



CITY OF MARINE CITY

Community & Economic Development Board Agenda

260 South Parker Street, Marine City, MI

Wednesday, August 23, 2023 6:00 PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **ROLL CALL:** Board Members Heather Hatcher, Cheryl Ross; Planning Commission Representative Joseph Moran; TIFA Board Representative Robert Weisenbaugh; Business Representative David Warner; Chamber of Commerce Representative Paul Merchant; City Manager Scott Adkins

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. July 26, 2023 Minutes

8. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. Discussion: 13 Ways to Kill Your Community (#4)

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Car Show

B. Redevelopment Ready and Best Practices - Adkins

10. **OPEN DISCUSSION**

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

**City of Marine City
Community and Economic Development Board
July 26, 2023**

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Community and Economic Development Board was held on Wednesday, July 26, 2023 at 260 South Parker Street, and was called to order by Chairperson Moran at 6:01 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairperson Moran.

Present: Planning Commission Representative (Chairperson) Joseph Moran; Board Member Cheryl Ross; TIFA Board Representative Bob Weisenbaugh Chamber of Commerce Representative Paul Merchant; Business Representative David Warner; Clerk Jason Bell.

Absent: Board Member Heather Hatcher; City Commission Representative Michael Hilferink; City Manager Scott Adkins

Motion by Board Member Ross, seconded by Chamber Representative Merchant, to excuse Board Member Hatcher from the meeting. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Communications

None.

Approve Agenda

Motion by Board Member Ross, seconded by Chamber Representative Merchant, to approve the Agenda. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Public Comment

None.

Approve Minutes

Motion by Board Member Ross, seconded by TIFA Representative Weisenbaugh, to approve the Community & Economic Development Board minutes of May 24, 2023. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Unfinished Business

13 Ways to Kill Your Community: Number 3: Don't Engage Youth

Board Member Ross stated until the grant decision was made, that the focus should be on parks being for youth and the Master Plan survey was geared toward older members. She also mentioned with Riverview East High School and River Rec Teen Zone closing, there wasn't much for youth in the community.

Chairperson Moran stated he was interested in the results of the survey and inquired if there were any art classes that could help with community promotion. Board Member Ross stated with Riverview East closing there were no resources available.

Chairperson Moran stated there was an uptick of young people working in town and it was nice to see.

Board Member Ross stated there used to be a job shadowing/mentoring program when Bob Klingler was involved with the board. Laura Merchant stated Laurie Gardner from Marine City High School was doing a job shadowing program with her business class in the Spring.

Master Plan Update

Chairperson Moran stated the Planning Commission received a Master Plan update at their last meeting with demographic statistics and that they included an economic impact district and identified demographics within that area. He also stated the income levels in Marine City were lower than other places within the radius and was requesting further breakdown of income levels.

Board Member Ross inquired if the numbers were distorted due to retirees.

Chairperson Moran stated the community survey was out and the City would have a booth at Maritime Days.

Board Member Ross stated most people who enjoy businesses are from out of town.

Grants and Parks Update

Chairperson Moran spoke on a parks update provided by City Manager Adkins in a brief and that the Tot-Lot was moving forward and no word on the 300 Broadway grant as of yet. Board Member Ross stated it was a shame the DNR Marina grant was taking so long but the site is being used.

Update on Newspaper Ads

Chamber Representative Merchant spoke on the newspaper ads being in the Goose Point paper, St. Clair Shores paper and Harrison Township paper. He stated it was a full

page ad that has ran three times and the next ad will be different than the previous with focus on historic value. Chamber Representative Merchant also stated the ads were working as people are using the coupons from the ads at the businesses and it was mostly people from out of town. He also stated brochures and stickers were done as well.

Chairperson Moran stated the challenge was to get Marine City people into town to shop. Chamber Representative Merchant stated Maritime Days was coming up and most Marine City residents would come into town for that.

TIFA Representative Weisenbaugh suggested to keep doing what was working and events bring in residents and out of towners which generates revenue.

Chairperson Moran inquired on an update about City Manager Adkins meeting with the East China Schools Superintendent. Clerk Bell provided an update from the Commission meeting, stating that the meeting was cancelled and was looking to be rescheduled. Chairperson Moran provided an update on the City's desire to purchase the land portion of Washington Life Center.

TIFA Representative Weisenbaugh stated out of towners are using the parks and the amenities.

New Business

None.

Open Discussion

TIFA Representative Weisenbaugh stated there was a need for a transit system between Marine City, Algonac and Clay Township to bring people from those areas here due to there being bigger marinas in Algonac and Clay. He also stated a desire to bring a car show/cruise night to town as it would bring in vendors and participants which brings revenue throughout the City. Chairperson Moran wanted to get a date together and apply to the City for a permit before the next meeting. TIFA Representative Weisenbaugh stated the event would not be until next fall.

Chairperson Moran stated there was a movement from the City Commission to revisit the blight ordinance regarding vacant buildings and he did not want to see the ordinance abandoned. He was looking forward to survey results to see if Marine City is a friendly town and if there was a need for the ordinance.

TIFA Representative Weisenbaugh stated it was hard to open a business as there are many steps involved and there was a need for a checklist with the application to guide potential business owners along.

Adjournment

Motion by Board Member Ross, seconded by Business Representative Warner, to adjourn at 7:00pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Bell
City Clerk