



Charter Township of Meridian
Meridian Economic Development Corporation
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864
Thursday, May 3, 2018– Minutes

Members

Present: Trustee Phil Deschaine, Mikhail Murshak, Jade Sims, Kimberly Thompson, Tom Conway, Brenda Chapman, Shawn Dunham, David Ledebuhr

Members Township Manager Frank Walsh, Joel Conn and Adam Carlson

Absent:

Others

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

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Sims called the meeting to order at 7:35 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 LEDEBUHR TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER DUNHAM. MOTION PASSES 8-0.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Communications
- b. Development Projects Update
- c. Minutes-April 12, 2018

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

5. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

6. PRESENTATION

Josh Holliday and Joe Carr from the Lansing Area Economic Partnership (LEAP) discussed resources LEAP provides to the Township related to business attraction, business expansion, talent/placemaking and the new economy division.

7. FINANCIAL REPORT

Treasurer Brixie distributed and reviewed the financial report dated 5/3/18. Report on file.

MOTION BY MEMBER LEDEBUHR TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER CONWAY. MOTION PASSES 8-0.

8. APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS

None.

9. PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

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

10. MERIDIAN MALL REPORT

- With the closing of the two Younkers storefronts, the mall is discussing the idea of a restaurant pad
- Carnival is in the parking lot through May 13th
- Lotus Beauty Lounge is opening

11. FARMERS MARKET UPDATE

Nothing new to report.

12. MABA UPDATE

- 125 Members
- Annual golf outing is scheduled for June 8th at Meridian Sun
- Working on a business expo to be held at the Meridian Mall in October benefiting the EDC

13. NEW BUSINESS/CHAIR REPORT

a. Burcham Hills EDC Bonds Update

Burcham Hills is interested in refinancing the existing bonds to build a 23 million dollar expansion with 44 new units. A public hearing is scheduled for May 23rd at 10:00am at the Public Safety Building, Nelson Room.

MOTION BY MEMBER CONWAY TO CREATE AN EDC SUB COMMITTEE REGARDING THE BURCHAM HILLS BOND ISSUE. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER MURSHAK. MOTION PASSES 8-0.

b. 2018 Goals-Review

Staff is still working on designing and implementing a business attraction and retention program, as well as, engaging with school districts.

14. OLD BUSINESS

a. Meridian Redevelopment Fund

According to the State Act two new EDC members will be appointed while the project is active. The application has been finalized and the checklist has been modified. The EDC will issue the funds.

15. CHAIR REPORT

None.

16. STAFF REPORT

- Lotus Beauty open at the Meridian Mall
- Kellie's Wooden Skate opened
- Okemos Elevation is leasing now and having an opening party on June 15th
- Baskin Robbins coming soon
- Director Buck visited the communities of Birmingham and Northville

17. TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT

None.

18. TOWNSHIP BOARD REPORT

- Passed the MUPUD zoning amendment for Downtown Haslett and Okemos
- Approved expansion of Redi-Ride hours. Added 15 hours per week and 5 additional stops.

19. OPEN DISCUSSION/BOARD COMMENTS

None.

20. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

21. NEXT MEETING DATE

- June 7, 2018 at 7:30am

22. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objection, Chair Sims adjourned the meeting at 9:17 am.