

Kalamazoo County Land Bank Fast Track Authority

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes—August 13, 2015

Members Present: Mary Balkema, Michael Collins, Terry Dorgan, Addis Moore, Chuck Vliek, Becky Fulgoni

Members Absent: Jerome Kisscorni

County Liaison Present: Commissioner Stephanie Moore

Staff Present: Kelly Clarke, Sarah Frame

Community Members Present: Thell Woods

The regular meeting of the Kalamazoo County Land Bank Authority Board of Directors was called to order by Balkema at 8:34 a.m. the Pavilion at Prairie Gardens, 1501 Blakeslee, Kalamazoo, MI 49006.

A motion to approve the June 2015 meeting minutes was made by Collins, Moore seconded all were in favor, and the motion carried.

Additions to the Consent Agenda: Board Term for Collins, Moore

Additions to the Regular Agenda: Acceptance of grant funds - LISC

Citizens' Time: None

Board Chair Remarks

The Kalamazoo County Land Auction will take place on August 19, 2015 at the Kalamazoo County Expo Center. Balkema gave an overview of the housing stock available. The minimum bid at the auction is the back tax amount owed on each property. Available properties can be seen online at www.tax-sale.info.

Executive Director Report

- Washington Square – Working with LISC & ENA to procure 2 additional blade signs for businesses. Staff are working with contractors, funding partners, and others to explore possibilities for redevelopment of 1301 Portage. The Art Hop in Washington Square on August 7 drew a crowd of around 100 people.
- Riverview Launch – Several upcoming events will highlight the new space at Riverview, including a grand opening on September 10, a Go Places movie screening on September 17, and the Kalamazoo Water Festival on September 19.
- Vicksburg Mill – The staff and legal team have been working with the buyer, and executed the option agreement approved at the June 2015 board meeting.
- With HOME funding approved at \$87,000, the Land Bank will be partnering with Urban Alliance to renovate a home in the Edison neighborhood. Urban Alliance will utilize hard-to-employ neighborhood residents for the renovations to assist in job skill training.
- Strategic Road Map – The board discussed doing some work to develop output and outcome measures associated with the strategic road map.

Consent Agenda

1. Acceptance of June 2015 Financials
2. Personnel Policy Updates
3. 611 Jefferson – Side Lot

4. 111 Reed - Side Lot
5. Acceptance of Grant Funds - \$30,000 from the Kalamazoo Community Foundation for the Side Lot/Adopt-a-Lot Program and the Property Coordinator position

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Moore, Dorgan seconded, all were in favor, and the motion carried.

Regular Agenda

1. LISC Grant

This Capacity Building grant allows the Land Bank to hire former Americorps staffer Karma Hassell to work on programs that engage the community and activate vacant spaces. Role call vote to approve the grant: Collins, Dorgan, Fulgoni, and Moore – Yea. Balkema and Vlieg – abstained.

2. Extension of Option Agreement for the Vicksburg Mill

The Buyer is requesting an extension of the option agreement to extend 1 year to September 30, 2016. Vlieg asked about requesting reimbursement of legal fees. The board discussed seeking reimbursement of legal costs from the buyer. Balkema called for a motion to move forward with the extension option as prepared by staff, with the addition of a clause requesting reimbursement for out of pocket costs as an additional expense to the buyer. Dorgan made the motion, Fulgoni seconded, all were in favor and the motion carried.

3. Board Terms for Collins and Moore

Balkema explained the board terms of Michael Collins and Addis Moore will expire on September 30, 2015. She asked for a recommendation from the board to the County Commissioners to approve the renewal of a 3 year board term for Michael Collins. Dorgan made the motion, Moore supported, all were in favor and the motion carried. She thanked Pastor Moore for his service on the board, and willingness to represent the Land Bank in the community.

Balkema adjourned the meeting at 9:29 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Terry Dorgan, Treasurer and Secretary