



Charter Township of Meridian
Corridor Improvement Authority
5000 Okemos Road, Okemos, MI 48864
Wednesday, March 24, 2021- Minutes -DRAFT

Members

Present: Bruce Peffers, Supervisor Ron Styka, Eric Foster, Jeff Ross, and Barry Goetz

Members

Absent: Kellie Johnson, Chris Rigterink, and Brian Jones

Others

Present: Neighborhoods & Economic Development Director Amber Clark and Community Planning & Development Director Kieselbach

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Foster called the meeting to order and Member Peffers 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 SUPERVISOR STYKA TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER GOETZ. MOTION PASSES 5-0.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Minutes-January 27, 2021

MOTION BY MEMBER ROSS TO APPROVE THE MINUTES. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER GOETZ. MOTION PASSES 5-0.

5. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

6. OLD BUSINESS

a. Approval-Form Based Code Letter to Planning Commission
Director Clark and Chair Foster reviewed the letter supporting Form Base Code. Director Clark reviewed Planning Commission Chair Hendrickson's presentation from last meeting. The group discussed the letter. They agreed the letter was excellent. One grammatical change was suggested in the third paragraph of the letter. Change the word generates to generate.

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR STYKA TO AUTHORIZE THE CIA CHAIR TO SIGN THE AMENDED LETTER AND FORWARD IT TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER PEFFERS. MOTION PASSES 5-0.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. 2021 CIA Goals and Work Plan

Director Clark reviewed the six main draft goals, 8 tasks to drive the completion of the goals and 13 objectives. Discussion on the goals included surveying businesses on their priorities. It was discussed to review one to two goals at each CIA meeting and increase business and resident involvement at meetings. Also, making the following three changes:

- Add “not in any particular order”
- Spell out SWOT to strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT)
- Change the wording in goal 2 to read: Encourage the development of a common vision for the Corridor businesses through dialogue with businesses and residents.

MOTION BY MEMBER PEFFERS TO APPROVE THE AMENDED 2021 CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY GOALS. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER GOETZ. MOTION PASSES 5-0.

b. MDOT Letter Response

Director Clark reviewed the comments from MDOT. They included the following:

- The request for pedestrian crosswalks are under review.
- They are not considering bike lanes at this time.
- Additional lighting would have to include local funding.
- Speed limit reduction can ultimately lead to increased crashes.
- A traffic study will be done for the Montrose traffic signal request.

There was discussion regarding the Montrose traffic study and that perhaps the study should not just be limited to Montrose. Director Clark suggested a follow up letter be sent and to request they attend the next CIA meeting to discuss and clarify the issue.

MOTION BY MEMBER PEFFERS TO APPROVE THE CREATION AND SENDING A LETTER TO CLARIFY THE MONTROSE/SHORT ISSUE WITH AN INVITATION TO ATTEND THE NEXT CIA MEETING. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER ROSS. MOTION PASSES 5-0.

8. DEVELOPMENT PROJECT REVIEW

a. Woda Cooper

Plans have been submitted for this low to moderate income development behind Whole Foods. It will be coming to the Planning Commission soon.

b. Buddy's Pizza

This development is moving forward and working on storm water improvements for the site. Permits have been approved for the work in the floodplain.

c. Other Current Development Projects

Director Clark discussed the following:

- The Mall is having increased activities. Gilbert's Chocolates has left the Mall.
- Little Emil's will be opening at the Mall in the former A & W location.
- Juice Nation has opened on Okemos Road.
- Hungry Howie's is moving from Haslett Village Square to Okemos and Grand River.

- Haslett Marathon is scheduled to begin construction on April 5th.

9. REPORTS

a. Township Board

Supervisor Styka reported the following:

- Expanded deer management program was successful with 326 deer.
- The once every 3 years citizen survey is moving forward.
- The 2nd year of the local road program is underway.
- Rezoning at Jolly and Kansas was denied at the Planning Commission Meeting.
- Recreational marihuana discussion is ongoing.
- Installing new Township entrance signs. One will be at the beginning of the CIA.
- Diversity, equity and inclusion committee is underway.
- The Police Department began a new partnership with Community Mental Health to provide telehealth mental health services when needed.

b. Planning Commission

Director Kieselbach reported the updates from the latest meeting.

c. Chair

None.

d. Staff

Director Clark congratulated Director Kieselbach on his upcoming retirement after 41 years of service to the Township.

10. OPEN DISCUSSION/BOARD COMMENTS

None.

11. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

12. NEXT MEETING DATE

- May 26, 2021 at 6:00pm

13. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objection, Chair Ross adjourned the meeting.