**City of Marine City**

**Community and Economic Development Board**

**April 13, 2023**

A re-scheduled meeting of the Community and Economic Development Board was held on Thursday, April 13, 2023 at 260 South Parker Street, and was called to order by Chairperson Moran at 2:00 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairperson Moran.

**Present: Planning Commission Representative (Chairperson) Joseph Moran; Business Representative Cheryl Vercammen; Board Members Heather Hatcher and Cheryl Ross; Chamber of Commerce Representative Paul Merchant; Interim City Manager James Heaslip; Deputy Clerk Michele Goodrich**

**Absent: City Commission Representative Michael Hilferink; TIFA Board Representative Bob Weisenbaugh**

**Communications**

Community and Economic Development Board resignation E-Mail sent from Business Representative Vercammen, effective 04/13/2023.

**Approve Agenda**

Motion by Business Representative Vercammen, seconded by Board Member Ross, to approve the Agenda, as amended to include communications. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Public Comment**

None.

**Approve Minutes**

Correction to Open Discussion portion: change name of Chamber of Commerce Representative “Moran” to “Merchant.”

Motion by Business Representative Vercammen, seconded by Board Member Ross, to approve the Community & Economic Development Board minutes of March 22, 2023, as amended. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Unfinished Business**

300 Broadway

Chamber of Commerce Representative Merchant referenced a meeting between Commissioners Hendrick and Ross and 300 Broadway Representative Merchant to correct any perceived deficiencies in the 300 Broadway MEDC grant opportunity. He advised that there would be another Public Hearing at the April 20, 2023 Commission meeting, that posters informing the public were being handed out and placed around town and he stated that he was hopeful that the Commission would approve the grant submission.

Board Member Ross spoke to the potential prejudice in selecting out who was perceived as “low income” or of a higher income level and that for the purpose of the grant, the entire community was considered low/moderate income.

13 Ways to Kill Your Community: Number 1: Forget the Water

Chairperson Moran questioned the status of Marina. Interim City Manager Heaslip advised that the boat slips were open but that the City needed to work on installing signage.

Chamber of Commerce Representative Merchant stated that the 300 Broadway grant application focused on green infrastructure with the incorporation of permeable pavers and rain gardens.

Riverbank Theatre Scholarship

Business Representative Vercammen spoke to the receipt of submissions from applicants outside of Marine City and questioned if they could open the scholarship opportunity to non-residents since no resident applications were received. It was decided to close the scholarship opportunity with no distribution of funds and send letters to the applicants that they were not eligible due to resident status.

Rediscover Marine City partnership with Chamber of Commerce

Chamber of Commerce Representative Merchant informed the Board that the Chamber was still in the planning phase and that they were still deciding on a day to hold the event, he requested the matter be put on the next CED Agenda.

Business Representative Vercammen suggested the use of local pictures instead of stock photos.

**New Business**

None.

**Open Discussion**

There was discussion surrounding the nomination process of a new Business Representative for the CED Board and if representatives from a non-profit would qualify. Interim City Manager Heaslip to confirm the regulations associated with filling the vacant position and to verify if representatives from churches or non-profits could fill the Business Representative position. Interim City Manager Heaslip was also requested to confirm if and how Board members could reallocate designations in the event no business representative applications were received, in an effort to open up a resident position.

Chairperson Moran informed Board Member Hatcher that the Board approved $75 toward painting supplies for the oversized chair and background mural and that she would need to submit receipts for reimbursement to the City.

Business Representative Vercammen questioned what the Board could do to fill up vacant storefronts and suggested additional social media posts soliciting businesses to open in Marine City.

Business Representative Vercammen questioned how many meetings a Board member could miss prior to being removed. Interim City Manager to verify.

**Adjournment**

Motion by City Commission Representative Vercammen, seconded Chamber of Commerce Representative Merchant to adjourn at 6:48pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Goodrich

Deputy Clerk

Jason Bell

Interim City Clerk