



Charter Township of Meridian
Meridian Economic Development Corporation
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864
Thursday, January 9, 2020– Minutes

Members

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

Members

Absent: Township Manager Frank Walsh, Trustee Kathy Ann Sundland, Tom Conway, and Adam Carlson

Others

Present: Executive Assistant Michelle Prinz, Community Planning & Development Director Mark Kieselbach, Deputy Township Manager Derek Perry and Economic Development Director Chris Buck

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Sims called the meeting to order at 7:30 am.

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 CONN TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER LEDEBUHR. MOTION PASSES 8-0.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes-December 5, 2019
- b. Financial Report
- c. Development Projects

MOTION BY MEMBER DUNHAM TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER CONN. MOTION PASSES 8-0.

5. PUBLIC REMARKS

Guest from the Greater Lansing Chinese Association (GLCA) was present and requested a need for funds this year to support the Chinese New Year event at Meridian Mall on February 26, 2020.

MOTION BY MEMBER CONN TO APPROVE \$1,000 TO SUPPORT THE 2020 CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION TO COVER THE COSTS OF THE MERIDIAN MALL RENTAL. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER MURSHAK. MOTION PASSES 7-1 (OBSTAINED-MEMBER DUNHAM).

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Officer Elections

Had discussion regarding the board for 2020-2021. The existing board members are willing to continue serving. Jade Sims-Chair, Kimberly Thompson-Vice Chair, Frank Walsh-Secretary, Brenda Chapman-Deputy Secretary and Phil Deschaine-Treasurer.

MOTION BY MEMBER LEDEBUHR TO CONTINUE WITH THE EDC CURRENT BOARD OFFICERS THROUGH DECEMBER 2021. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER THOMPSON. MOTION PASSES 8-0.

b. 2020 Goals

Reviewed and discussed the draft 2020 goals.

MOTION BY MEMBER MURSHAK TO DELETE THE FOLLOWING TEXT IN GOAL 3B. TO PRESERVE THE SUBDIVISIONS AND "EASTERN THIRD" OF THE TOWNSHIP AS RURAL. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER CONN. MOTION PASSES 8-0.

MOTION BY MEMBER LEDEBUHR TO APPROVE THE AMENDED 2020 GOALS AS PRESENTED. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER DUNHAM. MOTION PASSES 8-0.

c. 2020 Budget

Discussed draft 2020 budget which includes expenditures of \$2,000 for community outreach and \$15,000 for community projects.

MOTION BY MEMBER DUNHAM TO APPROVE THE 2020 EDC BUDGET AS PRESENTED. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER CONN. MOTION PASSES 8-0.

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. Committee Reports

i. School District Engagement

Director Buck discussed that Scott Weaver is willing to donate 2 food carts to the schools. Mr. Weaver is currently working on gathering the costs for the rear assembly and wrap for both carts. Once he has those amounts, we will have further discussion about covering those potential costs.

8. TOWNSHIP REPORT

a. Township Board

- Approved the Township 2020 goals

b. Township Manager

Deputy Manager Perry reported for Manager Walsh.

- The joint Township Boards and Commission meeting will be on January 28th at 6:00pm.
- Working on the 2019 Annual Report. It will be published on January 24th.

c. Planning Commission

Director Kieselbach provided a summary of recent Planning Commission activities.

d. Chair

None.

e. Staff

Director Buck reviewed the development projects and the businesses that opened in 2019.

9. COMMUNITY REPORTS

a. Meridian Mall

- High Caliber Karting is considering an expansion
- Express and Hallmark will be closing

b. Marketplace on the Green

Dave Ledebuhr reported we will be breaking ground in the spring. The pavilion will be delivered in early March. They are having a meeting with Consumers Energy to discuss solar panels for the market.

c. MABA

Director Buck reported that the new MABA Board is in place. The December award ceremony was a success.

10. OPEN DISCUSSION/BOARD COMMENTS

Treasurer Deschaine shared a nice article about Meridian development in the Focus magazine.

11. PUBLIC REMARKS

None

12. NEXT MEETING DATE

- February 6, 2020 at 7:30am

13. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objection, Chair Sims adjourned the meeting at 9:00am.