



**Kalamazoo County Land Bank Fast Track Authority
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes—June 10th, 2021
Electronic Meeting**

Members Present: Thomas Whitener, Carl Roberts, Rebekah Kik, Holly Crump, Brian Hudson, Qianna Decker, Elizabeth Schlott

Members Absent: N/A

County Liaison Present: Tami Rey, Veronica McKissack

Staff Present: Kelly Clarke, Tammy Lahman, Theresa Coty O'Neil, Reality Rojas

Community Members Present: N/A

The June 10, 2021, Meeting of the Kalamazoo County Land Bank Authority Board of Directors was called to order by Whitener at 8:30 AM Via Zoom. Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88138799938?pwd=WWd6YUZqaTBqQlJxZ05lWU4rVHEvdz09>

Approval of April Minutes:

Hudson made the motion.

Roberts seconded the motion.

Approval of April Minutes passed unanimously.

Additions: N/A

Citizen's Time: Mattie Jordan Woods informed the board of her thoughts regarding the Adopt-A-Lot Program. She shared there is an overwhelming consensus for the desire to build homes in the Northside Neighborhood for homeowner occupancy and indicated her support for suspending the Adopt a Lot program.

Stephanie Valor with Action in the Neighborhood stated that residents in the area that Action in the Community is working have articulated that they have concerns regarding non-residents and residents of the Northside leasing property with the intent of use being community gardens. Ms. Valor shared that the residents AIC have been engaged with have shared a desire for buildable lots on the Northside to be preserved for new construction for homeowner occupancy.

Commission Liaison Comments: Commissioner McKissack mentioned a survey is available on the county website to give the community a chance to include their input on where county funds should go.

Chair's Remarks: Whitener informed the board of the hard work taking places with the county commissioners for securing funds through the American Rescue Act.

Executive Director Report: Clarke shared with the board the momentum for Eastside Square. DeVisser is scheduled to begin construction on the pocket park. There are hopes of an outdoor celebration. The signs and poems for the pocket park are complete. The zoning change for the Eastside Square is also complete. There was a selection committee for the Construction Manager for Eastside Square, Glas Associates is the contractors selected and have commenced working with architects.

Clarke shared that the free developer training provided by the Kalamazoo Land Bank would be held June 15th. This training would include panels and presentations from the Land Bank and other partners. Just under 90 people have registered so far. Mattie Jordan Wood's outreach has been successful. This effort supports the Land Bank's goals to be more accessible to small and emerging developers.

Affirmative/Vibrant: Decker shared an update of the Affirmative Market Campaign with the Show Me the Money event. The kickoff event took place virtually. Pat Taylor suggested monthly seminars to help inform residents of how to become ready for homeownership. The commercial for the Show Me the Money event was shared with the board.

Regular Agenda

- Adopt Kalamazoo County non-discrimination policy required for millage application

Clarke shared the policy was just received the following evening from the County so there was not sufficient time to get out to the board. Unanimous vote to move this to the August agenda to allow for more time for reviewing the policy.

- Real Estate Disposition Policy Adaptation: Adopt-A-Lot Program

Roberts commented on the housing market in that there is now possibilities for new development. Roberts made the motion to suspend the Adopt-A-Lot program for three months to allow staff time to consult with partners and hear the feedback provided by NACD, AIC and others.

Kik seconded the motion.

Approval of adaptation passed unanimously.

- Endorse DEI Plan updated by DEI Committee May 6th, 2021

Roberts provided an overview of the DEI plan and made a motion for endorsement.

Roberts made the motion.

Decker seconded.

Endorsement of DEI Plan passed unanimously

Real Estate Update: Hudson shared with the board the plans for NACD to build up to 17 new homes on the Northside. These homes will be developed over the next 4 years. NACD has been working with Byce & Associates, City of Kalamazoo, and the Land Bank on these plans. NACD will apply for millage funds.

Hudson informed the board of the great press Washington Square has been receiving.

Rootead is under option for 20 Mills. Rootead originally had planned to close this spring. Rootead has faced some construction delays but is continuing to move forward and recently signed an extension through this fall.

DEI Committee Update: Roberts informed the board the about the DEI Committee's expectations to follow up review with the IDI administrator for the IDI assessment all board and staff participated in. Individuals have teamed up to work together and improve our DEI work. The committee is not trying to tackle too many goals at once, but work on goals with greater impact. The IDI administrator has commended the Land Bank of their advancement in DEI work.

Board Member Comments: N/A

Move to adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 9:32 AM

DRAFT