

KALAMAZOO COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
MINUTES

MEETING DATE: Thursday, March 25, 2010
PLACE OF MEETING: County Administration Building

Present were: Clare Annen, Ruth Blake, Leroy Crabtree, Ken Peregón, Julie Rogers, Matthew VanDyk, Thell Woods
Kalamazoo Township: George Cochran
Staff Support: David Artley, Jeff Hawkins (consultant), Lotta Jarnefelt
Excused: Larry Baumgart
Absent: Robert Barnard, Marc Hatton, Representatives from Augusta and Comstock
Recording Secretary: Lori Pyatt

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Woods called the meeting to order at 5:42 pm.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board agreed that two sections of the minutes were confusing and adjustments would need to be made before their approval, which would happen on the next agenda.

3. CITIZENS COMMENTS

There were no comments made.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

There was nothing on the Consent Calendar.

5. REPORT – EVENT CENTER

- It appeared that placing the excise tax on the ballot would be on the County Board agenda for April 6th.
- RZF bonds would be used if the ballot initiative passed. These would not require Davis-Bacon and would not cover the entire cost.
- Discussion ensued on RZF bonds beyond the 27 million and personal endowments. Mr. Artley said that even if the excise tax were approved, three more critical points would need to be resolved before the bonds would be issued.
- It was stated that even if the voters approve the tax, the County would not have to levy it.

6. KALAMAZOO COUNTY LAND BANK

- The next meeting would be April 8th at 8am.
- Treasurer Mary Balkema would be invited for a presentation during the May meeting of the EDC.

7. EVENT CENTER VETTING COMMITTEE (ECVC)

The Vetting Committee believed that the County General Fund was protected on both construction and operations if all the present commitments were followed through on.

8. ARCADIA COMMONS WEST

- The Community Benefit Agreements group (made up of ISAAC members, PRI, and others) was working to focus on social justice issues, seeking to insure that operations would pay a living wage, for instance.
- Discussion on local preference had been held, and would be further discussed at the County's April 6th 4pm meeting.
- Mr. Artley agreed to share the next County agendas.

9. OTHER

A. Nominating committee:

During the BRA meeting, Ms. Blake and Mr. Peregon agreed to serve on the Nominating Committee. A meeting date would be scheduled soon.

B. County Board of Commissioners Sub-Committees and their impact on the EDC:

Discussion was held during the BRA meeting.

C. Retreat:

Discussion was held during the BRA meeting.

10. BOARD MEMBERS COMMENTS

No comments were made.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:01 pm.

Next meeting: April 22, 2010 Annual Meeting and a Regular Meeting

Respectfully submitted: LP