



Charter Township of Meridian
Meridian Economic Development Corporation
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864
Thursday, March 7, 2019- Minutes -DRAFT

Members

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

Members

Absent: Jade Sims and Adam Carlson

Others

Present: Treasurer Phil Deschaine ex-Officio, 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

Vice-Chair Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:32 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 DUNHAM. MOTION PASSES 9-0.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes-February 7, 2019
- b. Financial Report
- c. Development Projects Update

MOTION BY MEMBER CONN TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER LEDEBUHR. MOTION PASSES 9-0.

5. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

6. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Committee Reports
 - i. Bylaws

The committee has been reviewing the bylaws and working with our counsel on questions. They plan to propose a draft at the April EDC meeting.
 - ii. Business Promotion

Director Buck has met twice with Communications Director Guthrie to discuss highlighting local businesses through video segments.
 - iii. School District Engagement

Member Conn and Member Murshak participated as judges for the Okemos High School Shark Tank event.
- b. Okemos High School “5 Minutes Tops” Participation and Donation

The EDC contributed \$200 toward the prize money for the three winning teams.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Haslett PICA Proposed Study

Director Buck discussed working with the MEDC to develop a feasibility study that may serve as a resource for potential Haslett PICA developers. Perhaps the EDC may be interested in the data and might consider funding a portion of the study. Director Buck will get more information on this for the April meeting.

8. TOWNSHIP REPORT

- a. Township Board
 - Medical Marihuana
 - Village of Okemos Concept Plan
 - Redi-Ride Millage discussion
- b. Township Manager
 - Brianne Randall-Gay independent investigation will be complete March 25, 2019
 - Township Board will be reviewing fireworks ordinance and vending door to door
 - On Tuesday, March 12, 2019 there will be a joint meeting between the Township Board and the Planning Commission regarding medical marihuana
 - Goals for 2019 include demolition of Downtown Okemos, fixing our roads, and relocating the farmers’ market
 - New police senior watch program and police are working on state accreditation
- c. Planning Commission

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

None.
- e. Staff
 - 17 respondents from CIA survey

- Village of Okemos is beginning weekly check in meetings with all parties involved with the development
- Director Buck reviewed the current development projects

9. COMMUNITY REPORTS

a. Meridian Mall

- Launch Trampoline Park grand opening is coming soon
- The Mall received a significant tax reduction
- There is a great prospect to take over the North Younkers space for an entertainment use

b. Farmers' Market

- Revised the shared use agreement
- JCPenney has signed and waiting on Macy's

c. MABA

A meeting is scheduled with the Township to discuss partnering for the MABA awards.

10. OPEN DISCUSSION/BOARD COMMENTS

Treasurer Deschaine mentioned significant changes from public act 38 requiring DDA financial information to be on the website by June 30, 2019. Member Chapman expressed interest in taking an EDC field trip to another community to observe their practices.

11. PUBLIC REMARKS

Manager Walsh mentioned Redi-Ride millage will continue to be discussed at the Township Board.

12. NEXT MEETING DATE

- April 11, 2019 at 7:30am

13. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objection, Vice-Chair Thompson adjourned the meeting at 9:01 am.