



Allegan County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority
3255 122nd Avenue, Suite 102
Allegan, MI 49010
Phone: (269) 686-9088 • Fax: (269) 673-0454
E-mail: BRA@allegancounty.org

July 10, 2008
County Services Building
Nederveld Conference Room
6:00pm

**Minutes of a Scheduled Meeting of the
Allegan County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority**

A scheduled meeting of the Allegan County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority was called to order by Chair Steve McNeal at 6:04pm on Thursday, July 10, 2008.

Roll call showed the following members:

PRESENT: Suzanne Dixon Scott Miller
 Steve McNeal David Patchak
 Al Meshkin Mark Evans
 Jeff Balgoyen Nick Breedveld

ABSENT: Sally Brooks

Also present: Kevin Ricco, Recording Secretary

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

There was one addition to the agenda under "New Business": Item 10a. CMI Funding

Motion by Al Meshkin, seconded by Suzanne Dixon, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried by everyone present.

APPROVAL OF MAY MEETING MINUTES

Motion by Suzanne Dixon, seconded by Mark Evans, to approve the May meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried by everyone present.

CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items of correspondence.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present.

Unfinished Business

WEB SITE UPDATE

Kevin wanted to update the Authority to let them know that the BRA Web site is currently up and running. If there is anything that any Authority member would like to see changed, deleted, or added to the site let Kevin know and he will get this information to the County's Web developer. Al asked if we could get the monthly Web stats and Kevin stated he would look into this item and report back to the group.

LAND BANK DISCUSSION

There was no new information on this topic but it was further discussed under item 10a. CMI Funding.

SAUGATUCK HARBOR

Suzanne Dixon reported that legal work has begun to create the Saugatuck Harbor Commission. It will consist of six members, with three each coming from the City of Saugatuck and the City of Douglas. Membership will be one City Council member, one City Planning Commission member, and one at large member from each of these communities. At this time Saugatuck Township is not included as part of the plan.

New Business

BRA BROCHURE

Kevin passed around a copy of the Brownfield Authority brochure that the City of Troy has produced and wanted to get thoughts and opinions from the group on what they would like to see in the Allegan County BRA brochure. Steve suggested doing a three panel brochure on legal sized paper versus letter sized would be better. It was also suggested that include photos of Allegan County, economic facts about the County, a listing of the other BRA's in the County, and the general information about who we are, how to contact us, and how to get an application. Kevin stated he will begin working on a draft and hopes to have something ready for review at the August meeting.

CMI FUNDING

Suzanne reported that the CMI bond funding is set to run out in October and the state legislature missed the deadline for placing it on the ballot for renewal. This means that it cannot appear on the ballot again until 2011. There was some concern as to how certain groups within the DEQ will function once these funds run out. Jeff stated that the Remediation Redevelopment Division of the DEQ, which works closely with the state brownfield program, has lost a majority of its FY 2008 budget to the state's general fund to help balance the budget. Jeff also stated that he thinks there is still \$16 million left in the CMI fund which is available for clean-up projects.

There was some discussion about the Authority or the Board of Commissioners writing a letter to our state senator and representative to find out why the bond renewal was not placed on the ballot. However, the group was unsure of how to word such a letter since it was unclear as to exactly which programs in Allegan County would be effected by this loss in funding. Mark Evans volunteered to talk with DEQ representative Julia Kirkwood to find out more information on this item and will be bringing this information back for the August meeting.

Jeff stated that the discussion regarding the creation of a land bank in Allegan County had definite merit and should be explored further. There are currently no core communities in the County but it might be possible to have land that is part of a land bank be declared a core community. The Authority felt that they needed more information on land banks in general and Jeff suggested having someone from the MEDC that specialized in land banks come and make a presentation to the group. Jeff will get this person's contact information to Kevin and Kevin will make arrangements to have this person come to a future BRA meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Suzanne wanted to know if there was any further information regarding the EPA grant that was received by MACC. Al stated that he had made a few efforts to contact the group but had heard nothing back. Al stated he would again try to contact MACC and have the information available for the August meeting.

Al wanted to know if we were going to submit another grant application to the EPA this year. The Authority felt that this would be a good idea, but work should begin soon since the deadline for applying is September. It was also suggested that we contact the company that wrote the successful application that was submitted by MACC to see if they would be willing to submit an application on behalf of Allegan County. Al said he would find out this company's contact information and get it to Kevin. Our past applications were completed for free and the hope is that we can find a vendor that will do the same this year as well.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Allegan County BRA will be August 14, 2008 @ 6:00pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Scott Miller, seconded by Al Meshkin, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by everyone present and meeting was adjourned at 6:55pm.

Minutes submitted by Kevin Ricco, recording secretary