



Andy Schor, Mayor

**S. MLK Corridor Improvement Authority
Board of Director's Monthly Meeting**
Thursday, November 17, 2022 – 1:00 PM

Members Present: Amanda Defrees, Nikki Soldan, Teresa Stokes

Members Absent: Price Dobernick (excused), Don "Moose" Sober (excused)

Facilitator Present: Aurelius Christian (LEDC)

Guests Present:

Public: Simon Verghese (LEDC), Elaine Womboldt

Recorded by: Aurelius Christian (LEDC)

Call to Order/ Roll Call

Vice Chair Defrees called the meeting to order at 1:20 p.m.

S. MLK Meeting Minutes October 20, 2022 (Action)

MOTION: Soldan moved to approve the S.MLK CIA Meeting Minutes from October 20, 2022, as presented. Motion seconded by Stokes.

YEAS: Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Development & Finance Plan Update

Christian provided an update on the timeline for the approval of the Development and Finance Plan. He explained that there will be a public hearing

on December 5th and the Plans should receive approval at the December 12th City Council meeting.

ARPA Funds

Defrees suggested adding signs to the corridor and discussion followed. Stokes discussed the positioning of the signs to be welcoming to the southside of Lansing.

Defrees discussed painting items such as electrical boxes and suggested finding locations for signs. Christian provided insight on the boundaries of the corridor. Soldan suggested putting a mural on the side of Soldan's Pet Supplies store. Defrees suggested adding a mural to the side of 517 Coffee if the owner approves or other businesses near highway 96.

Stokes suggested using the McLaren building for affordable housing. Discussion ensued regarding the size of the space and other uses: community center, retirement housing, etc.

Defrees inquired about where Kathie Dunbar's business operates. Discussion followed that it has been in the farmer's market. Soldan suggested using funds to enhance the farmer's market including spaces that make the market more permanent.

Elaine discussed a development on S Waverly where the community has been engaged with Brent Forsberg to provide community input. She also discussed other developments in the South Lansing area including Logan Square.

Elaine discussed the Harmony Festival, a non-substance related free event for families. She discussed the history and activities of the festival, and the recent challenges with raising funds from businesses in today's market conditions. She further discussed the impact of a free event for the community, and that Jason (from Rejuvenating South Lansing) is starting the event back up next year. Defrees suggested the CIA partnering with Jason to put something together on the corridor.

Defrees summarized the various ideas brought up regarding different uses of funds: signs, murals, and cleanup events.

Soldan suggested having a volunteer appreciation event after a cleanup and using funds for that. Christian discussed looking into the stipulations regarding spending the ARPA funds to see what's possible. Soldan discussed looking into

grants for murals and other placemaking efforts. She further discussed sustainable efforts such as flowers that don't have to be replanted every year.

Christian discussed working to develop branding for the CIA and having discussion about the mission and vision of the CIA. Soldan discussed rejuvenating the corridor as part of its purpose. Christian discussed vision and mission statements and provided examples. Soldan suggested the board think about the mission and vision statements and bring ideas to the next meeting.

Other Business

None.

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

Vice Chair Defrees moved to adjourn the S.MLK Board of Directors Meeting at 2:03 pm.


x _____
Price Dobernack
S.MLK CIA, Chair