
MICHIGAN ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Executive Committee Minutes

March 14, 2023

10 am – 12 pm

Ann Arbor Marriott Ypsilanti at Eagle Crest 1275 S Huron St. Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Or Virtually via Zoom

Members Present & Virtual Attendance:

Sheldon Neeley

Tom Lutz

Beth Ardisana

Bobby Hopewell

Ryan Waddington

Krista Flynn

Kyle Caldwell

Chris MacInnes

Fay Beydoun

Awenate Cobbina

Bill Pink

Krista Flynn

Dave Meador

Members Absent:

April Clobes

Bob McMahan

Phil Shaltz

LaJune Montgomery Tabron

Mike McLauchlan

Staff Present:

Amiee Evans

Steve Bakka

Lynne Feldpausch

Christin Armstrong

Jen Nelson

Amy Rencher

Michelle Grinnell

Linda Ascitutto

Michele Wildman

Brad Heffner

Michele Wildman

Quentin Messer

Aileen Bovan

Matt McCauley

Jill Trepkoski

Lavonne Blonde

I. Call to order

Mr. Cobbina called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. He requested that Ms. Armstrong provide any necessary communications. There were no communications. A roll call was performed to determine attendance. A quorum of the Executive Committee was not immediately present, and Mr. Cobbina modified the order of the agenda while waiting for additional members to join. The meeting was held at the Ann Arbor Marriott Ypsilanti at Eagle Crest, 1275 S. Huron St. Ypsilanti, MI 48197. Members of the Executive Committee, MEDC staff, and the public could also participate virtually via Zoom.

II. Public Comment

Mr. Cobbina invited public comment, Mr. Anterjot Singh Bains introduced himself and addressed the committee saying he is excited to join today's meeting, in a learning capacity, to see how we contribute to the improvement of our State.

III. Finance Subcommittee Report

Ms. Ardisana provided a review of our current financial statements, indicating the organization remains financially strong.

IV. Audit & Governance Subcommittee Report

Ms. Flynn advised the financial audit of the MEDC and MSF have been closed with unmodified opinions. Ms. Flynn also provided updates on current and future audits.

V. CEO Report

Mr. Messer thanked the committee members for their leadership and provided brief updates on the history and strength of the MEDC's pipeline as well as legislative updates. He requested MEDC colleagues provide updates on specific topics: Ms. Nelson, Customer Experience update; Ms. Bován, DEI update; Ms. Rencher, Small Business Services Program update; Ms. Feldpausch, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) transfer update; and Ms. Grinnell, Marketing update. Each provided the requested updates and received feedback and questions from Executive Committee Members.

After the CEO Report a quorum was declared and Mr. Cobbina resumed the regular order of the agenda.

VI. Chairman's Report

Mr. Cobbina asked if there were any questions, changes, or corrections to the January 17, 2023, minutes. There were none. *Beth Ardisana moved to approve the minutes of the January 17, 2023 meeting and Fay Beydoun supported the motion. A vote was taken with 13 aye votes, 0 nay votes. The motion passed unanimously.*

Mr. Cobbina advised members that discussion with the Governor's office as well as the MEDC have taken place to add a vice-chair to the Executive Committee who would expand the committee leadership geographically, broaden relationships, etc. Mr. Cobbina recommended Ms. Flynn. *Fay Beydoun moved to appoint Ms. Flynn as Vice-Chair of the MEDC Executive Committee and Dr. Bill Pink supported the motion. A vote was taken with 13 aye votes, 0 nay votes. The motion passed unanimously.*

Mr. Cobbina recognized Executive Committee Member, Ms. Chris MacInnes and thanked her for her 17 years of dedicated service to the Committee.

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VII. Open Discussion

Mr. Cobbina opened up the floor for any open discussion. Ms. Messer thanked the Executive Committee for their feedback and support. Mr. Anterjot Singh Bains, guest, thanked the committee and really enjoyed the marketing presentation.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.