



Charter Township of Meridian
Meridian Economic Development Corporation
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864
Thursday, June 6, 2019– Minutes

Members

Present: Jade Sims, Mikhail Murshak, Joel Conn, David Ledebuhr, Trustee Kathy Ann Sundland, Township Manager Frank Walsh, Adam Carlson, Treasurer Phil Deschaine, Shawn Dunham, and Brenda Chapman

Members Kimberly Thompson and Tom Conway

Absent:

Others

Present: Planning Commission Vice-Chair John Scott-Craig, Director of Community Planning and Development Mark Kieselbach, Executive Assistant Michelle Prinz, and Economic Development Director Chris Buck

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Sims called the meeting to order at 7:31 am and Member Chapman read the mission.

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

Chair Sims requested to move item 9E to 9A to accommodate Director Buck's schedule.

MOTION BY MEMBER CHAPMAN TO APPROVE THE AMENDED AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MANAGER WALSH. MOTION PASSES 10-0.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes-May 2, 2019
- b. Financial Report
- c. tinkrLAB Press Release
- d. Amended Bylaws-Executed

MOTION BY MEMBER CARLSON TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER CONN. MOTION PASSES 10-0.

5. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

6. PRESENTATION

Brandie Yates from HOMTV presented the opportunities available through the HOMTV internship program and the new youth summer media camp.

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. Committee Reports

i. Business Promotion

The EDC subcommittee met with the Township Communications/HOMTV Department to discuss the local business Friday campaign, partnership with MABA awards and creating videos to highlight local businesses for a fee. In addition, creating videos to highlight the Township business districts was discussed.

ii. School District Engagement

Director Buck reported the state has unveiled a new "Going Pro" campaign and there might be some opportunities to partner the EDC with the campaign and the local schools. Chair Sims discussed ideas of pairing college students to teach entrepreneur skills to high school or elementary students.

8. NEW BUSINESS

None.

9. TOWNSHIP REPORT

a. Staff

Director Buck reviewed the EDC financial report, development projects and amended bylaws. He has met with the county leadership team regarding grant fund improvements for Lake Lansing South Park including replacing the old rail wall system and adding bike racks. Director Buck reported the Haslett study has been slow moving.

b. Township Board

- Final approval was given for zoning and non-zoning medical marihuana ordinances
- The Township Board decided to opt out of recreational marihuana
- Approved rezoning for senior living communities
- Approved Redi-Ride ballot language
- Approved local street bond for August ballot
- Discussed DDA TIF policies and procedures

c. Township Manager

- Engaged in discussions with Home Depot regarding conflict with potential Klingman's development in the old Toys R Us location
- Settled and signed consent judgment with Haslett Marathon yesterday
- Cascade Township is coming to tour our Fire Station on Friday

- Working on Bennett Road rezoning
- Celebrate Meridian is Saturday, June 29th
- Received 2018 audit with no problems

d. Planning Commission

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

e. Chair

None.

9. COMMUNITY REPORTS

a. Meridian Mall

- Marketplace on the Green and High Caliber Karts are the new developments
- Waldo's closed and a rolled ice cream shop is opening in its place
- City Man is coming

b. Farmers' Market

- Groundbreaking was a huge success
- Reviewing bids from contractors for construction

c. MABA

- June 14, 2019 will be the MABA golf outing at Meridian Sun Golf Course

10. OPEN DISCUSSION/BOARD COMMENTS

None.

11. PUBLIC REMARKS

None

12. NEXT MEETING DATE

- July 11, 2019 at 7:30am

13. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objection, Chair Sims adjourned the meeting at 9:00 am.