



CITY OF HART

407 S. STATE ST.

HART, MI 49420

Hart Economic and Redevelopment Team (H.E.A.R.T.)

September 1, 2021

MINUTES DRAFT

1) Call to Order

President Tufts called the meeting to order at 4:08 pm.

2) Roll Call

Members present: Jake Tufts, Fred Rybarz, Scott Beal, Sue Payne, Maria Rosas

Members absent: Mark Platt, Tracey Lipps, Julie Sanders, Dean Hodges

Others present: Nichole Kleiner, Rob Splane

3) Approval of Agenda - Motion by Beal, supported by Payne, to approve the September. Motion carried.

4) Public Comments – No public comments

5) Approval of the Consent Agenda - Motion by Beal, supported by Lipps to approve the consent agenda as submitted. Motion carried.

6) Board Member 1-minute updates – board members provided updates on what's happening in their business/industries.

7) Executive Director's Report – Attended Michigan Economic Development Annual Conference, participating in countywide discussion on next steps for a training center in Oceana. Social District was approved through Liquor Control Commission – waiting on application from eligible licensees before continuing with logo, signage, etc and creating a webpage on HEART's site with information, rules, maps, etc (project on pause until licensees apply to the state). Music on the Commons promotion and execution – ongoing. \$25,000 grant disbursement paid to Stella's Coffee House. The Creeks development, Ceres Solution Property... ongoing. Ongoing development leads and economic development assistance as needed. Met with Valley Sign for citywide Wayfinding Designs. New 4'x8' signs are installed at bike trailheads on Wood/Water & Polk St near Hansen Foods. TIFA - creating a new Plan with updated project goals along with reconfiguring their base tax amount, current tax capture, taxable units and preparing annual report for annual/public meeting to include financial transparency. Planning for Clown Around Town Event underway – pending volunteers. Ongoing promotional support to city, historic district, John Gurney Park, Starting Block and community events. Next HEART Board meeting is August 18, 2021 at 4pm in Community Center.

8) Action Items

- a) Prioritize two areas of focus from Strategic Initiatives – The board prioritized strategic goals identified at the August meeting. The results indicated that the top priority/area of focus should be "Development" followed by Business Support, Marketing and Workforce Development, in that order. With that, Tufts recommended we focus on one specific project, as a board, to accomplish. It was decided that HEART will work on The Creeks Condominium Development to help spur development while being considerate and mindful of the other areas of focus.

9) Updates/Discussion Items

- a) Co-op (3 E Main St), Walkers (227 E Main St) – updates were provided by Nichole.
- b) Events (coordinator position) - tabled
- c) Wayfinding signage update – design specs were reviewed before the meeting began with the majority favoring the gray background color.

10) Board Member Comments – None

11) Adjournment – Motion to adjourn made by Rybarz, supported by Beal. Meeting adjourned at 3:20 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vicki L. Skel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Economic & Community Development Director