH 12/31/2019. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER THOMPSON. MOTION PASSES 10-0.

ii. Business Promotion

The committee will be meeting with MABA to discuss sponsoring a local business award. Also, working with the Township Communications Department to highlight the monthly MABA sponsors.

iii. School District Engagement

The committee has not met yet.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Okemos Schools Shark Tank Participation and Donation

The event has been canceled and is postponed until further notice. If the event does occur, the following motion was proposed:

MOTION BY MEMBER DUNHAM TO HAVE THE EDC CONTRIBUTE A MAXIMUM OF \$100 PER EDC MEMBER (MAXIMUM OF TWO) ELECTING TO JUDGE AT THE OKEMOS HIGH SCHOOL SHARK TANK EVENT PROVIDED IT IS HELD IN 2019. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER LEDEBUHR. MOTION PASSES 10-0.

b. Farmers' Market Donation Payment Request

MOTION BY MEMBER THOMPSON TO PROVIDE A CHECK TO MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP FROM THE EDC FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,000, AS A PREVIOUSLY APPROVED DONATION FOR THE MARKETPLACE ON THE GREEN PROJECT, WITH THE REMAINING \$40,000 PAID BY MAY 1, 2018. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER CONN. MOTION PASSES 10-0.

8. TOWNSHIP REPORT

a. Township Board

- Citizen survey results were discussed
- Local road millage is being discussed
- Non-zoning medical marihuana
- Approved the four taxing jurisdiction TIF agreements

b. Township Manager

None.

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

d. Chair
None.

e. Staff

- Updated final EDC goals were included in packet
- MEDC is providing \$20,000 of technical support for the DDA plan update process
- The Village of Okemos concept plan in being unveiled this month at the Planning Commission, Township Board and several neighborhood meetings
- Director Buck reviewed the current development projects

9. COMMUNITY REPORTS

a. Meridian Mall

- Launch Trampoline Park is scheduled for a ribbon cutting on February 27th
- Meeting with group for the vacant Younkers wings
- Things Remembered and Charlotte Russe are closing and filed bankruptcy

b. Farmers' Market

- Working on the shared use agreement with our Township attorney
- Director Maisner has revised the site plan

c. MABA

Member Conway reported that MABA is interested in working with EDC on business awards. The next MABA meeting is tomorrow at 7:45am.

10. OPEN DISCUSSION/BOARD COMMENTS

None.

11. PUBLIC REMARKS

Two MSU journalism students observed the meeting for a class and will be doing a story through the MSU newsroom.

12. NEXT MEETING DATE

- March 7, 2019 at 7:30am

13. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objection, Chair Sims adjourned the meeting at 9:08 am.