



CITY OF MARINE CITY

Community & Economic Development Board Agenda

260 South Parker Street, Marine City, MI

Thursday, April 13, 2023 2:00 PM

-
1. **CALL TO ORDER**
 2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
 3. **ROLL CALL:** Board Members Heather Hatcher, Cheryl Ross; Planning Commission Representative Joseph Moran; City Commissioner Michael Hilferink; TIFA Board Representative Robert Weisenbaugh; Business Representative Cheryl Vercammen; Chamber of Commerce Representative Paul Merchant; Interim City Manager James Heaslip
 4. **COMMUNICATIONS**
 5. **APPROVE AGENDA**
 6. **PUBLIC COMMENT** *Anyone in attendance is welcome to address the Community & Economic Development Board. Please state name and limit comments to five (5) minutes.*
 7. **APPROVE MINUTES**
 - A. March 22, 2023 Minutes
 8. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
 - A. 300 Broadway
 - B. Discussion: 13 Ways to Kill Your Community (#1)
 - C. Riverbank Theatre Scholarship
 - D. Rediscover Marine City partnership with Chamber of Commerce
 9. **NEW BUSINESS**
 10. **OPEN DISCUSSION**
 11. **ADJOURNMENT**

**City of Marine City
Community and Economic Development Board
March 22, 2023**

A regular scheduled meeting of the Community and Economic Development Board was held on Wednesday, March 22, 2023 at 260 South Parker Street, and was called to order by Chairperson Moran at 6:00 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairperson Moran.

Present: Planning Commission Representative (Chairperson) Joseph Moran; Business Representative Cheryl Vercammen; TIFA Board Representative Bob Weisenbaugh; Chamber of Commerce Representative Paul Merchant; Interim City Manager James Heaslip; Deputy Clerk Michele Goodrich

Absent: City Commission Representative Michael Hilferink, Board Members Heather Hatcher and Cheryl Ross

Motion by Business Representative Vercammen, seconded by Chamber of Commerce Representative Merchant, to excuse Board Member Ross. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Communications

None.

Approve Agenda

Motion by Business Representative Vercammen, seconded by Chamber of Commerce Representative Merchant, to approve the Agenda. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Public Comment

Board Member Ross phoned in to listen to the meeting.

Approve Minutes

Motion by Business Representative Vercammen, seconded by Chamber of Commerce Representative Merchant, to approve the Community & Economic Development Board minutes of March 1, 2023. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Unfinished Business

300 Broadway

300 Broadway Committee Member Merchant spoke to the 300 Broadway Committee piecing out the work in an effort to complete the MEDC Gathering Places grant opportunity. She stated it was important for supporters of the project to speak during the Public Hearing at the next City Commission meeting.

Business Representative Vercammen stated that the focus needed to be on restoring the beautiful building and what an asset it was for the community, as a whole.

13 Ways to Kill Your Community: Number 13 – Don't Take Responsibility

Chairperson Moran stated that people needed to stop saying and implying that something cannot be done and just "go for it." He suggested the Board recycle "13 Ways" starting with Chapter 1 on the next agenda.

Attracting New Business in Marine City

The Board discussed updates to the Chamber of Commerce website and Chamber President Merchant advised that they had just put a new map up.

Lake St. Clair Guide Design Approval

Chairperson Moran informed the Board that the Lake St. Clair Guide was available. Business Representative Vercammen stated the guide has been very popular at her restaurant and that she had already distributed four boxes.

New BusinessRiver Rec Teen Zone – Community Center

With the River Rec Teen Zone closing at the end of March, Chairperson Moran questioned the feasibility of converting the space into a trial community center.

Rediscover Marine City partnership with Chamber of Commerce

Chamber of Commerce President Merchant requested the discussion be tabled until the next Agenda as there were changes being discussed at the Chamber meetings.

Community Centered Outreach

Chairperson Moran stated that there was a strong focus on economic development but questioned if there was more that they could be doing for the community including developments to the King Road Park. He stated he would like the City to move forward with a request to the City Commission to utilize AARPA funds for engineering costs for park improvements including a skate park and splash pad. Interim City Manager Heaslip stated that project was likely more than the City staff could handle at this point.

Chairperson Moran informed the Board that there were scholarship opportunities for the Riverbank Theatre classes and requested the Board consider financially supporting a

student from each class level to attend. He stated that kids who wanted to apply could submit an essay to be judged by the Board. Chamber of Commerce Representative Merchant requested applicants have Marine City residency status.

Motion by Chairperson Moran, seconded by Business Representative Vercammen, for the CED to fund a scholarship to the Riverbank Theatre classes, for each age group, up to \$600, to be determined by an essay submission to be awarded to a Marine City resident. **Roll Call:** Ayes: Moran, Merchant, Vercammen, Weisenbaugh Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Chamber of Commerce Representative Merchant questioned if anyone had talked to the new Marine City Maritime Days Committee. Chamber President Merchant advised that she had informed them of the money due to the City. Interim City Manager Heaslip stated that the Maritime Days Committee had the option of requesting the previous fees be waived at a City Commission meeting.

Financial Request for Painting Supplies

Motion by Chairperson Moran, seconded by Business Representative Vercammen, to allocate no more than \$75 for paint to touch up the promotional chair and paint the cement backdrop. **Roll Call:** Ayes: Moran, Merchant, Vercammen, Weisenbaugh Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Open Discussion

Chamber of Commerce Representative Moran urged people who supported the grant application for 300 Broadway to speak at the Public Hearing at the next City Commission meeting.

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