

MINUTES OF JACKSON TOWNSHIP
COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION MEETING

Thursday, September 18, 2014
Township Hall

Present: Steven Meeks, Todd Hawke, Tracy Hogue, Michael Thompson, Todd Locke, Ryan Fulmer, and Michelle Moore

Steven Meeks called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

Approve Minutes

Todd Hawke moved and Tracy Hogue seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the August meeting. Motion carried.

Treasurers' Report

Operation Account - \$ 251.96
Fundraising Account – \$1,763.99

Accept Treasurer's Report

Mike Thompson moved and Ryan Fulmer seconded a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

Old Business

Steven Meeks stated that the work session on September 4, 2014 went well. Todd Hawke agreed and stated that the CIC should work on a marketing plan as to what Jackson Township has to offer companies that are looking at moving into the area. As far as a budgetary standpoint, Todd & Randy Gonzalez have had discussions as to how to bring dollars in to fund the CIC. Todd would like to have a subcommittee meet over the next few months to outline how the CIC would use the money. Steven stated that he would like to continue to have work sessions with the Township. Todd is going to put together an outline with the key points that were discussed at the work session and email to the board and get everybody's input.

Mike Thompson asked if the Township website had information about the JEDD on the website. If it is not on there, it should be. Mike stated that the web site should state where the territory is, who to contact, and what a JEDD can do businesses. Steven stated that the Chamber will be putting links on their website for economic development.

Todd Locke stated that collaboration with the Stark Development Board, the Massillon Foundation and the Canton CIC is very important because they all help Stark County. Steven Meeks stated that he knows that the Township did not like the recommendations that the Stark Development Board had and the Township chose to have the revolving loan monies refunded and Steven has had numerous discussions with Steve Paquette reminding him that the Stark Development Board represents all of Stark County and not just one certain entity. Todd Locke feels that just because something didn't work once, doesn't mean that it's not worth looking into again.

Todd Hawke stated that Randy Gonzalez is still in contact with Representative Schuring regarding the tax abatement program. Steven Meeks stated that Cindy Hartzell expressed an interest in learning more about the tax abatement program.

Mike Thompson stated that the Township website doesn't really promote Economic Development very good. He feels that someone from out of state looking to relocate sure would have a hard time finding information on the website. There is not much information on a TIF or the JEDD.

Ryan Fulmer asked if anyone goes to businesses in the Township that have facilities in other states or other parts of the county and tell them what we could do for them if they moved to Jackson Township or Stark County. Mike Thompson asked how McDonalds and Conrads chose the locations that they did. Todd Locke stated that the property owners solicit their property.

Mike Thompson would like to target one specific topic at the next work session because there are a lot of general ideas discussed and nothing ever gets accomplished. Steven Meeks asked the board if Wednesday, October 22 at 3:30 p.m. would work for everybody for a work session. Steven Meeks asked Michelle to check with Randy Gonzalez and the Trustees to see if they are available to attend. A topic of discussion for the work session and the goals that we would like to achieve will be discussed at the October 16, 2014 CIC meeting.

Michelle Moore asked Steven Meeks if the CIC board was going to put something together for the 2015 Budget. Mike Thompson stated that the board should ask for the bare minimum until the CIC can prove that they have a project that they will be working on and need seed money to fund the project. Steven Meeks stated that Todd Hawke should be the spokesperson for the CIC when the Trustees ask how much money is needed for the 2015 budget.

Steven Meeks stated that he would still like to have Rafael Rodriguez from the Canton CIC sit on our board and a member of our CIC board sit on Canton's CIC board.

Todd Locke asked why the DeVille Development was turned down. Todd Hawke stated that the Zoning Commission denied the request and the request never made it to the Trustees. Todd Locke stated that the development would have brought in \$600,000 a year for the schools.

New Business

Nothing to report.

Public Speaks

No one came forward.

Mike Thompson moved and Ryan Fulmer seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 a.m. Motion carried.

Steven Meeks, President

Michelle Moore, Secretary