Members Present: Ben Damerow, Bobby Hopewell, Don Cooney, Patrese Griffin, Carol McGlinn, Brenda Hughes, Matt Lynn (Late), Cyckeia Lee

City Staff: Dorla Bonner, Community Investment Manager (Late); Laura Lam, Assistant City Manager; Kevin Ford, Shared Prosperity Kalamazoo Coordinator, Jennifer Gutierrez, Community Investment Secretary, Sean Fletcher, Park & Recreation Director

Members Absent: Sholanna Lewis, Tim Ready

Guests: None

Call to Order

Mayor Bobby Hopewell called the meeting to order at approximately 12:35 p.m.

Roll Call

Mr. Ford conducted roll call of organizing committee and determined quorum existed

Approval of Absences

Mr. Cooney supported by Ms. Griffin – moved to approve Absences. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed.

Approval of (regular/special) minutes of the last meeting

Mr. Damerov supported by Ms. Lee – moved to approve February 18, 2019 minutes. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed.

Approval of Agenda

Mayor Hopewell asked members if there were any objections. Mr. Ford responds adding to the Miscellaneous. Seeing no objection, a consensus had been reached. No formal motion was made at that time.

No changes consent-

Reports of Officers, Boards and Committees

A. Jobs (Ben Damerow)

Mr. Damerow discussed the four proposals that were mentioned at the last meeting. Mr. Damerow describes and summarizes each proposal objective. He mentioned that there
was concern of the high funding request proposal from Urban Alliance. He will be working with them to try to identify the highest priority needs and lower the funding. He mentioned that they wanted to know if there were potential for funding to come from the FFE budget.

1. Urban Alliance proposal of describing who they are and their mission.
2. People of Change Prisoner Reentry Pilot
3. Employee Transportation Support (ETS)
4. Creating Opportunity for High Quality Childhood Education

The Committee discusses their questions and concerns between each proposal and increasing employment. The budgets for some of the proposal need more official clarification.

B. Families (Kevin Ford)

Mr. Ford explains that Ms. Snyder retired and that she will no longer be overseeing the family goal team or on the organizing committee. He mentions that with the committees approval Kym Hollers with be taken over Ms. Snyder position but will not be able to begin her new role until May 16th, pending committees approval.

Ms. Hughes supported by Mr. Cooney moved to approve to submit a recommendation for Kym Hollers. A vice vote was taken and the motion passed.

Mr. Ford mentions that the families that met had a few recommendations. A community navigator is one recommendation but there is no official budget currently. There is also VITA but they won’t be available until the fall and it is still in question if there will even be a VITA program in the fall due to certain situations. Mr. Ford mentions that he is in between working with Kalamazoo College on producing a transportation recommendation to present.

C. Youth (Cykeia Lee)

Ms. Lee discusses the Youth Goal Team proposals objectives. She explains that with the “The Building Protective Factors & Early Learning” They are requesting funds from the “Seeds for Success” program.

1. The STEAM Academy proposal
2. The Early Childhood Education proposal
3. The Building Protective Factors & Early Learning
4. Equity in Early Childhood Collaborative
The committee expresses concern how the proposals would suitably operate. The Committee agrees that there is a lot of missing information and that most of the proposals need more thought and data put into them.

**New Business**

- **Reviewing Recommendations (Kevin Ford)**

Mr. Ford mentions that the Organizing Committee Review and Recommendations will begin at next meeting.

The Committee discusses rather they should be scoring the Proposals and Recommendations.

**Unfinished Business (unfinished or pending matters)**

- **Advocacy Issues: Housing & Landlords (Patrese Griffin)**

Ms. Griffin explains that there is an issue of assisting tenants from being evicted. There is miscommunication between HRI, The Landlords and Tenants. HRI does not have enough funds to assist tenants from being evicted and not informing tenants they are no longer receiving assistance.

The Committee began to discuss ways to find alternative assistance for the tenants.

**Miscellaneous**

Ms. Bonner explains some of the results from the contractor’s survey. She also mentions that City of Kalamazoo has been selected for the “Get the Vote out 2020 Census”. She also explains that due to a slight shortage in the percentage of the previous ACS Community survey we lost some funding. She mentions that with the business development fund that will cover the expenses for individuals to take the Urban Farming Program Class.

**Public Comments—General**

Paul commented on the schooling program and how he appreciates the program benefits for other students.

**Adjournment**

Mayor Hopewell adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:02 pm
Shared Prosperity Kalamazoo (SPK) Organizing Committee
March 4, 2019
Minutes
Community Room, City Hall
241 West South Street

Submitted by: Kevin Ford Dated:
(Recording Secretary)

Reviewed by: __________________________ Dated: 6-4-19
(Staff Liaison)

Approved by: __________________________ Dated: 6-3-19
(SPK Organizing Committee Chair/Vice Chair)