

CITY OF STERLING HEIGHTS
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
August 16, 2022 – 8:00 a.m.
6633 18 Mile Road, Sterling Heights, MI 48314
586-884-9322
Velocity Building

Approved

Phil Hunsberger called the meeting to order at 8:08 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Members present at roll call: Josephine Attisha, Dr. Michael Balsamo, Phil Hunsberger, Steve Pomaville, Vicky Rowinski, Jeanne Schabath-Lewis, Jill Tomy

Members absent: Ellanore Evans, Bill Holbrook, Josh Hundt, Laurel Johnson, John Lettang, Dominic Patrus, Howard Sizemore

Also in attendance: Jason Castor, City Development Director – City of Sterling Heights; Kathryn Quell, Management Services Specialist – City of Sterling Heights; April Boyle, Senior Advisor for Entrepreneurship and Innovation; Rachele Downs, EIR - Downs Diversity Initiatives

Motion to Approve the Agenda

Moved by Pomaville, supported by Schabath-Lewis, to approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Motion to Approve the CONSENT AGENDA as presented

Moved by Tomy, supported by Schabath-Lewis, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

A. To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 21, 2022.

B. To approve the International Landing Zone (ILZ) Lease Agreement between Akimbo Technologies, Inc. and the Local Development Finance Authority (LDFA).

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Motion carried.

New Business

Update from April Boyle, Senior Advisor for Entrepreneurship and Innovation.

Ms. Boyle stated that the website redesign is in the preliminary stages and the logo has been updated. The Re-opening of Velocity with the City will be November 15, 2022. Ms. Boyle said the Lunch & Learn on 8/25 had 20 participants. Also, there are 6 companies working with ReGroup – three manufacturing companies and three software companies. Ms. Boyle said that

she is working with Macomb to put together a series of events monthly. Ms. Boyle stated that she is working with the MEDC regarding the gateway grant and will be hiring a representative/liaison. Mr. Hunsberger inquired about the benchmark metrics and when the Board would be receiving them. Ms. Boyle stated that they are not ready yet and the fiscal year started July 1 so after the first quarter.

Introduction of Rachele Downs, of Down's Diversity Initiatives, LLC, the new consultant for the Entrepreneur-In-Residence program at Velocity.

Ms. Downs discussed her intake plan and process to review perspective clients. Ms. Downs is meeting with companies and working with ReGroup. Ms. Downs stated that she is building a resource network to assist companies.

Old Business

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

Moved by Rowinski, supported by Attisha to adjourn.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:48am