



Charter Township of Meridian
Meridian Economic Development Corporation
Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864
Thursday, June 5, 2025– Minutes -DRAFT

Members

Present: Dave Ledebuhr, Adam Carlson, Joy Hazard, David Fosdick, Adam Hodges, and Trustee Kathy Sundland

Members

Absent: Nate Ide and Treasurer Phil Deschaine

Others

Present: Economic Development Director Amber Clark

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Carlson called the meeting to order at 7:35am and Member Ledebuhr 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. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBER

Welcomed new member Adam Hodges, General Manager at the Meridian Mall.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION BY MEMBER FOSDICK TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER LEDEBUHR. MOTION PASSES 6-0.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes-Meeting May 1, 2025
- b. Development Projects

MOTION BY MEMBER LEDEBUHR TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER FOSDICK. MOTION PASSES 6-0.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

Director Clark announced that member Turlapati has resigned.

7. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

8. OLD BUSINESS

None.

9. NEW BUSINESS

a. Annual Training-MEDC Updates and Development Incentives

Director Clark stated this is required annual training because of our Redevelopment Ready Community (RRC) Certification. The EDC will review module one-Introduction into Community Investing and the Field Guide and Investment Training Packet from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC). The EDC will discuss the learnings at the next meeting.

b. EDC Budget

Director Clark shared a draft budget that includes revenue of \$66,121.71 and expenses of \$26,000. The expense items include contributions to the Chinese New Year, Juneteenth, and Lansing 5:01. The budget will be finalized at the next meeting.

There was discussion about the former Township Redevelopment Fund that was funded through Township Board designated dollars from the former MARC building sale. Director Clark stated there has been no discussion about reinstating this fund to aid with development. The Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is forming a task force to dedicate time and attention to the Village of Okemos development. Director Clark suggested the EDC may consider having a representative serve on this new task force.

c. Annual Economic Development Strategy Review

Continuing to look at our strategy is part of the requirement for the Township's RRC certification. The EDC reviewed the 2023 Economic Development Strategy. As it relates to housing, Director Clark mentioned the township is seeing growing interest in Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) and there is currently a deficit of 1,500-1,600 new housing units based on the housing study. There will be more discussions on the strategy over the next few meetings.

10. REPORTS/OPEN DISCUSSION

a. Township Board Updates

Trustee Sundland reported the following:

- Township Board Listening Sessions are scheduled for June 10 at the Central Park Pavilion, September 30 at St. Luke Church, and November 13 at 242 Community Center. All sessions will be from 6:00pm-7:30pm.
- Celebrate Meridian will be on June 27 and 28
- Juneteenth will be on June 20
- Working on parking ordinance updates
- Updating design contract for the Senior/Community Center
- Placing a Township Board Trustee on the East Lansing-Meridian Water & Sewer Authority Board of Trustees

Director Clark stated she will be sending out messages on some upcoming ribbon cuttings.
The EDC decided to cancel the July meeting.

12. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

13. NEXT MEETING DATE

- August 7, 2025 at 7:30am at the Township Municipal Building-Town Hall Room.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objection, Chair Carlson adjourned the meeting at 8:19am.