



**CITY OF ALLEGAN
Economic Development Corporation and
Brownfield Redevelopment Authority
Allegan City Hall
Trowbridge Street, Allegan, MI 49010
Wednesday, August 5, 2020
12:00noon**

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 12:07pm.

II. Attendance

Present: Chair Mike Kiella, Kim Munn, Tim Perrigo, and Mike Walsh

Absent: Peter Hanse, Lovedia Stap, Craig VanMelle

Others Present: Joel Dye, City Manager; Sarah Perrigo, City Manager Intern

III. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Kim Munn offered a motion with support from Tim Perrigo to approve the minutes from the previous meeting on July 1, 2020. **Motion carried 4-0.**

IV. Public Comment

None were heard.

V. Discussion

a. Receive Economic Development Plan from Subcommittee

Tim Perrigo offered a motion with support from Kim Munn to receive the Economic Development Plan from the Subcommittee. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Chair Mike Kiella expressed a desire to endorse this plan and forward it to the Allegan City Council.

Kim Munn offered a motion with support from Tim Perrigo to endorse this plan and forward the plan to the Allegan City Council. **Motion carried 4-0.**

b. Discussion of Economic Development Corporation Status and Title

Chair Mike Kiella discussed overview of formation and purpose of Economic Development Corporations across the State of Michigan; then discussed past functionings of the City of Allegan Economic Development Corporations. Chair Mike Kiella stated feelings that currently the Economic Development Corporation functions as a commission. City Manager Joel Dye and Chair Mike Kiella discussed mechanism, such as City Council joint work session, to discuss purpose of Economic Development Corporation. Joel Dye expressed desire to continue quarterly meetings and remain at the status quo; does not see possibility of Economic Development Corporation acting as a holding company for the foreseeable future.

Mike Walsh expressed concern over simply loading projects onto Joel Dye's workload, and a lack of communication with the community. Discussion of ways to open communication channels with community stakeholders. Discussion of how business networking opportunities hosted by the Allegan Area Chamber of Commerce have not been utilized by local businesses; unknown why.

Chair Mike Kiella stated need for housing to feed into education systems and workforce. Kiella synthesizes main idea he has heard as need for listening sessions in conjunction with Lakeshore Advantage to open communication channels.

c. Initial Discussion of Autumn Economic Summit

Chair Mike Kiella opened question as to what stakeholders need to be invited to quarterly meetings to open communication channels. General consensus on Greg King from Lakeshore Advantage and the Allegan County Economic Development Corporation. Note of need for education system representative such as Bill Brown. City Manager Joel Dye expressed desire of stakeholders with needed skillsets, not simply an interest in the community.

Discussion of need to disseminate factual information as a committee as a whole. Specifically brought up in response to "infactual" Letters to the Editor regarding 101 Brady Street development opportunities. Mike Kiella expressed desire to continue this discussion and monitor information being sent out in the public eye for factuality.

Discussion of Statement of Investment to explain why investment is needed and what commercial and industrial development is desired in the City of Allegan. Intention of Chair Mike Kiella to structure such a document to send to committee for discussion.

Mike Walsh offered a motion with support by Mike Kiella to request an informal meeting with Allegan County Area Technical Center representatives. **Motion carried 4-0.**

VI. Member and Staff Comments

Chair Mike Kiella expressed desire to continue considering the meaning of “transformative” in relation to the Economic Development Commission.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55.