

Grow Licking County CIC

Board of Directors Meeting
May 20, 2019

Location: Denison University – 100 W. College Street, Granville, OH

Present: John Carlisle (9:05 a.m.), John Fisher, Duane Flowers, Patrick Guanciale, Mark Johns, Jim Lenner, Lauren Massie, Jennifer McDonald, Mike McFarland, Dan McVey, Robert O'Neill (9:30 a.m.), Rick Platt, Jim Roberts and Joseph Robertson. Present also: Nate Strum and Taylor Lovell

Excused: Mike Compton

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 AM by Chairman Jennifer McDonald.

Chairman McDonald welcomed directors and recognized guests. Those in attendance: Dr. Adam Weinberg, Denison University; Tim Bubb, Licking County Commissioner; Paul Prater, AEP; Steve Matheny, Granville Area Chamber of Commerce; Carol Marr, Granville Area Chamber of Commerce; Vicki Maple, Central Ohio Technical College

Mr. McFarland motioned, seconded by Mr. Guanciale and unanimously approved by the directors to excuse absent members.

Dr. Weinberg welcomed directors to Denison University and gave an overview of the institution and shared his vision for its role in economic development within the county; pledging to work closer with the business community.

The minutes of the March 2019 meeting of the Board of Directors were reviewed. It was motioned to approve the minutes as presented by Mr. Platt and seconded by Mr. Fisher. The motion passed.

Chairman's Report

Chairman McDonald reported that the Ad Hoc committee formed to explore the possibility of GROW operating independently met recently. Members of the committee include: Mr. Platt, Mr. Johns, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Guanciale and Mr. McVey. Mrs. McDonald presented the directors with estimated costs for GROW Licking County and prospective lease agreement. There was robust discussion regarding associated costs, the proposed lease agreement, timing and oversight of a restructure. Mr. Flowers stated that the Commissioners were supportive. Several directors expressed concern regarding the final structure and oversight.

Mr. Platt motioned, seconded by Mr. Johns, to move forward with negotiating the lease agreement at 33 W. Main Street, Newark; negotiating changes to the CIC agreement; and moving forward with favorable items that lead to improvement of the CIC with the understanding that final execution of the lease agreement and structure of GROW Licking County will be approved at a future board of directors' meeting.

Committee Reports

Finance & Strategy

Mr. Robertson reviewed the March 2019 and April 2019 financial reports. Mr. Johns motioned and Mr. Roberts seconded and approved by directors to accept the financial reports as presented.

Marketing

Mr. Johns provided an update on the marketing subcommittee that met April 10, 2019. The committee is working with Mr. Strum to develop a standardized report on ROI leads so that the use of the Gazelle software can be monitored and so the committee can review outreach.

A special meeting was held on May 6 to award two MIST scholarships.

Mr. Johns provided an update on the Licking County Works website:
<https://lickingcountyworks.com/>.

Infrastructure

No update provided.

Director's Report

Mr. Strum distributed and reviewed the dashboard for the GROW Licking County Economic Development Action Plan 2025. He also gave an update on new investors, as well as discussed upcoming business attraction travel plans. Copies of the annual report are available.

Comments from Citizens

Steve Matheny, Granville Area Chamber of Commerce, shared comments related to upcoming economic development events in the community, including a Granville Chamber luncheon on Aug. 21 that will host Columbus 2020.

Items for Action

Noted above.

Executive Session

At 10:13 AM., under ORC 121.22 Section G(8) Mr. Johns made a motion to enter into Executive Session to review confidential information associated with economic development purposes, as outlined in ORC 1724.11 (B-1A). Mr. Flowers seconded. Mrs. Massie called roll and all present approved. Mr. Strum, Ms. Lovell and Commissioner Bubb were invited to attend. Public session resumed at 10:44 AM.

Mr. O'Neill moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 AM.

Next Meeting: 9 AM, Monday, July 15, 2019 – Village of Johnstown, 599 S. Main Street, Johnstown, OH 43031

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren Massie, Secretary