



Charter Township of Meridian
Meridian Economic Development Corporation
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864
Thursday, January 10, 2019- Minutes

Members

Present: Treasurer Phil Deschaine, Trustee Kathy Ann Sundland, Mikhail Murshak, Jade Sims, Kimberly Thompson, Brenda Chapman, Joel Conn, Adam Carlson, Township Manager Frank Walsh, David Ledebuhr, and Tom Conway

Members

Absent: Shawn Dunham

Others

Present: 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

Chair Sims called the meeting to order at 7:30 am and Member Murshak 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 CHAPMAN TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER THOMPSON. MOTION PASSES 11-0.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes-December 6, 2018
- b. Financial Report
- c. Development Projects Update
- d. Burcham Bonds Conclusion Letter
- e. DDA TIF Presentation and Results Summary

MOTION BY MEMBER LEDEBUHR TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER CONN. MOTION PASSES 11-0.

5. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

6. OLD BUSINESS

a. 2019 Goals

Discussion was had around goal 2a. Consensus was to delete the last sentence –Consider Annual Business Awards and in its place add-Work with regional business advocacy group where appropriate.

MOTION BY MEMBER LEDEBUHR TO ADOPT THE AMENDED 2019 GOALS. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER CONN. MOTION PASSES 11-0.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Subcommittee to work with Communications Department on Goal 2a-highlighting local businesses

Discussed who would be interested in working with MABA and other organizations. Member Thompson, Chair Sims and Member Conway expressed interest.

b. Subcommittee to develop a plan for Goal 1b-to engage public schools

Discussed who would be interested in developing a plan with the schools. Chair Sims and Member Murshak expressed interest with the assistance of Manager Walsh, Director Buck and Marsha Madle as an engaged citizen, but not an EDC member.

c. Bylaws Update

Chair Sims discussed the need for an update to the bylaws. Member Murshak, Member Chapman and Chair Sims expressed interest.

MOTION BY CHAIR SIMS TO APPOINT THREE SUBCOMMITTEES FOR THE PURPOSES OF RECOGNIZING LOCAL BUSINESSES, ENGAGING THE LOCAL SCHOOLS AND UPDATING THE EDC BYLAWS. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER LEDEBUHR. MOTION PASSES 11-0.

8. TOWNSHIP REPORT

a. Township Board

- New Board Trustee Courtney Wisinski
- Approved medical marihuana non-zoning ordinance
- Approved 2019 goals
- Manager Walsh received a great performance evaluation

b. Township Manager

- 2019 goals include farmers' market relocation, local roads, downtown Haslett and Okemos, Okemos Road boardwalk
- Private investigation taking place for Brianne Randall-Gay
- Joint Board and Commission meeting on Tuesday night
- Citizen Survey results will be available in a couple weeks
- DEQ is onboard with the Village of Okemos project
- There are openings on the Planning Commission

c. Planning Commission

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

d. Chair

- Chair Sims stated she is excited about the three new subcommittees, as well as, the Downtown Okemos Development.

e. Staff

- Director Buck updated the group on the current development projects
- Director Buck reviewed the DDA TIF Plan presentation that was done with the taxing jurisdictions
- True North Development Concept Plan for Downtown Okemos will be coming to the Township Board in February
- Director Buck reviewed the activities at Haslett Village Square and Carriage Hills
- Reviewed MI Career Quest event sponsorships

9. COMMUNITY REPORTS

a. Meridian Mall

- Launch Trampoline Park is scheduled for a soft opening the last weekend in January and early-mid February for public opening

b. Farmers' Market

- Received a grant through the Lansing Association of Realtors and working on submitting a grant through the MI Association of Realtors
- Working with Patronicity to fundraise \$50,000. If we can meet that goal by 2/8, MEDC will match the \$50,000.

c. MABA

Member Conway reported that the next meeting is tomorrow in the MSUFCU community room. MABA presented several awards to local businesses in December. Member Thompson received the member of the year award and Marsha Madle received the lifetime achievement award. MABA also gave 3 grants to local charities.

10. OPEN DISCUSSION/BOARD COMMENTS

None.

11. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

12. NEXT MEETING DATE

- February 7, 2019 at 7:30am

13. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objection, Chair Sims adjourned the meeting at 8:58 am.