

Grow Licking County CIC

Board of Directors Meeting
July 8, 2024

Location: Licking Memorial Hospital, Newark

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

Excused: Robert O'Neill

The meeting was called to order at 12:00PM by Chair Jennifer McDonald.

Mr. Alton called the roll. Mr. Montagnese motioned; seconded by Mr. Hess to excuse absent directors. The motion passed.

Mr. Montagnese provided the welcome on behalf of Licking Memorial Health Systems.

Chair McDonald welcomed guests, which included: Atrina Good, Licking County Chamber of Commerce; Scott Ryan, Ohio Department of Development, Brittany Misner, Village of Hebron, Kent Mallett, Newark Advocate, and Jacque Annarino, ODOT.

The minutes from the May 13, 2024 meeting were reviewed. Mrs. Dell motioned; seconded by Mr. Mauter. The motion passed.

Chair's Report

Chair McDonald – Chair McDonald expressed gratitude to Hayley Feightner and wished her well with her new role at the Heath-Newark-Licking County Port Authority.

Committee Reports

Finance and Strategy – Mrs. Grigsby presented the financial report for April (see handout). Financials were not available for May due to the holiday and personal issues with the bookkeeping. Mrs. Fitzsimmons stated that several A/R outstanding invoices from April have paid. Mrs. Fitzsimmons stated that she expects to have May financials within the next couple of days.

Mrs. Grigsby motioned; seconded by Jim Roberts to approve the April financial report. The motion passed.

Marketing and LC Works – Chair McDonald reported on Marketing efforts which included; GROW Licking County ad within JobsOhio's state business guide; alternative marketing efforts through social media due to decreased funding from Ohio Means Jobs Licking County; Developing county-wide survey in partnership with other groups for emerging workforce.

Infrastructure – Mr. Roberts provided an update on Infrastructure Committee, who met on June 18th. Updates were received from Bill Lozier and Matt Hill on transportation activities in the county and Mr. Roberts shared updates with the Southwest Licking Community Water and Sewer District. Mr. Roberts shared that the committee is a good clearinghouse to convene infrastructure partners and share information. Mr. Roberts stated that the group was asked to consider what actions the committee should pursue to have more impact.

Staff Reports

Mrs. Fitzsimmons provided an update on GROW's economic development efforts (see slideshow). Updates included an overview of GROW staff outreach and events.

Ms. Feightner provided an update on project lead activity, business retention and expansion efforts, and the Childcare Needs Assessment survey (see presentation). Ms. Feightner also expressed her gratitude to Alexis, Reagan, and the Board of Directors for support and mentorship throughout her tenure. Ms. Feightner stated that she is looking forward to continue working together through her new role with the Heath-Newark-Licking County Port Authority.

Ms. Willison provided an update on Marketing efforts (see slideshow). Ms. Willison shared feedback results from the 2nd Annual Licking County Infrastructure Luncheon.

Comments from Citizens

None.

Items for Action

GROW Licking County/City of Pataskala Investor Contract:

Mrs. Fitzsimmons stated that the only change was from a quarterly payment to a yearly payment. Otherwise, there were no changes to the contract.

Mr. Johns motioned, seconded by Ms. Grigsby. The motion passed.

Executive Session

Mrs. McDonald Motioned, seconded by Mrs. Dell to enter Executive Session at 12:43pm. (Mr. Roberts not present during roll call)

Mrs. Fitzsimmons entered Executive Session at 1:05 pm.

Mayor Johns Motioned, seconded by Mayor Compton to resume public session at 1:45 pm.

Mark Mauter motioned; seconded by Jennifer Ellis-Brun to adjourn the meeting at 1:46 PM.

Next Regular Board of Directors Meeting: September 9, 2024 at 12:00 PM – Central Ohio
Technical College

Respectfully submitted, Corey Alton, Secretary