



Charter Township of Meridian  
Meridian Economic Development Corporation  
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864  
Thursday, September 6, 2018– Minutes

**Members**

**Present:** Trustee Phil Deschaine, Mikhail Murshak, Jade Sims, Kimberly Thompson, Brenda Chapman, Shawn Dunham, Joel Conn, Adam Carlson, David Ledebuhr, and Tom Conway

**Members** Township Manager Frank Walsh

**Absent:**

**Others**

**Present:** Treasurer Julie Brixie, Ex-Officio, Planning Commission Vice-Chair John Scott-Craig, Community Planning & Development Director Mark Kieselbach, Executive Assistant Michelle Prinz, Economic Development Director Chris Buck

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Sims called the meeting to order at 7:32 am and Member Conway 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 LEDEBUHR. MOTION PASSES 10-0.**

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Development Projects Update
- b. Minutes-July 12, 2018
- c. Financial Report
- d. Business Listings Draft-CIA and DDA
- e. EDC 2018 Goals and Objectives
- f. Meridian Roads

**MOTION BY MEMBER THOMPSON TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER CHAPMAN. MOTION PASSES 10-0.**

5. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

6. PRESENTATION

None.

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. Meridian Roads

Director Buck shared a map of the roads in the Township. The map identifies which roads are county, local, and state.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. Engaging Public Schools

Upon reviewing the 2018 EDC goals, the group discussed that this is an objective that has not been completed. There was discussion about how the EDC can best engage with the local school districts. Director Buck and Chair Sims will arrange a meeting with the local schools to discuss what their current needs are and what they are already doing.

b. Business Retention, Expansion and Attraction

Director Buck shared the business lists that have been created for the CIA and DDA. There was consensus that creating a business list for the EDC would be beneficial. Discussion was had around surveying the local businesses regarding their needs.

9. TOWNSHIP REPORT

a. Township Board

- Walnut Hills consent judgement will be on for action next meeting
- Looking at overlay districts for medical marijuana
- Meridian Redevelopment Fund was approved
- 2019 budget was presented
- Newton Road concept plan will be back on for discussion for the next meeting
- Towner Road Park ribbon cutting on Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at noon

b. Township Manager

None.

c. Planning Commission

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

d. Chair

- Chair Sims discussed the 4 Corners Alliance community meeting

e. Staff

- Director Buck reported the Board will hold a study session on Tuesday night regarding the DDA TIFA plan update

- Redevelop Ready Community certification is almost done
- The Elevation is opening additional buildings
- Peak Performance Physical Therapy ribbon cutting is on Monday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm
- Lucky's Steakhouse is scheduled to open this month
- Soldan's will be moving by the end of the year
- X-Golf indoor driving range to open by Henry's
- Snap Fitness and Little Caesars closed at Jolly and Okemos
- Tannin is moving to Lansing
- Panera has been approved to move to the old BD Mongolian Grill

10. COMMUNITY REPORTS

a. Meridian Mall

- Launch Trampoline Park is scheduled to open around the holidays
- Temporary Halloween store has taken over one of the Younkers stores
- New General Manager, Dan Irvin. He is also the Laurel Park Place Manager in Livonia

b. Farmers' Market

Member Ledebuhr discussed he will propose a \$50,000 donation from the EDC to the Farmers' Market relocation project at the meeting next month. LuAnn Maisner, Parks and Recreation Director will be invited for that meeting to answer questions about the project.

c. MABA

Member Conway reported that MABA would like to continue to work with the Township and local business to create awareness and excitement about Township activities.

11. OPEN DISCUSSION/BOARD COMMENTS

Director Buck reported there is a schedule conflict for the next meeting in October.

**MOTION BY MEMBER MURSHAK TO AMEND THE MEETING SCHEDULE TO MOVE THE OCTOBER MEETING FROM THE 4<sup>th</sup> TO THE 11<sup>th</sup>. SUPPORTED BY TRUSTEE DESCHAIINE. MOTION PASSES 10-0.**

14. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

15. NEXT MEETING DATE

- October 11, 2018 at 7:30am

16. ADJOURNMENT

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