

**City of Marine City
Community and Economic Development Board
July 22, 2020**

A regular meeting of the Community and Economic Development Board was held on Wednesday, July 22, 2020 in the Fire Hall, 200 South Parker Street, Marine City, Michigan, with public participation through virtual telephone conference, and was called to order by Chairperson Scaccia at 6:00 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairperson Scaccia.

Present: Chairperson Laura Scaccia; Robert Klingler; Board Member Heather Hatcher; Planning Commission Representative Joseph Moran; City Commissioner Cheryl Vercammen; City Manager Elaine Leven; Deputy Clerk Michele Goodrich

Absent: Board Member Danielle Donahue; TIFA Board Representative Robert Weisenbaugh

Communications

None.

Approve Agenda

Motion by Planning Commission Representative Moran, seconded by City Commissioner Vercammen, to approve agenda. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Public Comment

None.

Approve Minutes

Motion by Board Member Klingler, seconded by Planning Commission Representative Moran, to approve the Community & Economic Development Board minutes of January 22, 2020. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Motion by Board Member Klingler, seconded by Planning Commission Representative Moran, to approve the Community & Economic Development Board minutes of February 26, 2020. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Unfinished Business

Kayak Launch Site

City Manager Leven advised the Board that the City was exploring permit options with the Army Corp of Engineers and EGLE. She stated that she has received several calls from residents regarding site location and parking and that the City Commission had previously expressed the need to keep the residents informed of the Kayak Launch project. City Manager Leven also stated that the County may fund a portion of the project and that she was working on the details however, there is no current estimate for the completion of the project.

City Commission Representative Vercammen stated that she has seen kayaks at the proposed site and discussed putting in a temporary ladder.

Chairperson Scaccia addressed options for maintenance free landscaping.

Clinton River Cruise Boat

Chairperson Scaccia advised the Board that the owner of the Clinton River Cruise Boat will be in the City on July 30 to take out the seniors for their all-night party and that the Chamber of Commerce will be holding a fundraiser on the boat on July 31, 2020.

Alternative Signage for Marine City

Chairperson Scaccia informed the Board that, with donations from local businesses, she was able to run billboard advertisements promoting Marine City. Although there is no real way to measure the success of the billboards, she noted that downtown has been very busy.

City Commission Representative Vercammen stated that she is pleased with the initiatives businesses have taken during the Coronavirus pandemic.

New Business

EDA Economic Relief Campaign & MEDC Grant Opportunities

Chairperson Scaccia introduced Shannon Schwabe, Business Consultant with the Small Business Development Center, who was present via ZOOM video. Ms. Schwabe presented information to the Board regarding grant opportunities available to local businesses and non-profits such as the Shop/Dine/Win initiative through the Business Recovery Committee as an incentive to get people back out visiting businesses in St. Clair County. She also presented information regarding PPP loans and small business restart programs stating that she was willing to help any local business complete the application process.

Chairperson Scaccia stressed the importance of informing any local business who may need financial relief that there was help available.

Open Discussion

Planning Commission Representative Moran stated that he has done a lot of research and has information to present regarding advertising at movie theatres and would like the topic added to the next agenda.

Chairperson Scaccia advised the Board that she was aware of several grant opportunities that had become available since the last CED meeting that the City could have applied for; she addressed City Manager Leven asking how Marine City Community & Economic Board could apply for grants. Using funding for advertising as an example, Chairperson Scaccia asked City Manager Leven if the Board were to be awarded a grant, would the City be able to put the monies into an account allocated for the CED Board. And, if she was willing to write the grant, could she then send it to the City Manager for approval.

City Manager Leven advised Chairperson Scaccia to contact her to discuss potential grant opportunities.

Chairperson Scaccia inquired as to what was considered the downtown district of Marine City. City Manager Leven defined the downtown district as the Nautical Mile District and said that the Planning Commission was currently working to identify and potentially expand the defined district.

Chairperson Scaccia inquired if the City was having a public Brownsfield Education program. City Manager Leven stated that the City was having an expert in the field hold a ZOOM style meeting regarding what a Brownsfield was and how they benefit the community on July 29th at 7:00pm and that the link was on the City website.

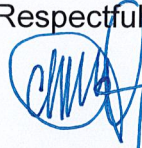
City Commission Representative Vercammen discussed what buildings were available in Marine City for potential investors/businesses and asked if the City or Chamber had that information available. She stated she would like the topic added to the next agenda.

Board Member Klingler stated he would like the CED Board to work on addressing defining the Marine City downtown district and stressed that there was money available for businesses that they may not know about.

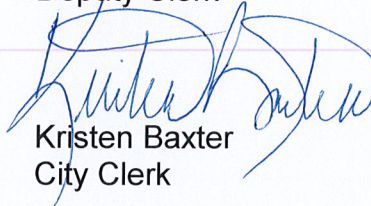
Adjournment

Motion by Planning Commission Representative Moran, seconded by Board Member Hatcher, to adjourn at 7:14 pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Michele Goodrich
Deputy Clerk



Kristen Baxter
City Clerk