

**City of Marine City  
Community and Economic Development Board  
September 23, 2020**

A regular meeting of the Community and Economic Development Board was held on Wednesday, September 23, 2020 in the Fire Hall, 200 South Parker Street, Marine City, Michigan, 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; Planning Commission Representative Joseph Moran; City Commissioner Cheryl Vercammen; City Manager Elaine Leven; Deputy Clerk Michele Goodrich

**Absent:** Board Member Heather Hatcher; TIFA Board Representative Robert Weisenbaugh

**Communications**

Motion by Planning Commission Representative Moran, seconded by Board Member Klingler, to accept Communications. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**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 August 26, 2020. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

## **Unfinished Business**

### Kayak Launch Site

City Manager Leven advised the Board that the City received the estimate from Project Control Engineers for site work and the City was waiting on clarification regarding certain aspects of the estimate.

### Clinton River Cruise Boat

Chairperson Scaccia informed the Board that she spoke with the owner of the Clinton River Cruise Boat, Mr. Paul Gallas, and he advised that he could embark and disembark his boat at Nautical Mile Park but that he would need a space to store the boat year round.

City Commission Representative Vercammen questioned storing the boat on City property or at the former Dunn Marina.

Board Member Klingler requested that Chairperson Scaccia arrange a meeting with Mr. Gallas to show him the docking arrangement of the Grayfox. Chairperson Scaccia stated that she would attempt to set up a meeting with possible interested parties regarding docking on the Belle River and embarking and disembarking at Nautical Mile Park.

### Downtown Business Loop

Planning Commission Representative Moran updated the Board as to what the Planning Commission discussed regarding the Downtown Business Loop and Nautical Mile District expansion.

City Manager Leven stated that the City was going to compile the Planning Commission meeting minutes to give to the City Planner for any adjustments. Once the recommended adjustments were completed, the information would go back to the Planning Commission for review and approval.

### Splash Pad

Chairperson Scaccia informed the Board that she spoke to the Department of Public Works Supervisor, Mike Itrich, regarding potential splash pad locations. City Manager Leven stated that Supervisor Itrich had composed a very informative email regarding splash pads and that she would forward it to the Board.

City Commission Representative Vercammen expressed interest in keeping a splash pad on South Parker near City service buildings. Chairperson Scaccia advised that the concept of a splash pad was in the very preliminary stages.

## **New Business**

### Available and Sold Commercial Properties in Marine City

City Commission Representative Vercammen discussed having a designated spot for investors to look for potentially available properties. Chairperson Scaccia stated that there were a lot of available properties in the City that were not publicly advertised.

Board Member Klingler discussed occupying a portion of the new City Hall with an informational kiosk and map of the City. Chairperson Scaccia would like the area to have brochures about the City and feature available properties for visitors and potential investors.

City Manager Leven suggested putting a page on the City website for potential residents and investors and asked the Board to create a website mockup. City Commission Representative Vercammen advised the Board that she would come up with a website mockup with bullet point ideas.

### Fundraising Ideas

City Commission Representative Vercammen discussed possible fundraising ideas to help raise money earmarked for the Community and Economic Development Board. Chairperson Scaccia advised the Board that the fundraising event would need a purpose and that the CED Board could put together ideas to be a part of a larger event.

### Incentives to Encourage New Business

City Commission Representative Vercammen questioned what the City of St. Clair was doing because their downtown plaza was constantly busy. City Manager Leven stated that St. Clair had capitalized on a lot of summer outdoor entertainment.

Chairperson Scaccia addressed potential abatements within the City.

### Advertising – Movie Theatre

Planning Commission Representative Moran presented information regarding movie theatre advertising pricing; he advised however, that no theatres were open yet. Chairperson Scaccia stated that the Chamber of Commerce would rather spend money on events instead of advertising.

### Grant Opportunities

Chairperson Scaccia informed the Board about how to apply for Patronicity funding and possible project ideas such as rebuilding the gazebo at 300 Broadway into a bandstand.

Board Member Klingler advised that he could build a portable bandstand similar to St. Clair County's moveable stage if the City raised the funds.

City Commission Representative Vercammen offered to look up project funding examples on Patronicity for a bandstand and a splash pad. Board Member Klingler volunteered to assist in the research.

### **Open Discussion**

City Manager Leven advised the Board that the Economic Development Alliance was working on the Strategic Master Plan and that if the Community and Economic Development Board had any regional project ideas to include to let her know. She advised that the regional projects usually centered on job creation and economic impact.

### **Adjournment**

Motion by Planning Commission Representative Moran, seconded by City Commission Representative Vercammen, to adjourn at 7:33 pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Goodrich  
Deputy Clerk

Kristen Baxter  
City Clerk