**City of Marine City**

**Community and Economic Development Board**

**December 08, 2021**

A rescheduled meeting of the Community and Economic Development Board was held on Wednesday, December 08, 2021 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; City Manager Holly Tatman; Deputy Clerk Michele Goodrich**

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

**Communications**

Motion by City Commission Representative Vercammen, seconded by Planning Commission Representative Moran, to receive and file Chairperson Laura Scaccia’s resignation letter. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Appoint Chairperson**

Motion by Board Member Klingler, seconded by City Commission Representative Vercammen to appoint Planning Commission Representative Moran as Community and Economic Development Board Chairperson. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Motion by Chairperson Moran, seconded by City Commission Representative Vercammen, to appoint Board Member Ross as Community and Economic Development Board Co-Chair. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Approve Agenda**

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

**Public Comment**

None.

**Approve Minutes**

Motion by Board Member Ross, seconded by Board Member Klingler, to approve the Community & Economic Development Board minutes of October 27, 2021. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Unfinished Business**

Marine City Marina Project

City Manager Tatman informed the Board that the DNR Trust Fund approved the Marine City Marina grant and said that now it was unknown when the Legislature would appropriate the money. She advised that Six Rivers would now be working on the sale and purchase of the property.

Chairperson Moran questioned who would be working with Six Rivers and City Manager Tatman advised that she and City Attorney Davis would be working with them.

Board Member Klingler questioned if the City would be leasing out the slips in January. City Manager Tatman replied that the slips would all be for transient docking.

Informational Area in City Hall

City Manager Tatman advised the Board that the informational kiosk was up in the main lobby of City Offices.

Board Member Ross questioned if the City could implement QR codes, which she believed were easy to publicize, in an effort to appeal to a younger generation.

Wood Chair for Downtown Photo Op

City Commission Representative Vercammen advised the Board that she had contacted TIKI Republic regarding the design of the oversized chair; she stated that she was interested in an 8 foot chair back. The Board discussed the benefit of a composite seat.

Chairperson Moran informed the Board that they would need to have a design, dimensions, location and quote prior to presenting the information to the City Commission.

City Commission Representative Vercammen to have the information on the chair prior to the next Community and Economic Development Board meeting.

Vacant Storefronts

Deputy Clerk Goodrich explained the information presented in the three reports provided to the Board. City Manager Tatman advised that the City’s ordinances would allow the City to put pressure on empty storefronts based on what they were being used for, such as a storage unit in a commercial district. The Board was tasked with reviewing the reports and submitting any addresses that they would like reviewed.

City Manager Tatman discussed the condition of the property at 6067 King Road and informed the Board that she would be looking at reenacting fees for non-compliant zoning and that the City would be addressing the property based on the ordinances that were currently in place.

**New Business**

Board Vacancy – Marine City Chamber Representative

Discussion item was tabled until Laura Scaccia was able to speak on the issue.

Murals/Signs

City Manager Tatman provided the Board with the mural/sign ordinance and advised that the concept of murals was supported however, the Planning Commission would need to sign off on any façade changes.

Board Member Ross advised that she would continue her discussions with the River Rec Teen Zone and building owners. She questioned if the CED Board could subsidize the artist costs; City Manager Tatman stated that the St. Clair County Community Foundation may be able to assist with those costs.

**Open Discussion**

Board Member Klingler stated that he would like City Manager Tatman involved in the EDA; she stated that when the previous City Manager left that the EDA did not fill the vacancy with her, so technically she was not on the Board.

City Commission Representative Vercammen questioned what happened with the meeting between the Vertins and the MEDC. City Manager Tatman advised that the MEDC had cancelled and would need to reschedule.

Board Member Ross expressed the need for increased visibility for City events. City Manager Tatman stated that the earlier groups submitted their application for a Special Event permit, the better the City would be able to promote the event.

Chairperson Moran stated that he met with Laura Scaccia and was given a book entitled, 13 Ways to Kill Your Community, and said he would be summarizing it and bringing it back at the next meeting.

City Manager Tatman informed the Board that she had a very positive telephone conversation with the Michigan Municipal League, and that Marine City was brought up as a community that was doing things right regarding entrepreneurship and small businesses. She further said that the Michigan Municipal League was using Marine City as a test case for other communities.

City Commission Representative Vercammen stated that she was surprised at how many people were coming to Marine City from outside the area.

Board Member Klingler brought up that he would like high school co-op programs. Chairperson Moran stated that if we were already in the schools than groups should discuss civics and encourage participation in local government. City Commission Representative Vercammen stated that she would be open to going into the local schools as the Mayor to discuss City government.

**Adjournment**

Motion by Board Member Ross, seconded by Board Member Klingler, to adjourn at 7:03 pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Goodrich

Deputy Clerk

Kristen Baxter

City Clerk