



Charter Township of Meridian
Meridian Economic Development Corporation
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864
Thursday, November 2, 2017 – Minutes

Members

Present: David Ledebuhr, Shawn Dunham, Chris Buck, Trustee Phil Deschaine, Mikhail Murshak, Joel Conn, Jade Sims and Township Manager Frank Walsh

Members

Absent: Josh Hundt, Adam Carlson, David Olson and Lynda Rowlee

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, and Senior Planner Peter Menser

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Buck called the meeting to order at 7:32 am and Member Conn 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 TRUSTEE DESCHAIINE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER LEDEBUHR. MOTION PASSES 8-0.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Communications
- b. Minutes-October 5, 2017

MOTION BY MEMBER DUNHAM TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY TRUSTEE DESCHAIINE. MOTION PASSES 8-0.

5. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

6. PRESENTATION

None.

7. FINANCIAL REPORT

Treasurer Brixie distributed and reviewed the financial report dated 11/2/17. Report on file.

MOTION BY MEMBER DUNHAM TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER LEDEBUHR. MOTION PASSES 8-0.

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

- Construction is underway in the former Gordman's area
- Holiday pop up stores are underway
- Lighting and furniture renovations are ongoing

11. FARMERS MARKET UPDATE

CBL representatives are meeting with Township officials and KEBS, Inc. next week regarding the project.

12. NEW BUSINESS/CHAIR REPORT

a. Expiring Terms

Chris Buck, Joshua Hundt and David Olson will not be seeking re-appointment for 2018. In addition, Lynda Rowlee has decided not to continue her term after the December meeting.

b. 2018 Officers

With Chris Buck transitioning into a staff role, discussion on the need for a new Chair took place. Chris Buck nominated Jade Sims for Chair. Dave Ledebuhr stated he was still interested in serving as Vice-Chair. Trustee Deschaine nominated Manager Walsh for Secretary and Treasurer Brixie for Treasurer.

MOTION BY MEMBER BUCK TO APPROVE THE SLATE OF OFFICERS. SUPPORTED BY TRUSTEE DESCHAIINE. MOTION PASSES 8-0.

c. 2018 Meeting Dates

**MOTION BY MANAGER WALSH TO APPROVE THE 2018 MEETING DATES.
SUPPORTED BY MEMBER CONN. MOTION PASSES 8-0.**

d. 2018 Goals and Objectives

Director Buck reviewed the 2017 goals and objectives and handed out draft 2018 goals and objectives for discussion. More discussion will continue in December.

13. OLD BUSINESS

a. Redevelopment Fund

Director Buck reported he is currently seeking materials from other communities to use as a resource to create the Meridian draft.

b. Sign Ordinance

Peter Menser presented the potential sign ordinance updates. He will work on a letter from the EDC to present to the Planning Commission with the suggested updates.

14. CHAIR REPORT/STAFF REPORT

Director Buck reported that, after 40 years of business, Jim Raynak of ACE Hardware Okemos will be retiring. Also, the 3 nearby businesses are looking for new locations. Director Buck attended several meetings including: MEDC, MDOT, made a presentation to the NAI and CBRE sales force, attended placemaking summit and COSTCO grand opening.

15. TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT

- Manager Walsh reported the Township will host its 3rd Annual Board and Commission appreciation event on Thursday, November 2nd at 6pm.
- Township Board will be working on 2018 goal setting on November 14th.
- The search for an Interim Fire Chief is in progress.
- Manager Walsh reported working with the Haslett Road Marathon and Shoptown on current issues.

16. TOWNSHIP BOARD REPORT

- Trustee Deschaine reported the Board is working on the MUPUD ordinance review.
- Working with the Haslett Road Marathon on some property changes.

17. OPEN DISCUSSION/BOARD COMMENTS

Director Buck recommended and shared the public service application for Tom Conway to serve as a member on the EDC.

**MOTION BY TRUSTEE DESCHAIINE NOMINATE TOM CONWAY TO SERVE ON THE EDC.
SUPPORTED BY MEMBER LEDEBUHR. MOTION PASSES 8-0.**

18. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

19. NEXT MEETING DATE

- Thursday, December 7, 2017 at 7:30am

20. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objection, Chris Buck adjourned the meeting at 9:04am.

