



MLK CORRIDOR AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES

May 25, 2023

CALL TO ORDER:

The MLK Corridor Authority (MLK CIA) met in-person at the Jackson King Center Recreation Center, 1107 Adrian St., Jackson, MI 49203. The meeting was called to order at _5:31__ pm by Anthony Parker.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: George Brown, Philicia Richmond, John Willis, Arlene Robinson, Daniel Mahoney, Diane Washington, Anthony Parker, Mindy Bradish-Orta, James Johnson

ABSENT: Thaddeus Williams

EXCUSED: None

ALSO PRESENT: Malik Goodwin- GWJ, Adrienne Pickett- Idea 39

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

A motion was made by _James Johnson_____ and seconded by _Mayor Mahoney_____ to adopt the agenda. Motion carried, and the agenda was adopted.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

There were no citizen comments made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by John Willis_____ and seconded by _James Johnson_____ to adopt the minutes from the April 27, 2023 Board of Directors meeting. The Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

John Willis provided a brief recap of the ‘Neighbors Helping Neighbors’ clean-up event that was held on Saturday, May 6, 2023. Adrienne Pickett from Idea 39, the marketing and communication firm, provided an update on its work and invited comments from the Board

regarding the proposed ‘mood, look and feel’ themes prepared for the planned website and all future marketing collateral. Adrienne also reported on the progress on the planning for the upcoming release of a community survey, targeting the MLK CIA development area and overlapping Wards located within the City of Jackson. The Board provided feedback and guidance. Malik Goodwin provided an update on the plans to conduct a business resource fair in July, Daniel Mahoney requested to have more involvement in the planning process.

NEW BUSINESS:

Malik Goodwin explained a grant funding opportunity coming through the State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and that the City of Jackson and the Jackson Community Foundation are also interested in partnering and applying. The City of Jackson, acting through its Recreation Department, intends on being the lead applicant and requests a letter of support from the MLK CIA for its desire to install new playground equipment at the King Recreation Center. _James Johnson_____ made a motion to allow staff to issue a letter of support to the City. It was seconded by _Diane Washington_____. The Motion passed.

REPORT:

Malik Goodwin provided an update on the proposed Entrepreneurial Program, and is working on the development and issuance of a request for proposals to hire a program administrator. Malik Goodwin also explained the SSBCI technical assistance program grant funding opportunity coming through the State, via its Michigan Economic Development Corporation. The program provides funding to certain eligible entities to provide legal, financial and accounting services to businesses and entrepreneurs requiring assistance. Lean Rocket Lab, an existing workforce development hub located in downtown Jackson, has indicated their desire to partner with other local business serving organizations (such as the Launch Pad), and desires to have the MLK CIA be a part of developing and submitting a competitive application. After some Board discussion, the Board Chair Anthony Parker advised the staff to help members of the Executive Committee facilitate additional meetings with representatives from Lean Rocket Lab and Launch Pad to discuss the details of partnership and confirm what the specific need of the MLK CIA would be. The Board identified dates to conduct a special Board meeting if necessary.

DIRECTOR’S COMMENTS:

The Directors provided parting comments.

ADJOURNMENT:

A Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by _James Johnson_____, seconded by _Mayor Mahoney_____. The Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at _7:15____ pm.