

**City of Marine City  
Community and Economic Development Board  
August 26, 2020**

A regular meeting of the Community and Economic Development Board was held on Wednesday, August 26, 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; Board Member 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 Board Member Klingler, 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 July 22, 2020. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

## **Unfinished Business**

### Kayak Launch Site

City Commission Representative Vercammen stated that the City was still waiting on final approvals prior to installing the kayak launch.

City Manager Leven advised that the City was awaiting approval from the Army Corps of Engineers and the permits were a matter of formality.

### Clinton River Cruise Boat

Chairperson Scaccia advised the Board that the previous events scheduled on the Clinton River Cruise Boat were cancelled due to engine problems.

Board Member Vercammen stated that she will continue to reach out to the property owner of the seawall where the boat would be tied regarding interest in the Clinton River Cruise Boat.

### Alternative Signage for Marine City

Chairperson Scaccia informed the Board that she was keeping signage on the agenda and will continue to look for grant opportunities.

Board Member Hatcher stated that she had spoken with several people who enjoyed taking day trips to Marine City and believed the billboard advertisement was effective.

Chairperson Scaccia advised that she was interested in installing more creative banners on City poles. City Commission Representative Vercammen stated that she was confident business owners would purchase a banner. Board Member Hatcher advised that she was willing to help with the design and the artistic factor of potential banners and that she would assist in doing research regarding cost and production.

Planning Commission Representative Moran informed the Board that the best guess for the reopening of Michigan movie theatres was mid-September and he believed people will flock to the movies. He advised that he will present more information regarding movie theatre advertising as he receives it.

### MEDC Grant Opportunities

Chairperson Scaccia informed the Board that she was continuing to look at grant opportunities for the Community and Economic Development Board so that they could have the funds to accomplish projects.

### Brownfield Information

City Manager Leven advised that the informational meeting regarding what a Brownfield Development is went well and that a lot of good information was provided.

## **New Business**

### Downtown Business Loop

Planning Commission Representative Moran informed the Board that he went through the City's ordinances and Master Plan and gave a brief history of what constitutes the Nautical Mile District. He also discussed the proposed Nautical Mile extension and the potential advantages for businesses located within the proposed expansion area such as lessened parking and signage restrictions. City Manager Leven added that expanding the Nautical Mile District opened up additional grant opportunities. Chairperson Scaccia discussed her interest in renaming the Nautical Mile to reference the "Business District or Business Loop;" she believed that the name Nautical Mile limited potential growth. Board Member Klingler stated that he wanted true district boundaries identified in the comprehensive City plan, not just indicated on signage throughout town. Planning Commission Representative Moran discussed putting information regarding the expansion and renaming of the Nautical Mile District on a future Planning Commission Agenda for review.

### Splash Pad

Chairperson Scaccia discussed her interest in installing a splash pad in Marine City including potential locations and possible funding ideas. She expressed how she would like to appeal to younger families in town and will research splash pads.

### Link on Visit Marine City Page for Investors

Chairperson Scaccia advised the Board that there had been revisions to the Chamber of Commerce webpage and that there were now links to real estate companies, who are Chamber members, for potential investors to review available properties. She requested Board members visit the Chamber webpage and provide feedback on the changes.

## **Open Discussion**

Board Member Hatcher advised the Board that she had been approached by community members regarding setting up a Trunk or Treat on South Water Street and how it would benefit businesses and residents. Chairperson Scaccia stated that she believed there would be parking issues if held on South Water Street, and that she did not want to distract from already established Trunk or Treat events held in town. She stated that logistically it made more sense to potentially use 300 Broadway and she would like to see expansion in that area.

## **Adjournment**

Motion by Board Member Klingler, seconded by Planning Commission Representative Moran, to adjourn at 7:09 pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Goodrich  
Deputy Clerk

Kristen Baxter  
City Clerk