

Grow Licking County CIC

Board of Directors Meeting
July 10, 2023

Location: Licking Memorial Hospital - 1320 W Main Street, Newark, OH 43055

Present: Corey Alton, Tim Bubb, Mike Compton, Jennifer Ellis-Brunn, Erin Grigsby, Brandon Hess, Mark Johns, Jim Layton, Lauren Massie, Mark Mauter, Jennifer McDonald, Robert Montagnese, Robert O'Neill, Jim Roberts, Joseph Robertson, and GROW staff Alexis Fitzsimmons, Hayley Feightner and Reaghan Willison

Excused: Brandon Hess, Mark Johns

The meeting was called to order at 12:08 PM by Chair Jennifer McDonald.

Ms. Massie called the roll. Mr. Montagnese motioned; seconded by Mr. O'Neill to excuse absent directors. The motion passed.

Mr. Montagnese provided the welcome on behalf of Licking Memorial Hospital. He shared LMH's excitement that the new public bus route started today for the community with a stop at LMH. He also shared information on a new weapons security investment and rollout to enhance safety at the hospital.

Chair McDonald welcomed guests, which included: Scott Ryan, Ohio Department of Development; Kent Mallett, The Newark Advocate; Atrina Good, Licking County Chamber of Commerce.

The minutes from the May 2023 meeting were reviewed. Mr. O'Neill motioned; seconded by Mr. Mauter. The motion passed.

Chair's Report

Committee volunteer – Ms. McDonald discussed creating a committee to focus on investor outreach and participate in pledge renewal discussions. The goal is to conduct meetings between September and October so that it can inform the budget review in November. Ms. Fitzsimmons will distribute a list of investors with upcoming pledge renewals to the Board of Directors and the Board will let Ms. Fitzsimmons know which meetings they would like to attend.

Organizational goals - Ms. McDonald shared three overarching goals for the Board of Directors to consider (see slideshow), and requested feedback. The Board of Directors participated in robust conversation surrounding these goals. Mr. Layton motioned; seconded by Mr. O'Neill to accept the goals as presented. The motion passed.

Committee Reports

Finance and Strategy – Ms. Grigsby provided an update on the financial statements (see handout).

Mr. O'Neill motioned; seconded by Mr. Montagnese to approve the May and June 2023 financial reports as presented. The motion passed.

Marketing and LCWorks – Ms. McDonald provided an update on the committee's work which is focused on social media ads, including YouTube, Instagram, and other channels to target audiences. They are also designing a career pathway banner, and considering developing and printing additional materials.

Infrastructure – Mr. Roberts provided an update from the committee's last meeting on June 20. The Water and Sewer study's final draft report will be available in the next month or so. Mr. Roberts thanked Scott Ryan regarding budget advocacy for infrastructure in the approved state budget bill, and funding earmarked to benefit Licking County. He also provided a draft summary of a new GROW Licking County Infrastructure Bank (see handout). Finally, Mr. Roberts gave his perspective on the recent TID, LCATs and GROW luncheon event focused on transportation, and thanked the GROW staff for their efforts and positive impact in this arena.

Staff Reports

Mrs. Fitzsimmons provided an update on GROW's economic development efforts (see slideshow and handout).

Ms. Feightner provided an update on lead activity and business retention and expansion efforts (see slideshow). In addition, she shared that she just graduated from the Licking County Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Academy and thanked the Board of Directors for their support.

Ms. Willison provided an update on social media efforts (see slideshow). She also shared draft videos for the manufacturing career pathways. Finally, save the date for the October 25, 2023 Investors' Breakfast.

Items for Action

None.

Comments from Citizens

None.

Several Board of Directors thanked GROW staff for their recent economic development work and increased presence in the community.

Mr. Robertson motioned; seconded by Mr. Roberts to adjourn the meeting at 1:38 PM.

Next Meeting: Monday, September 11, 2023 at 12:00 PM –Central Ohio Technical College

Respectfully submitted, Lauren Massie, Secretary