



MLK CORRIDOR AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES

December 7, 2023

CALL TO ORDER:

The MLK Corridor Improvement 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, Arlene Robinson, Philicia Richmond, James Johnson

ABSENT: Thaddeus Williams

EXCUSED: Mindy Bradish-Orta

ALSO PRESENT: Malik Goodwin- GWJ, Monica Moser- Jackson Community Foundation, Tori Sullivan Cortez- Idea 39 (via Zoom)

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

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

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

There were three citizen comments made. Comments and questions were made about the timing on when received Entrepreneurial Fund applications will be reviewed, awardee announcements made, and award funding availability. There was a question about whether MLK CIA incentives extend into the flatiron district area, and requests were made of the Board for more transparency about the activities of the MLK CIA so that more people can stay updated about planned and ongoing events.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

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

REVIEW OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDER RFP:

Malik Goodwin provided an overview of a draft request for proposals to solicit certain technical assistance services to make available to complement the needs of people & businesses located in the MLK CIA development area, as well as Entrepreneurial Fund applicants and awardees. The Board decided to review and act on accepting a final draft of the RFP on December 14, 2023 at 6:00 pm at the MLK Recreation Center. A motion was made by Daniel and seconded by John Willis to establish a special meeting on December 14, 2023. The Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Idea 39 provided an update on executing on its MLK CIA outreach plan recommendations, such as the installation of yard signs and a suggestions/ solutions box in the development area, inviting ideas from the community. Idea 39 plans to present these concepts in more detail at the next communications committee. Idea 39 also has plans for e-mailing newsletters on a bi-monthly basis. John Willis and Monica Moser from the Jackson Community Foundation provided an update on the status of the Entrepreneurial Fund, indicating the progress made to assemble and orient the evaluation committee members, intake received applications (42 were received), and prepare for the proposal evaluation process. The goal is for the Board to receive and act on a recommendation from the committee by the end of this month.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Board confirmed that the Board of Directors meeting will take place on December 28, 2023, and that a holiday party will take place afterwards.

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 to the evaluation committee members, and happy holiday wishes were offered.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.