



Charter Township of Meridian
Meridian Economic Development Corporation
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864
Thursday, January 11, 2018- Minutes

Members

Present: Shawn Dunham, Trustee Phil Deschaine, Mikhail Murshak, Joel Conn, Jade Sims, Kimberly Thompson, Tom Conway

Members

Absent: David Ledebuhr, Adam Carlson and Township Manager Frank Walsh

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 and Assistant Township Manager Derek Perry

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Sims called the meeting to order at 7:35 am and Member Thompson 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 THOMPSON TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER DUNHAM. MOTION PASSES 7-0.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Communications
- b. Minutes-December 7, 2017

MOTION BY TRUSTEE DESCHAIINE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER DUNHAM. MOTION PASSES 7-0.

5. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

6. PRESENTATION

The Greater Lansing Chinese Association (GLCA) presented a sponsorship request for the Chinese New Year event to be held at the Meridian Mall on Sunday, February 18, 2018.

7. FINANCIAL REPORT

None.

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

- Launch Trampoline is coming to the former Gordman's space
- Moneyball Sportswear has decided to stay at the mall following their short term lease. In addition, they are discussing the possibility of hosting a 3 on 3 basketball tournament.

11. FARMERS MARKET UPDATE

The mall is currently drafting the land lease for the Farmers' Market. Currently, there is no immediate cash available for the project from the mall.

12. NEW BUSINESS/CHAIR REPORT

a. New Logo Drafts for Consideration

The EDC reviewed several sample logos with updated colors to match the new Meridian brand. After discussion, the group liked the first logo presented the best. They felt it complemented the new Township logo well.

MOTION BY MEMBER DUNHAM TO ADOPT THE NEW MERIDIAN EDC LOGO. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER THOMPSON. MOTION PASSES 7-0.

b. GLCA Sponsorship Discussion

The EDC reviewed a proposed budget from the GLCA for the event. It was discussed that the event is a good one for the EDC support as it shows the support for the Chinese community in Meridian and with potential business investors. The Meridian Parks and Recreation Department will be donating \$1,000 for the stage, tables and chairs for the event.

MOTION BY MEMBER CONWAY TO SPONSOR THE GLCA CHINESE NEW YEAR EVENT AT THE MERIDIAN MALL AT THE \$1,000 LEVEL TO UNDERWRITE THE MALL FACILITY RENTAL FEE. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER MIKHAIL. MEMBER DUNHAM OBTAINED. MOTION PASSES 6-0.

13. OLD BUSINESS

a. 2018 Budget Discussion and Adoption

Director Buck presented the 2018 budget to the EDC. He stated the meeting and conference expense line has been moved from the EDC budget and placed in the general operations of the Township budget. The community outreach and promotion amount was lowered to account for a possible larger donation to the Farmers' Market in 2018.

MOTION BY MEMBER MURSHAK TO APPROVE THE 2018 BUDGET. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER DUNHAM. MOTION PASSES 7-0.

14. CHAIR REPORT

a. Michigan & Regional Economic Forecast Summary

Chair Sims shared a summary of the Chris Holman event from December 12, 2017.

15. STAFF REPORT

- Director Buck shared the development projects update
- Holiday Inn Express ribbon cutting is scheduled for January 18, 2018 at 4:30pm
- The sign ordinance is on the Planning Commission agenda for January 22, 2018
- The density topic will be on the Township Board agenda for action on January 23, 2018
- Nearly \$80,000,000 of new development occurred in the Township in 2017 a growth of 30%
- Director Kieselbach reported that Best Buy is working on a new façade. In addition, that plaza is reconfiguring their spaces to allow for a new tenant

16. TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT

- The Township Manager is working with counsel on the Haslett Marathon development issues
- The annual Joint Boards and Commissions meeting is scheduled for January 16, 2018 at 6:00pm

17. TOWNSHIP BOARD REPORT

None.

18. OPEN DISCUSSION/BOARD COMMENTS

None.

19. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

20. NEXT MEETING DATE

- Thursday, February 1, 2018 at 7:30am

21. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objection, Chair Sims adjourned the meeting at 9:08am.