Lansing Economic Development Corporation
Board of Director’s Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 17, 2020 – 8:30 AM
THIS MEETING WAS HELD ELECTRONICALLY*
* Michigan Executive Order 2020-75( COVID-19) provides temporary authorization of remote participation in public meetings and hearings.

Members Present: Calvin Jones, Thomas Donaldson, Blake Johnson, Brian McGrain, Shelley Davis-Boyd, Andrea Binoniemi

Members Absent: Kimberly Coleman, James Butler III, Frederick Schiable

Temp Members Present: None

Staff Present: Karl Dorshimer, Kris Klein, Rachel McIlvaine, Hannah Bryant

Guests: Jennifer Abood Morris, Andi Crawford

Call to Order
Chair Jones welcomed everyone and called the LEDC Board of Directors meeting to order at 8:36 am.

Approval of LEDC Board Meeting Minutes – Friday, May 15, 2020

MOTION: Johnson moved to approve the LEDC meeting minutes from the Friday, May 15 LEDC Board of Director’s meeting, as presented. Motion seconded by Binoniemi.

YEAS: Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Lansing Small Business Recovery Program
Update on LSBRP Rescue Fund
McIlvaine provided an update on the COVID-19 Rescue Fund and the first stage of the Lansing Small Business Recovery Program.

CDBG Rescue Fund Program
Klein provided an update on the upcoming programming of the LSBRP, including partnering with the City to utilize CDBG funding and partnering with LEAP on their One and All inclusive entrepreneurship program for women, minorities, veterans, and entrepreneurs below the ALICE threshold. Through these programs, the LEDC will focus on supporting more businesses in the City of Lansing.

MEDC Match on Main COVID-19 Response Program
Bryant provided an update that the LEDC sought Match on Main funding on behalf of the Corridor Improvement Authorities, but the application was not awarded funds. However, Downtown Lansing Inc also applied and their application was awarded. The LEDC will continue to seek outside funding for small business support.

Jones asked how businesses are doing that were awarded, and McIlvaine shared that many awardees were previously closed due to the pandemic and are now beginning to open. Klein stated
that he will be surveying the businesses to better understand how they are doing and what additional needs may be.

**Update on Financials Budget Update – Current Projected**
Dorshimer requested that this item be moved to later in the meeting, no objections.

**Approval of 2020/2021 Contract between the LEDC and LEAP (Action)**
Dorshimer walked through the contract between the LEDC and LEAP including individual items covered in the scope of work. The LSBRP was added to the scope of work. He explained that there is no contract with the City of Lansing this year, but the City Attorney was involved in the LEDC/LEAP contract drafting process. Binoniemi asked if the City of Lansing is supportive of this contract, and Dorshimer and McGrain confirmed that the City is supportive and spoke about the unique relationship between the LEDC, the City of Lansing, and LEAP. Donaldson asked about the fund balance and expressed concern with the sustainability of the LEDC funding the contract in coming years after this year. Abood Morris and Dorshimer explained that the funds exist to cover the contract in the short term but this year will need to look for ways to replenish the fund balances and prepare for the future.

**MOTION:** Johnson moved to approve the contract between the LEDC and LEAP as presented. Motion seconded by Donaldson.

**YEAS:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

**Approval of Economic Recovery Resource Developer Funding Support (Action)**
Dorshimer and Klein introduced Crawford to explain the proposal to hire for one-year a person to conduct fundraising and grant writing for the City of Lansing. Klein explained that this position represents a partnership with the city in community response and would allow strategic collaboration to go after funding opportunities. Crawford introduced the proposal for the Resource Developer, which would solely focus on raising funds for the City of Lansing and partner organizations in response to COVID-19. She stated there is a lot of funding available and the city needs a dedicated person to seek and apply for those funds. The city would house and manage this employee, who would provide frequent reports to both the City and the LEDC Board. This proposal does not approve the contract for the position but sets aside funding and allows contract negotiation to move forward. The return on investment for this position would be both the economic growth from funds awarded as well as a stronger partnership with the City of Lansing and the community. Dorshimer stated the contract between the City and LEDC for this position would be negotiated and brought back to the LEDC Board for their approval.

**MOTION:** Binoniemi moved to approve funding for the Economic Recovery Resource Developer position. Motion seconded by Boyd.

**YEAS:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

**Update on Financials Budget Update – Current Projected**
Dorshimer walked through the LEDC budget for FY 2020/2021.

**Approval of FY2020/2021 Budget (Action)**

**MOTION:** Binoniemi moved to approve the FY 2020/2021 budget. Motion seconded by Boyd.

**YEAS:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

**Project Updates**
Dorshimer provided updates on current projects. The bonds for the Red Cedar Development
closed last week. Temple Club and Allen Place are going to the MSF Board next week for approval of MEDC incentives. Bryant provided a brief update on the Façade Improvement Program. Funding for the program was not renewed by the City of FY 2020/2021, so the remaining funding that is left over from FY 2019/2020 will be used for this fiscal year. Funding for current projects in the pipeline was delayed due to construction stopping during COVID-19. Currently there are 10 approved projects accounting for $79,000 of the budget that leverage $126,000 in private investment.

**Open Forum for LEDC Board Members**

No other business.

**Other Business**

None was provided.

**Public Comment**

None was provided.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, Chair Jones declared the LEDC meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.