
CITY OF KALAMAZOO
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
Thursday, September 16, 2010 - 7:30 a.m. • Community Room, City Hall

MEMBERS PRESENT: Stephanie Bell*; Fritz Brown; Susan Einspahr; Jim Escamilla; Bob Miller; Doug Phillips; Tom Schlueter; Nancy Troff; Myra Willis

MEMBERS ABSENT: John MacKenzie; Jim McIntyre

CITY COMMISSIONERS/CITY STAFF PRESENT: Jerome Kisscorni (EDC Executive Director); John Kneas (Assistant City Attorney); Martha Aills (Special Projects Coordinator); Marc Hatton (Redevelopment Project Manager); Eric Kemmer (Redevelopment Coordinator); Tonya Sloan (Administrative Secretary); Matthew Greenberg (Intern)

Meeting was called to order at 7:31 a.m. by Chair Escamilla

MOTION TO EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS: Ms. Sloan reported that Mr. McIntyre had indicated that he would be absent. Ms. Einspahr moved to excuse Mr. McIntyre; supported by Mr. Miller. Motion approved by voice vote unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mr. Schlueter moved approval of the agenda; supported by Ms. Troff. Motion approved by voice vote unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JULY 15, 2010: Mr. Brown moved approval of the minutes; supported by Ms. Troff. Motion approved by voice vote unanimously.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR PERIOD ENDING JULY 31, 2010: Mr. Kisscorni outlined the activity during the period. Ms. Troff moved approval of the financial statements; supported by Ms. Einspahr. Motion approved by voice vote unanimously.

* Ms. Bell joined the meeting at 7:34 a.m.

NEW BUSINESS

INTRODUCTION OF DR. KAY PALAN, DEAN OF THE HAWORTH COLLEGE OF BUSINESS: Mr. Miller stated that Dr. Palan came to WMU from Iowa State University. He outlined her background, which includes extensive experience in marketing. Dr. Palan stated that one of her goals is to have a more active presence in the business community, so she is trying to get out and meet with the business leaders. She discussed some of the programs and initiatives being undertaken by the college. Staff and students at the Haworth College of Business have a lot of expertise that she would like to make available to the community, and she encouraged board members to contact the college if they become aware of a need that the college can assist with.

CONSIDERATION OF A RECOMMENDATION TO RECOMMEND TO THE CITY COMMISSION THE EXTENSION OF PA 198 INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES EXEMPTION

CERTIFICATE 2007-567 FOR KALEXSYN, INC.: Mr. Kisscorni stated that in 2007, the city was approached by several groups about our tax abatement policy. They wanted to make sure that the companies receiving abatements were hiring the employees and making the investments that they said they would. As a result, the city cut the length of time of the abatements in half but said that we would extend the certificate if the company had met its commitments. The EDC was designated as the body to review the certificates and make a recommendation to the City Commission. This certificate for Kalexsyn is the first instance where this new policy will be implemented. Economic Development staff met with representatives from Kalexsyn and found that they have met all of their commitments and are a shining star in our business community. **Mr. Miller moved that the board recommend that the City Commission extend PA 198 IFT Exemption Certificate 2007-567 for Kalexsyn; supported by Ms. Einspahr. Motion approved by roll call vote unanimously.**

ADJOURNMENT: 7:55 a.m.

Tonya Sloan, Recording Secretary

Jim Escamilla, Chair