
MICHIGAN ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Executive Committee Minutes

April 10, 2018

10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

Members Present:

Christine MacInnes
Doug Rothwell
Jeff Noel
Anmar Sarafa

Chris Rizik
Jeff Metts
Rob Collier
Fritz Erickson

Tom Moran
Liz Ardisana
Scott Newman-Bale
David Washburn

Members joined by phone:

Dave Meador

Karen Weaver

Members Absent:

John Brown
David Armstrong

Jack O'Reilly

Greg Northrup

Staff Present:

Amiee Evans
Lynne Feldpausch
Amanda Bright-McClanahan
Seun Phillips

Christin Armstrong
Linda Ascutto
Bob Metzger
Josh Hundt

Jeff Mason
Brad Heffner
Greg Tedder

I. Call to order

Mr. Rothwell called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m., a quorum was declared present. The meeting was held at the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, 300 N. Washington Sq. Lansing, MI 48913

II. Public Comment

Mr. Rothwell invited public comment, there was none.

III. Chairman's Report

- a. Mr. Rothwell asked if there were any questions, changes, or corrections regarding the February 2018 meeting minutes. There were none. *Mr. Rizik moved to approve the minutes of the February meeting and Mr. Moran supported the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

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- b. **Tribute to Mr. Gerald Poisson:** Mr. Rothwell presented a tribute to recognized Mr. Gerald Poisson for his dedicated service to the state of Michigan, Oakland County, and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation. *Mr. Collier moved to approve the Resolution and Ms. Ardisana and Mr. Newman-Bale supported the motion. The Resolution passed unanimously.*

- c. **Michigan Life Science Incubator:** Ms. Lynne Feldpausch provided an overview of the Michigan Life Sciences Incubator (MLSIC) managed by the MEDC. The facility, a 57,000 square foot science incubator is fully operational and the MEDC would like to create a wholly owned limited liability entity to perform oversight and administration. Restate and amend the agreement with the Michigan Land Bank, who owns the property and building, to specify the role of the LLC. A discussion ensued regarding the importance of web lab and science incubator space in the state in order to provide assistance in growing our small business and start up community. Mr. Rothwell noted that the MEDC should create a strategic plan to offer the Incubator for sale in the future. Following the discussion, *Ms. MacInnes moved to approve the Resolution to create an LLC to operate the MLSIC incubator and Mr. Rizik supported the Resolution. The Resolution passed unanimously.*

[At 10:29 am, Mr. Chris Rizik recused himself and exited the meeting. Mr. Rothwell recused himself from the vote.]

- d. **Invest Detroit Grant Amendment:** Ms. Amanda Bright-McClanahan provided an overview of the Invest Detroit agreement which was originally entered into on June 10, 2010 to provide funding for the Retail Loan Fund. She noted that since 2010 there have been changes to the market that have necessitated the need to restructure this agreement in order for Invest Detroit to continue to provide services in the city of Detroit. *Mr. Ardisana moved to approve the Resolution to amend the agreement with Invest Detroit, Mr. Sarafa supported. The Resolution was approved unanimously. Mr. Rizik and Mr. Rothwell were recused from the vote.*

IV. CEO Report

- a. Mr. Jeff Mason provided an update on the MEDC Scorecard including the year to date performance for the organization.

- b. Mr. Mason provided a handout to the Executive Committee which outlined the trajectory of the Pure Michigan Business Development Program since its inception. He noted that program continues to grow and facilitate revenue as well as business to business connections.

- c. Mr. Mason provided an update on the continued negotiations in regards to the fiscal year 2019 state budget.

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- d. Mr. Mason provided an overview of the site development activities being developed within the organization. He noted that staff is working towards identifying sites that can be pre-engineered for future business attraction

opportunities. Mr. Josh Hundt provided a more detail overview of the plan. A discussion ensued regarding the project and the Executive Committee asked for more information in the July meeting.

- e. Mr. Mason introduced Mr. Seun Phillips who provided an update and overview of the PlanetM business development activities since May of last year. Mr. Phillips reported that PlanetM is continuing to create and deepen more company relationships, make more strategic connections, generate more intelligence on Michigan's mobility supply base, and create better coordination between Michigan's mobility assets.

V. Open Discussion

Mr. Rothwell invited open discussion.

- a. The Executive Committee considered agenda items for the July 2018 meeting. They requested an update on transition material for the gubernatorial candidates, an update on the 2020 Census and business participation, and a continued discussion on consistency in measurement of statewide economic development metrics.

- VI.** The meeting was adjourned at 11:49 a.m.