**City of Marine City**

**Community and Economic Development Board**

**September 22, 2021**

A regular meeting of the Community and Economic Development Board was held on Wednesday, September 22, 2021 at 260 South Parker Street, 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; Planning Commission Representative Joseph Moran; City Commission Representative Cheryl Vercammen; Board Members Cheryl Ross, Robert Klingler; City Manager Holly Tatman; Deputy Clerk Michele Goodrich**

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

**Communications**

None.

**Approve Agenda**

Motion by Planning Commission Representative Moran, seconded by Board Member Klingler, to approve the 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 28, 2021. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Motion by Planning Commission Representative Moran, seconded by City Commission Representative Vercammen, to approve the Community & Economic Development Board minutes of August 25, 2021. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Unfinished Business**

Marine City Marina Project

Chairperson Scaccia announced that there will be another DNR grant presentation on October 20, 2021 that will be led by County Commissioner Jeff Bohm and that funding decisions would be announced in December.

Mission Statement

Planning Commission Representative Moran suggested a revision to the first Mission Statement proposal to read:

*In partnership with our community, the City of Marine City is committed to protecting and enhancing the quality of life for our residents and for those involved with the promotion, development and preservation of the City.*

*The City of Marine City is dedicated to providing our citizens and business owners with a safe and clean environment, a high level of administrative and government services, and diverse opportunities for community development.*

Motion by Planning Commission Representative Moran, seconded by Board Member Klingler, to submit the proposed Mission Statement to the City Commission for review and approval. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Billboard and Golf Outing Sponsorship

Chairperson Scaccia advised the Board that the billboard design looked great and that the CED Board was featured as a sponsor on signage at the Chamber golf event.

Informational Area in City Hall

Chairperson Scaccia informed the Board that the pamphlet holder that was ordered was not adequate and a new pamphlet holder would be ordered.

Michigan Big Boy Wood Chair Marine City Photo Op

City Commission Representative Vercammen discussed possible locations for the chair including Drake Park or near the Peche Island Lighthouse. Chairperson Scaccia would like the tagline, “Take Me to the River” to be stenciled on the chair.

Motion by City Commission Representative Vercammen, seconded by Board Member Klingler, to submit a letter to the City Commission requesting authorization to utilize designated CED funds, not to exceed $1,000, to fund the purchase of a Michigan Big Boy Wood Chair. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

DNR Trust Fund Presentation

The DNR Trust Fund Presentation was attached for Board Members to review what was presented.

**New Business**

EDA Update

Board Member Klinger advised the Board that he had attended the annual EDA meeting in St. Clair and that he was renominated to serve as the representative for the Marine City CED Board. Board Member Klingler summarized what was discussed at the EDA meeting. He informed the Board that he believed it was extremely important to start a co-op program between local businesses and the schools. He requested that all CED Board Members let local business owners know of a potential co-op opportunity in an effort to gage interest.

City Manager Tatman was tasked with contacting RESA to gather information on how to initiate a co-op program.

Sale of City Properties

Chairperson Scaccia advised the Board that she did not want the City to undersell itself by only having one agency represent the City properties for sale and that she knew of two large agencies who were not notified of the Request For Proposals but were interested in assessing the property’s values.

City Manager Tatman advised that if the City Commission was not happy with the results from Bachelor Real Estate that they could go out for additional bids. She informed the Board that bidnetdirect.com would allow the City to reach hundreds of companies across the State for future RFPs.

Downtown Vacant Storefronts

Planning Commission Representative Moran informed the Board that Commissioner Bryson would like more action taken regarding vacant storefronts. City Manager Tatman questioned if the City had an ordinance in place that put a time limit on how long storefronts could be vacant. Planning Commission Representative Moran requested the issue of Vacant Storefronts be put on the next Planning Commission Agenda.

Parker Street Vacant Properties

Planning Commission Representative Moran discussed the EDA’s role in helping to cleanup contaminated properties in the County. Board Member Klingler stated that the EDA was interested in large scale projects but that local properties should be inventoried and categorized at the City level. The Board discussed a call to action to local property owners who may be interested in selling their land and the potential resources available if the property was contaminated.

**Open Discussion**

Board Member Ross informed the Board that she would be meeting with Jason Stier, River Rec Teen Zone, to discuss murals. She would like the Board to discuss potential goals for next year.

Board Member Klingler reiterated the importance of a co-op effort at the EDA level with Marine City input in order to make a local impact.

**Adjournment**

Motion by Planning Commission Representative Moran, seconded by Board Member Klingler, to adjourn at 7:22 pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Goodrich

Deputy Clerk

Kristen Baxter

City Clerk