



Charter Township of Meridian
Meridian Economic Development Corporation
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864
Thursday, March 1, 2018– Minutes (Draft)

Members

Present: Trustee Phil Deschaine, Mikhail Murshak, Joel Conn, Jade Sims, Kimberly Thompson, Tom Conway, and Adam Carlson

Members Shawn Dunham, David Ledebuhr and Township Manager Frank Walsh

Absent:

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

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Sims called the meeting to order at 7:33 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

Director Buck requested an agenda amendment to add City Limits presentation under 6A and add 12C City Limits- Zoning Amendment.

MOTION BY MEMBER CARLSON TO APPROVE THE AMENDED AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER CONN. MOTION PASSES 7-0.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Communications
- b. Development Projects Update
- c. Available Parcel Update
- d. Minutes-February 1, 2018

MOTION BY MEMBER CARLSON TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER CONWAY. MOTION PASSES 7-0.

5. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

6. PRESENTATION

The owners of City Limits Entertainment shared that they are interested in adding outdoor sand volleyball and batting cages.

7. FINANCIAL REPORT

Treasurer Brixie distributed and reviewed the financial report dated 1/18/18. Report on file.

MOTION BY MEMBER MURSHAK TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER THOMPSON. MOTION PASSES 7-0.

8. APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS

A \$55.20 invoice from Stamprite has been received for name plates for Director Buck and Member Conn. Director Buck stated the EDC will no longer be purchasing these name tents.

MOTION BY MEMBER CONN TO APPROVE THE PAYMENT. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER THOMPSON. MOTION PASSES 7-0.

9. PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

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

10. MERIDIAN MALL REPORT

- Waldo's Waffles is now open in the former Nestle spot
- Launch Trampoline Park is working on renovations and expect to open in June or July
- There continues to be energy around new businesses coming to the mall

11. FARMERS MARKET UPDATE

The Township is waiting for CBL to produce the 30 year land lease for the project.

12. NEW BUSINESS/CHAIR REPORT

- a. Meridian Redevelopment Fund Application and Procedures Review
Director Buck shared the draft of the Redevelopment Fund application. The Township's legal counsel is still working on the document. When it is complete, the document will move to the Township Board for vetting and final approval.
- b. New EDC Member for Consideration
The EDC reviewed the application from Brenda Chapman, Retired MDOT Finance Manager.

MOTION BY MEMBER THOMPSON TO RECOMMEND TO THE TOWNSHIP BOARD THAT BRENDA CHAPMAN BE APPOINTED THE EDC. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER CONN. MOTION PASSES 7-0.

- c. Zoning Amendment for City Limits
The EDC discussed crafting a letter to the Township Board and the Planning Commission in support a zoning amendment to allow for outdoor activities via a special use permit.

MOTION BY MEMBER MURSHAK FOR THE EDC TO DRAFT A LETTER SUPPORTING A ZONING AMENDMENT IN C-2 DESIGNATED AREAS TO ALLOW FOR OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES VIA SPECIAL USE PERMIT. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER CONWAY. MOTION PASSES 7-0.

13. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Panera Concept Plan Follow Up
Director Buck reported that Panera has been asked to increase the pervious land percentage of the former BD Mongolian site as well as widen the entrance driveway. He expects they will update their plans and resubmit them soon.
- b. MUPUD Zoning Amendment
Ken Lane is heading up a subcommittee that will meet on Friday and then report back to the Planning Commission at their next meeting.
- c. Redevelopment Ready Communities Update
Director Buck reviewed his tracking documents and the items that are included in the first chapter of this lengthy process. Once the certification is complete, the door will open for state funding for developers for potential projects.

14. CHAIR REPORT

None.

15. STAFF REPORT

- Lafontaine is postponed until May
- Fox Nissian will reopen in the old Nissian footprint
- The former Pizza Hut on Grand River has been leased to an Indian restaurant
- Okemos Elevation leasing office will open in May
- Famous Taco has moved from Haslett to North Lansing
- Director Buck will be following up on the status of Twisted Kilt at Red Cedar Flats
- Rx Optical building on Grand River is for sale, as well as, 9,000 square feet of office space on Montrose

16. TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT

None.

17. TOWNSHIP BOARD REPORT

- Trustee Deschaine reported the Board recently approved an outdoor assembly ordinance

- Approved a vacant and abandoned building ordinance
- Approved expansion of Redi-Ride
- Expanding the hours of Redi-Ride to 7:30am-6:30pm with funding through CATA grants

18. OPEN DISCUSSION/BOARD COMMENTS

Baskin Robins is coming to Grand River and Marsh. Director Buck is meeting with DTN today to discuss the Carriage Hills area.

19. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

20. NEXT MEETING DATE

- Thursday, April 12, 2018 at 7:30am

21. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objection, Chair Sims adjourned the meeting at 9:02 am.