I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 12:00pm.

II. Attendance

Present: Chair Lovedia Stap, Vice Chair Craig VanMelle, Tim Perrigo, Mike Kiella, and Kim Munn

Absent: Mike Manning and Mike Walsh

Others Present: Jordan Meagher, Community Development Coordinator, Joel Dye, City Manager, Tony McGhee, Abonmarche, Sarah Perrigo, Intern

III. Approval of the Previous Minutes

Mike Kiella, supported by Tim Perrigo, made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting on June 5, 2019. Motion carried 7-0.

IV. Public Comment

None were heard.

V. Discussion

1. Economic Development Plan Update

As previously discussed, as a Redevelopment Ready Community, the City must maintain an updated Economic Development Strategy Plan. This five year plan has expired for the City of Allegan, so an updated plan must be produced.

Staff provided an update regarding the Economic Development Plan Steering Committee’s first meeting, which consisted of approving a planning outline, along with beginning to collect data to create a snapshot of Allegan’s current economy. Once all necessary data is collected, the committee will draw conclusions as it relates to the City’s strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. This will then lead to presenting the EDC’s goals for the community, along with action steps that can be taken by staff to
begin working towards each of these goals.

The committee will continue to meet on a weekly or sometimes bi-weekly basis and hope to produce a final report within the next six months.

2. Downtown Allegan Market Study Discussion

As a state certified Redevelopment Ready Community, the City of Allegan has received two grants from the MEDC to be used towards development in Downtown Allegan. One of these grants has come in the form of a downtown market study, which will provide the City and the State with information on which types of downtown businesses are needed in Allegan, along with which types of businesses are projected to be the most successful in Allegan. This study is being performed by Gibbs Planning Group, which is a firm that has produced market study reports for cities and private developments of all sizes across the United States, including Holland, Grand Rapids, Chicago, Houston, and Disney.

The second grant that the MEDC is providing the City is a $100,000 predevelopment services grant to be used towards Architectural and Engineering plan development for 101 Brady Street. To receive the funds, the City must agree to becoming owners of the plan once they are produced.

VI. Member and Staff Comments

The EDC discussed the Allegan City Dam feasibility report, and staff mentioned that a community meeting to discuss the dam would be taking place that night at 6:00pm at City Hall.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Jordan Meagher
Community Development Coordinator

The minutes of this meeting will be available at City Hall, 231 Trowbridge Street, Allegan, MI 49010 (269)673-5511

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