



CITY OF ALLEGAN
Economic Development Corporation
Griswold Auditorium
401 Hubbard Street, Allegan MI 49010
Wednesday, May 6, 2015

I. Call to Order

Vice Chair vanMelle called the meeting to order at 12:06P.

II. Attendance

Present: Craig vanMelle, Tim Perrigo, Nora Balgoyen-Williams, Bruce Campbell, Rachel McKenzie

Absent: Sheila Dever, Lovedia Stap, Mike Walsh

Others

Present: Robert Hillard

III. Approval of the Previous Minutes

Bruce Campbell, supported by Tim Perrigo, made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 1, 2015, meeting. Motion carried. Rachel McKenzie abstained.

IV. Old Business

1. Research Community College Presence in Allegan

The Committee discussed its goal related to post-secondary presence in the Allegan Area. The group discussed its role in taking a strong advocacy position in this initiative. Craig vanMelle, supported by Bruce Campbell, made a motion to change the goal to “Research a Post-Secondary College presence in Allegan”. Motion passed by acclamation.

2. STEM Workshop – April 30, 2015

Nora Balgoyen-Williams outlined the STEM initiative being sponsored by AAESA. Some material was provided in order to illustrate the amount of programs created to support the initiative from Pre-K through 13 Grade. The group discussed the options and supported this process. R. Hillard encouraged a couple members to attend the workshops in order to keep the group updated, and show community support.

3. Placemaking Workshops Grand Rapids/Kalamazoo

Robert Hillard encouraged members to attend either the Kalamazoo or Grand Rapids workshop.

4. 2015/16 Goals

Robert Hillard reviewed the goals, and indicated that we are making progress. He indicated his appreciation for the support of the group. The group agreed to participate in an in-house workshop with Gordon Wickens related to the importance of post-secondary education. Robert Hillard will invite him to the next meeting for a presentation.

V. New Business

VI. Minutes and Reports

The following reports were either provided-discussed or committee members were given an opportunity to ask questions.

*Positively Allegan (Rachel)

*Restructuring Committee (Craig, Mike)

*Aesthetics Committee (Bruce)

*Downtown Development Authority (Rachel)

*Planning Commission (Rob)

*Highland Business Park - Architectural Control Committee (Mike)

*Allegan Area Chamber of Commerce (Tim)

Director Tim Perrigo discussed the marketing workshop being sponsored by the Chamber. He indicated the golf outing is coming up, and it is a great day to network. He also indicated that membership is increasing, and appreciated the support.

*Allegan County Economic Development Committee (Nora)

Nora Balygoyen-Williams updated the group on the County EDC. They are meeting in a variety of locations through-out the County. She discussed the Great Lakes Agricultural Incubator Initiative. And further spoke about discussions related to future financial support for the County economic initiative.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:02pm. The next meeting will be Wednesday, June 1, 2015.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Robert Hillard
City Manager**