**City of Marine City**

**Community and Economic Development Board**

**February 23, 2022**

A regular scheduled meeting of the Community and Economic Development Board was held on Wednesday, February 23, 2022 at 260 South Parker Street, and was called to order by Chairperson Moran at 6:10 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairperson Moran.

**Present: Planning Commission Representative (Chairperson) Joseph Moran; City Commission Representative Cheryl Vercammen; Board Members Cheryl Ross (telephonically), Heather Hatcher; City Manager Holly Tatman; Deputy Clerk Michele Goodrich**

**Absent: TIFA Board Representative Bob Weisenbaugh; Board Member Robert Klingler**

**Communications**

None.

**Approve Agenda**

Motion by City Commission Representative Vercammen, seconded by Board Member Hatcher, to approve the Agenda. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Public Comment**

Paul Merchant announced that the Chamber of Commerce unanimously appointed him to fill the Chamber of Commerce Representative vacancy on the Community & Economic Development Board.

**Approve Minutes**

Motion by City Commission Representative Vercammen, seconded by Board Member Hatcher, to approve the Community & Economic Development Board minutes of January 26, 2022. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Unfinished Business**

Marine City Marina Project

City Commission Representative Vercammen stated that the Marina Project was making headway and that she had met with County Commissioner, Jeff Bohm, and a reporter from Crane’s Detroit Business to write an article to promote the Marina.

Wood Chair for Downtown Photo Op

City Commission Representative Vercammen informed the Board that she would talk to DPW Supervisor Itrich to discuss placement of the wood chair. Chairperson Moran stated that the Board could request the moratorium on items placed in the park be lifted.

Vacant Storefronts

Chairperson Moran informed the Board that the Planning Commission had its first review of the Vacant Storefront ordinance. City Manager Tatman advised that she was working with the City Attorney on the ordinance language.

Board Vacancy – Marine City Chamber Representative

Motion by Chairperson Moran, seconded by City Commission Representative Vercammen, to accept the Chamber of Commerce appointment of Paul Merchant to the Community and Economic Development Board. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Murals/Signs

Board Member Ross advised the Board that the Community and Economic Development Board had been awarded grant funding through St. Clair County Community Foundation for the mural project. She would be working with City staff to develop an agreement between River Rec Teen Zone, the property owner, and the City and once that was completed she would be working with River Rec Teen Zone on a mural design.

Discussion: 13 Ways to Kill Your Community

Number 3: Don’t Engage Youth

Chairperson Moran stated that all Board Members needed to be on the constant lookout for individuals under 35 to serve on the City’s Boards and Commissions. He believed that it was important to start bringing the high school students up to speed on local government.

City Manager Tatman presented the idea that attending a Commission meeting could be worked into a class curriculum. City Commission Representative Vercammen and Chairperson Moran stated they would follow up with the local schools to discuss student involvement with local government.

**New Business**

None.

**Open Discussion**

City Commission Representative Vercammen questioned if the City could update ordinances to open up Board seats to non-residents, such as local business owners, who were also invested in the City. City Manager Tatman stated that she would look into any state and city regulations regarding residency requirements.

Chairperson Moran stated that he thought the City needed to resurrect the Downtown Development Authority (DDA). City Manager Tatman agreed that the City should look into establishing a DDA comprised of the square map made up of Water Street to Broadway to South Parker to Chartier. She stated that the City would require a proper DDA plan and that there may be grant funding available to develop a plan that worked for Marine City.

Motion by Chairperson Moran, seconded by City Commission Representative Vercammen, instructing City Manager Tatman to begin looking into how to establish a Downtown Development Authority and seek out grant funding opportunities to help fund the development of a Downtown Development Authority plan. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Chairperson Moran questioned if a road millage was possible. City Manager Tatman advised that the City would most likely not be prepared to put a road millage on this year’s ballot. Chairperson Moran advised City Manager Tatman that there was an Infrastructure Sub-Committee that had outlined a priority list of several road projects.

**Adjournment**

Motion by City Commission Representative Vercammen, seconded by Board Member Hatcher, to adjourn at 6:57 pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Goodrich

Deputy Clerk

Shannon Adams

City Clerk