



MLK CORRIDOR AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES

September 28, 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 5:32 pm by Anthony Parker.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: George Brown, John Willis, Daniel Mahoney, Diane Washington, Anthony Parker, James Johnson, Arlene Robinson

ABSENT: Philicia Richmond, Thaddeus Williams, Mindy Bradish-Orta

EXCUSED:

ALSO PRESENT: Malik Goodwin & Keyra Cokely (via Zoom)- GWJ, Monica Moser- Jackson Community Foundation, Adrienne Pickett- Idea 39 (via Zoom)

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

A motion was made by Daniel Mahaney and seconded by James Johnson to adopt the agenda. Motion carried, and the agenda was adopted.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

There were 1 citizen comments made. Citizen comments ranged in topic area from having a desire to know more about MLK CIA activities, expressed dissatisfaction with staff efforts to coordinate marketing efforts to promote the upcoming Business Resource Fair.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Daniel Mahoney and seconded by Diane Washington to adopt the minutes from the August 24 2023 Board of Directors meeting and the September 14, 2023 Special Board of Directors Meeting. Both Motions carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Idea 39 provided an update on marketing activities and provided an overview to the Board regarding the draft marketing & outreach plan that they've developed for the MLK CIA. Idea 39 would like to set up a separate meeting soon with the Board to provide a more detailed presentation regarding its content. John Willis and Monica Moser from the Jackson Community Foundation provided an overview of what the MLK CIA Entrepreneur Fund grant review committee roles and responsibilities will be, and what the internal procedures will be to select the committee members from the public. A minimum of 4 committee member seats would be selected by the MLK CIA staff as per the previous direction provided by the Board of Directors. Keyra Cokely provided an update to the Board and responded to questions regarding the plans to hold a second Business Resource Fair on October 30, 2023, at the MLK Recreation Center. The Entrepreneur Fund will be announced at the Business Resource Fair. Malik Goodwin reminded the Board of the invitation extended to the MLK CIA by the Jackson Chamber to participate in in the JAXPO Business Showcase, to be held on October 19, 2023. John Willis agreed to attend and will identify other board members to join him.

NEW BUSINESS:

John Willis and Monica Moser discussed how the Entrepreneur Fund grant application form will be finalized by the grant review committee (once in place), prior to its publishing. The Jackson Community Foundation has already developed a preliminary application, benchmarked from an application format from a similar program being operated in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Added Motion by Daniel Mahoney and seconded by James Johnson to discuss the façade program and create a fund specific to the residential façade program, including structural and code concerns. Motion passed. Due to an unforeseen circumstance, the planned 2nd Community Clean-up Day will be moved to a later date, targeting October 14, 2023. Motion by Diane Washington and seconded by Arlene Robinson for the City of Jackson to collaborate on October 14th from 8:00am to 2:00pm, for the clean up, motion carried

STAFF REPORT:

Staff made no additional comments.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS:

The Directors provided parting comments. The comments ranged from feeling good about the work being done, the desire to keep making steady progress, expressed thanks for the participation of the Jackson Community Foundation with the Entrepreneur Fund project.

ADJOURNMENT:

A Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by James Johnson, seconded by John Willis. The Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 pm.