**City of Marine City**

**Community and Economic Development Board**

**January 26, 2022**

A regular scheduled meeting of the Community and Economic Development Board was held on Wednesday, January 26, 2022 at 260 South Parker Street, and was called to order by Planning Commission Representative Moran at 6:00 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Planning Commission Representative Moran.

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

**Absent: TIFA Board Representative Bob Weisenbaugh**

**Communications**

None.

**Approve Agenda**

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

**Public Comment**

Laura Scaccia discussed the Marine City Chamber of Commerce Twinkling Forest fundraiser.

**Approve Minutes**

Motion by Board Member Klingler, seconded by City Commission Representative Vercammen, to approve the Community & Economic Development Board minutes of December 08, 2021. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Unfinished Business**

Marine City Marina Project

City Manager Tatman informed the Board that Six Rivers Conservancy was handling the lease agreement with the previous property owner and the current tenant. She stated that the City would be working on acquiring the vacant land and she hoped to have full possession of everything by Fall.

Chairperson Moran questioned what needed to be done to winterize the Marina. City Manager Tatman advised that the City was in contact with the previous owner and that the DPW would be managing the dock slips.

City Commission Representative questioned how the City would regulate the amount of time a boat was docked. City Manager Tatman replied that the Police Department would need to be involved with regulating the time boats were docked.

Board Member Klingler stated that the City needed to look into obtaining estimates for insurance at the Marina.

Wood Chair for Downtown Photo Op

City Commission Representative Vercammen discussed the chair dimensions and quote received from Tiki Republic. She stated that the chair would be white and that she would like Board Member Hatcher to paint a design on the back of the chair.

City Manager Tatman informed the Board that she was made aware of a moratorium regarding placing items in the City Parks that was approved by the City Commission on 02/17/2019. She advised that the CED Board would need to petition the City Commission for approval to put the chair in a City Park or they would need to decide on an alternate location.

Vacant Storefronts

City Manager Tatman provided the Board with a handout of Livonia’s ordinance regarding vacant storefronts. She stated that Livonia had implemented a monthly administrative fee that was paid to the City for as long as a property remained vacant. She advised that there were a lot of moving components to implementing a vacant storefront ordinance which included tying it into the City’s blight ordinance and revising published ordinances to remove costs that were listed within the ordinance. The costs would then need to be addressed in a revised fee schedule.

There was a discussion regarding the amount of commercial buildings currently up for sale and the potential impact on water rates.

Chairperson Moran tasked the City with providing the CED Board with more information on a list of 12 properties that he had marked.

Board Vacancy – Marine City Chamber Representative

Laura Scaccia from the Marine City Chamber of Commerce informed the Board that she did not have a replacement yet for the Chamber Representative vacancy.

Murals/Signs

Board Member Ross advised the Board that she had met with Jason Stier from the River Rec Teen Zone and they had discussed potential design ideas for a mural on the side of a building located on private property on Water Street. She stated that she had received approval from the property owner for the mural project. Board Member Ross informed the Board that she had submitted for grant funding through the St. Clair County Community Foundation to cover the cost of materials and that she should know if funding was approved by mid-February.

Board Member Ross provided the Board with an informational handout from the Friends of the St. Clair River regarding a storm drain mural project.

**New Business**

Chairperson Moran provided the Board with an excerpt from the book 13 Ways to Kill Your Community and stated that he would like the Board to address one or two ideas per meeting.

Forget the Water: City Commission Representative Vercammen stated that the City’s focus had been put back on the Marina and Kayak Launch projects. She stated that the City was just getting started utilizing the water.

Don’t Attract Business: Chairperson Moran questioned what businesses the residents would like to see in Marine City and how the City would gather that information, in addition to how to actually attract those businesses. City Manager Tatman informed the Board that there would be a major push by the County to incentivize businesses on 26 Mile Road.

There was a discussion regarding how to bring businesses into Marine City and how to popularize the stores the City does have. Laura Scaccia discussed a “Shop Local” outreach that would address what it would take for residents to shop and support local businesses. Board Members Hatcher and Ross will work with the Marine City Chamber of Commerce to discuss outreach materials.

**Open Discussion**

Board Member Ross discussed QR Codes and different programs that the City could utilize to generate them.

**Adjournment**

Motion by Board Member Ross, seconded by Board Member Hatcher, to adjourn at 7:31pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Goodrich

Deputy Clerk

Kristen Baxter

City Clerk