



Discussion also took place about the bioreactor and the Economic Development Strategic Plan.

In addition, we discussed the USDA Intermediary Relending Program (IRP). Congresswoman's Miller's office was referred to the EDA as they are looking for specific businesses in the county that they may be able to assist.

Marsden Murphy:

Stated that in some of his business magazines there was an article where a company tracks all the federal and corporate grants in a database. Their full-time job is to put the database together and have it available for people searching for grants for specific needs.

There was also an article about some open source type software invented by Mr. Nei that helps you make economic and population predictions. It uses all kinds of databases and cuts through all the clutter to look for trends and patterns. There are a lot of applications already prepared.

**5. Approval of Minutes**

A. Minutes of June 16, 2010

**Motion** by Lockwood, supported by Andrews to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**6. Acceptance of Communications**

Kauffman gave an overview of the communications in the agenda packet. **Motion** by Tansky, supported by Andrews to receive and file the communications. Motion carried unanimously.

**7. Financial Reports**

A. Report ending 06-30-2010

Kauffman gave an update of the financial report. He stated that our funds received from the Energy Efficiency Grant and the Brownfield Grant are not reflected in the MPC budget as they are separate funds.

After discussion it was decided to reflect these amounts in the Excel spreadsheet that Dale does each month for the MPC.

**Motion** by Sheehy, supported by Sass to acknowledge receipt of the financial report ending June 30, 2010. Motion carried unanimously.

**8. Consent Agenda**

A. Port Huron Township Text Amendments for Heavy Industrial Districts

*Staff recommends that the Metropolitan Planning Commission concur with the Port Huron Township Planning Commission and recommend approval of the proposed text amendments to their Zoning Ordinance which will allow Port Huron Township to*

*administer their Heavy Industrial Ordinance more effectively by promoting the most desirable use of land in accordance with a well considered plan. This will result in conserving and protecting the Township value of land, structures, and uses.*

B. CHR EN100676 – City of Yale System Improvements

*Staff comments:*

- *The proposed project is consistent with the St. Clair County Master Plan Goals and Objectives*
- *The proposed project is consistent with the City of Yale Master Plan.*
- *The office of the St. Clair County Metropolitan Planning Commission endorses the project.*

*Based upon the Environmental Assessment Checklist findings there will be no adverse environmental effects from this project; and any potential erosion will be mitigated by the placing of silt fences in the excavation areas.*

C. CHR EN100696 – 2010 EPA Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund Grant

*Staff recommendation:*

*The office of the St. Clair County Metropolitan Planning Commission endorses the project.*

***Additional Comments:***

*The RLF Grant will allow the MLBFTA to proceed with plans to stimulate redevelopment of some of the 8,700 properties currently in its inventory of tax-reverted, abandoned properties. An estimated 750 of these properties are former commercial and industrial sites, with most being contaminated brownfields. Over 80 percent of the MLBFTA's properties are in Detroit, a primary focus for use of the RLF Grant funds.*

D. Columbus Township Zoning Ordinance Update

***Staff recommendations:***

**Map Amendment:** *Staff suggests Columbus Township remove the wording “Contains Amendments Thru: May 5, 2010” from the Zoning Map. The Map does not contain all amendments thru May 5, 2010, and is instead a completely updated map reflective of the Townships current zoning needs.*

*Staff recommends Metropolitan Planning Commission support this update and recommend approval of the Zoning Map and Attachment-A to Columbus Township Planning Commission and Board.*

**Text Amendment:** *Staff suggests Columbus Township remove the wording “Contains Amendments Thru: May 5, 2010” from the Zoning Map. The Map does not contain all amendments thru May 5, 2010, and is instead a completely updated map reflective of the Townships current zoning needs.*

*Staff recommends Metropolitan Planning Commission support this update and recommend approval of the Zoning Map and Attachment-A to Columbus Township Planning Commission and Board.*

**Motion** by Andrews, supported by Sass to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

## **9. Work Program Reports**

### Michael Latuszek

Gave an update on

- The detour routes for the Blue Water Bridge Plaza,
- The Water Street project taking place at the same time as the Phase I of the plaza project takes place,
- The Gratiot Road project has sufficient funds so it can be completed, and
- The Northern Border Protection that is an 11-state project.

### Geoffrey Donaldson

Gave an update on

- The Energy Efficiency Block Grant Advisory meeting held in Columbus Township,
- The Land Bank Authority meeting held on July 19,
- The Brownfield Redevelopment Grant, and
- The Solid Waste Enforcement court hearing.

### Kara Diedrich

- Gave an update on the SEMCOG Recognition Program.

### David Struck

- Gave an update on the Medical Marijuana Symposium he attended that was put on by the Michigan Township Association, the Michigan Municipal League and the Michigan Association of Counties.

### Bill Kauffman

- Gave an update on the Development Grant Application submitted with the Michigan Strategic Fund,
- Contact regarding a private company interested in us putting together a grant for them for a boating infrastructure grant,
- Work with EDA to help find alternative ways to commercialize the bioreactor project,
- Additional research on business incubators in the county,
- Re-evaluation of the GIS Program as the GIS Coordinator will be leaving the county, and
- Cottage businesses.

**Motion** by Sheehy, supported by Cooper to approve the Work Program Reports. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **10. Chairperson's Report**

The report from the chairman was in the supplemental packet. Murphy gave an overview of the report.

**Motion** by Lockwood, supported by Andrews to approve the Chairperson's report. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **11. Old Business**

A. County Index

Tansky reported that staff is doing exceptional job getting information together.

B. Belle River Watershed Group Appointment

This has been discussed at previous MPC meeting and Chairman Murphy stated that the MPC needs to appoint a representative to sit on the advisory group. **Motion** by Cooper, supported by Heidemann to appoint Chairman Murphy as the MPC representative on to the Belle River Watershed Group. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Results of June MPC Checklist

The information was provided in the agenda packet.

#### **12. New Business**

A. County Board/MPC Joint Meeting

The last meeting was held in February 2009. There were some concerns and issues raised at the last meeting. If anyone has suggested outcomes they would like to see, share with staff in the next couple of weeks.

Question was raised on whether or not other departments do this.

Commissioner Heidemann did not feel the need to meet yearly and thought an off-election year would be better.

Chairman Murphy will discuss this at his August 11 meeting with the BOC Chair and County Administrator.

#### **13. Adjournment**

**Motion** by Smith, supported by Cooper to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Sheehy, Secretary

Prepared by: Dale Fulton, Office Manager