



MLK CORRIDOR AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES

September 14, 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 special meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm by Anthony Parker.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: George Brown (via videoconference), John Willis, Daniel Mahoney, Diane Washington, Anthony Parker, James Johnson

ABSENT: Philicia Richmond, Arlene Robinson, Thaddeus Williams, Mindy Bradish-Orta

EXCUSED:

ALSO PRESENT: Malik Goodwin, Keyra Cokely- GWJ, Monica Moser- Jackson Community Foundation (both, via videoconference)

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

A motion was made by James Johnson and seconded by John Willis to adopt the agenda. Motion carried, and the agenda was adopted.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

There were no citizen comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

No minutes were approved. The minutes of the August 24, 2023 Board of Directors meeting will be a part of the agenda on September 28, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Monica Moser and John Willis explained the desired size and preferred approach to evaluating the candidates from the community for the MLK CIA Entrepreneurial Fund (the, “Fund”) grant review committee. The desired size of the committee would be seven (7), including 1 candidate from the Jackson Community Foundation, 2 candidates from the MLK CIA Board of Directors, and 4 candidates from the community. Monica Moser indicated that Ms. Victoria Moore with the Jackson Community Foundation, will be their representative. John proposed and discussed with Board the public release and intake of completed committee applications from September 18 through October 20, 2023. John and Monica would like to have the committee seated and ready to confirm the details of the fund, evaluate and release the application form by November 1, and be ready to evaluate proposals and make initial Fund award announcements by the end of the year. Monica expressed the importance of having and indicating conflict of interest disclosure requirements associated with being a committee member, and a program applicant. John also discussed with the Board various ways to market the Fund committee member opportunities and the overall program in a series of ways: Facebook/ Meta Ads, direct mail, targeted e-mail listings, targeted text messaging (using CODE RED), direct contact to community members/ leaders, marketing ‘pop-ups’ on the MLK CIA website (with links to apply). Daniel Mahoney made a motion to support the staff and Jackson Community Foundations overall plan to form the Fund committee and authorized staff to market and publish the committee application form by September 18. James Johnson supported the motion. The motion was approved. Daniel Mahoney made separate motions to select Thaddeus Williams (James Johnson supported the motion) and Minday Bradish-Orta (John Willis supported the motion) as the MLK CIA Board representatives to serve on the Fund committee. The motions were approved. Daniel Mahoney made a motion to acknowledge the committee selection of Ms. Victoria Moore by the Jackson Community Foundation. Diane Washington seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

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, asking to keep Member Robinson in thoughts as she recovers from illness, thanks for the participation of the Jackson Community Foundation with this project, and plans to hold upcoming meetings regarding getting a grocer in the neighborhood.

ADJOURNMENT:

A Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Anthony Parker, seconded by John Willis. The Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 pm.