



MLK CORRIDOR AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES

October 26, 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 5:35 pm by Anthony Parker.

ROLL CALL:

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

ABSENT: James Johnson

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 Mindy Brandish Orta and seconded by John Willis to adopt a modified agenda, adding an item regarding conflict/ no conflict of interest disclosure. Motion carried, and the modified agenda was adopted.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

John Willis made a motion that all MLK CIA Board members publicly disclose whether they have any conflicts of interest related to actions taken regarding the Entrepreneurial Fund. The motion was seconded by _____. The Board had discussion and the Motion passed. A roll call vote was taken. All Board members present declared that they had no conflict of interest.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

There were 4 citizen comments made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by John Willis and seconded by Philicia Richmond to adopt the minutes from the September 26, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting. The Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

John Willis reported on his participation at the JAXPO Business Showcase that was held on October 19, 2023. He and Diane Washington served as representatives of the MLK CIA at a booth during the event. GWJ and Board members offered comments regarding the final preparations and desired outcomes of the Business Resource Fair being held on October 31, 2023. John Willis and Monica from the Jackson Community Foundation made comments regarding the planned announcement for the Entrepreneurial Fund, to occur at the Business Resource Fair, and plans to recruit selection committee members to help evaluate and select grant awardees. John Willis made a motion to allocate \$250,000 of ARPA monies (appropriated to the MLK CIA by the City of Jackson) as a first tranche of funding to advance the Entrepreneurial Fund program. The Motion was seconded by Philicia Richmond. The Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

GWJ provided an update on its activities with the City in attracting a grocery store to the MLK CIA development area. GWJ has plans to follow up with American One Credit Union, who has expressed interest in being more involved with the plans. Idea 39 provided and updated the Board on its marketing and communications strategy work.

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 public and the Jackson Community Foundation.

ADJOURNMENT:

A Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by John Willis, seconded by Daniel Mahoney. The Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned 6:45pm.