



## **MLK CORRIDOR AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES**

July 27, 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 5:34 pm by Anthony Parker

### **ROLL CALL:**

PRESENT: George Brown, John Willis, Arlene Robinson, Daniel Mahoney, Diane Washington, Thaddeus Williams, Anthony Parker,

ABSENT: James Johnson

EXCUSED: Philicia Richmond

ALSO PRESENT: Malik Goodwin- GWJ, Tori Sullivan-Cortez & Kevin Johnson- Idea 39

### **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:**

A motion was made by \_Daniel Mahoney and seconded by \_John Willis\_ to adopt the agenda. Motion carried, and the agenda was adopted.

### **PRESENTATION:**

Mr. Jon Autry made a presentation to the Board regarding his proposed affordable housing development project that would be built in the MLK CIA development area. Mr. Autry is proposing the building of 24 housing units. Mr. Autry requested a letter of recommendation from the MLK CIA, addressed to the Jackson City Council, who has the authority to approve sale and transfer of city land (6 parcels) to Mr. Autry's development entity.

Daniel Mahoney made a motion to direct staff to generate a letter of recommendation that can be executed by the executive committee, conditioned upon the review and acceptance of a formal proposal from Mr. Autry. The motion was seconded by John Willis, and the motion passed.

### **CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

There were five (5) citizen comments made. Comments ranged in topics including the desire to see more community engagement, more of a focus on existing businesses located in the district,

more employment opportunities for local Jackson contractors, and tighter implementation schedules. Other comments included the request for greater awareness about climate change and the need to integrate it into future planning. Comments also included a reminder about an upcoming arts show at Segue on September 9, 2023. Comments also were made regarding the benefits of embracing historic preservation policies as the development area is being slated for improvement. There was a comment about the meeting minutes not being readily available, and the desire to see more detail regarding Director's comments.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A motion was made by Daniel Mahoney and seconded by Diane Washington to adopt the minutes from the June 22, 2023 Board of Directors meeting. The Motion carried.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Idea 39 provided an update on the progress of the community survey. Idea 39 reported out that they've knocked on over 700 doors, and collected 196 responses so far, with plans to reach 304. The Board requested that Idea 39 survey more businesses along the corridor. The Board passed a motion to extend the survey period to August 15, 2023. John Willis agreed to work with Idea 39 to identify and fill available internship positions. The Board also provided Idea 39 with events to add to the August online social calendar.

Malik Goodwin and Keyra Cokely provided an update on the results of the Business Resource Fair, which occurred on July 26, 2023. The Board discussed what went well and identified areas for improvement with future business resource fairs. The Board was in favor of there being additional fairs for the benefit of local businesses and entrepreneurs in the development area. Malik Goodwin also provided an update on the status of the solicitation process to hire a program administrator to assist with the development, launch and operation of the MLK CIA Entrepreneurial Program. Malik Goodwin recommended that the Board consider adopting a resolution accepting the proposal from the Jackson Community Foundation. A motion was made by Daniel Mahoney and seconded by John Willis to adopt the resolution. The motion passed.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

John Willis provided an update on plans by the City of Jackson to hold an additional neighborhood corridor clean-up event on August 26, 2023, targeting the area along S. MLK Drive between High St. And South St.

### **STAFF REPORT:**

Staff made no additional comments.

### **DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS:**

The Directors provided parting comments. The comments ranged from being underwhelmed with the results from the business fair but hopeful for future events, being grateful for public

participation and interest in the work of the MLK CIA, reminder about a garden party being hosted by YPOP, the importance of keeping the public record, appreciation of the staff, and encouraging the movement of the planned programs and activities.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mindy Bradish Orta and seconded by George Brown. The Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 pm.