

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY
5151 MARSH ROAD, OKEMOS, MI 48864
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2017, 6:00 PM - MINUTES

MEMBERS

PRESENT: Supervisor Ron Styka, Todd Huhn, Kellie Johnson, Chris Nugent (arrived at 6:24),
Bruce Peffers, Mark Epolito, Sr., Barry Goetz (arrived at 6:05), Brian Jones

MEMBERS

ABSENT: Nikki Soldan, Chris Rigterink

STAFF

PRESENT: Director of Community Planning & Development Mark Kieselbach, Associate
Planner/Economic Development Coordinator Ben Motil

OTHERS

PRESENT: Trustee Pat Jackson

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

a. Vice Chair Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR STYKA TO APPROVE AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER PEFFERS.
MOTION APPROVED 6-0.**

3. CONSENT AGENDA

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR STYKA TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER
PEFFERS. MOTION APPROVED 6-0.**

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Trustee Pat Jackson introduced herself to the CIA Board.

5. NEW BUSINESS

None.

6. OLD BUSINESS

a. Develop CIA Mission Statement - CIA Board members discussed the mission statement as provided by staff. Board members wanted to include wording that would emphasize the corridor is a premier business district, not only a shopping district. CIA members also would like to include the residential component of the corridor in the Mission statement. The amended CIA Mission statement is as follows:

Corridor Improvement Authority Minutes
April 19, 2017
Page 2

“The Corridor Improvement Authority of the Charter Township of Meridian is dedicated to establishing the Grand River Avenue corridor in Meridian Township as a premier business and recreation destination in the Tri-County region. The Authority is focused on creating programs and projects that invigorate the streetscape and build partnerships among corridor property owners, business owners, and residents.”

MOTION BY MEMBER GOETZ TO APPROVE THE CIA MISSION STATEMENT AS AMENDED. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER HUHN. MOTION APPROVED 7-0.

b. Develop CIA Goals & Objectives – CIA Board Members discussed the CIA 2017 Goals & Objectives. Members proposed several suggestions regarding what items they would like to include. The Goals & Objectives of the CIA were proposed as follows:

- Promote a consistent and pleasing aesthetic style for buildings, grounds, and public right-of-way.
- Provide a common vision for corridor businesses.
- Strive to increase safety and accessibility for pedestrians & cyclists.
- Promote smart growth on the corridor and include infill development while discouraging sprawl.
- Improve recognition of corridor entry ways and signage.
- Encourage business recruitment and expansion.
- Improve the Township’s reputation within the business community and promote communication.
- Strive to increase business relationships with regional partners.

MOTION BY MEMBER EPOLITO TO APPROVE THE 2017 CIA GOALS & OBJECTIVES AS PROPOSED. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER JONES. MOTION APPROVED 8-0.

c. Approve CIA Meeting Schedule & Times - The schedule and meeting times of the CIA regular meetings were discussed. Members discussed possible conflict with scheduling dates near the holidays. The 2017 dates and times of the regular CIA meetings were proposed as follows:

- April 19
- May 17
- June 21
- July 19
- August 16
- September 20
- October 18
- November 15
- December 20

MOTION BY MEMBER PEFFERS TO APPROVE THE 2017 CIA MEETING SCHEDULE AS PROPOSED. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER EPOLITO. MOTION APPROVED 8-0.

7. CHAIR REPORT

Chair Nugent reported that he interviewed with HOM TV, which included information discussed during the organizational meeting.

Corridor Improvement Authority Minutes
April 19, 2017
Page 3

8. STAFF REPORT

Development Projects Update - Staff provided updates on the status of proposed and ongoing projects within the Township.

9. OPEN DISCUSSION/BOARD COMMENTS

- Supervisor Styka updated the CIA on the County Complete Streets program on May 4th, 2017 at 6 p.m. at the Ingham County Human Services building. Trustee Jackson provided supplemental information on the program. Trustee Jackson reported the Complete Streets program encourages municipalities to plan and fund initiatives to make streets, sidewalks, crosswalks, and paths to buildings more accessible to all residents.
- Trustee Jackson recommended CIA members read the 2017 Meridian Township Draft Master Plan. Comments may be forwarded to staff or Supervisor Styka.
- Supervisor Styka recommended the CIA Board review the MSU Institute for Public Policy website for potential training and information regarding public service, particularly in the areas of planning and development.
- Member Peffers requested staff prepare a document that lists the business stakeholders within the corridor. Staff will have document prepared for the next meeting.
- Member Epolito would like Corridor Improvement Authority name tags for members to wear at Township events.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned without objection at 7:11 p.m.

-The next meeting will be on Wednesday, May 17th, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.-

Chris Nugent, Chairperson