

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
MUSKEGON AREA PROMISE ZONE AUTHORITY BOARD
November 14, 2023
8:00 A.M.**

A regular meeting of the Muskegon Area Promise Zone Authority Board was held on Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. at the Muskegon Area ISD, 630 Harvey Street, Muskegon.

The following board members were present:

Mr. Randy Lindquist, MAISD Superintendent
Dr. John Selmon, Muskegon Community College
Dr. Aaron Maike, Baker College of Muskegon
Ms. Holly Hughes, Community Representative
Ms. Laurel Zwit, Greenridge Realty
Ms. Cindy Larsen, Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce
Mr. Keith Guy, Muskegon Public Schools

The following board members were absent:

Mr. Steve Parker, Longview Management Consulting
Mr. Christopher Dean, Muskegon Heights Fire Department
Mr. Gary Nelund, State Farm Insurance

Also present: Ms. Megan Byard Karaba, PZA Coordinator
Mr. Mike Schluentz, MAISD Associate Superintendent

Guests: None

1. Call to Order

Randy Lindquist called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

2. Public Participation – None.

3. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

It was moved by Holly Hughes and supported by John Selmon to approve the Agenda as presented and the Minutes of the October 10, 2023 meeting. All Ayes (8) Nays (0) Motion carried.

4. Budget Update

- YTD Financials – Mr. Schluentz shared the Financial Statements as of September 30, 2023 and October 31, 2023.
- Payment of Invoice from Brickley DeLong in the amount of \$1,540.00 for the final audit.

It was moved by Holly Hughes and supported by Laurel Zwit to approve payment of the invoice from Brickley DeLong in the amount of \$1,540.00. All Ayes (8) Nays (0) Motion carried.

- Transfer of \$3 Million to the MIMAX Account from ChoiceOne Bank

It was moved by Holly Hughes and supported by Aaron Maike to approve the transfer of \$3 Million to the MIMAX Account from ChoiceOne Bank. All Ayes (8) Nays (0) Motion carried.

5. Membership Update

- New Member Recruitment Update – Mr. Lindquist indicated that he heard back from Katie Hensley from Swanson Pickle Co. and she declined the invitation to join the board due to her busy work schedule. The board discussed other possible candidates to consider to fill the vacant seat on the board.
- Christopher Dean Reappointment – The reappointment letter from Senate Majority Leader Winnie Brinks was received for the reappointment of Christopher Dean. Mr. Dean will now move back to the senate appointed seat for a term through June 2027.

It was moved by Holly Hughes and supported by Keith Guy to approve moving Mr. Dean back to the senate appointed seat on the board. All Ayes (8) Nays (0) Motion carried.

6. Student Eligibility, Terms & Appeals

- 2024 Promise Equity Project – Ms. Byard Karaba shared that 260 students have been identified as eligible based on their GPA and top % of their class. Those students will receive a postcard to accept their award early, and allow them to learn more about their options. She shared a draft letter to principals that encourages them to adopt those same 260 students and recognizing them as promise scholars and celebrate their successes.
- 2024 Growth Ideas – Discussion Starter – Ms. Byard Karaba shared that she is exploring possible growth ideas for 2024 and will share with the board once she can run the numbers on them to determine if any should be considered by the board.

7. Student Success & Other Business

- MCAN Annual Conference – Learning & Updates – Ms. Byard Karaba shared that she attended the conference last week and Chuck Wilbur was recognized for his retirement. They renamed the Promise Keeper award to the Chuck Wilbur Promise Keeper Award and it was given to Benton Harbor Promise past Executive Director, Alloyd Blackmon.

8. Marketing/Communication Update

- Kindred Marketing – WatchMuskegon 2.0: Recruiting Talent – Ms. Larsen shared the Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce has put together a comprehensive community talent recruitment campaign. They are working with local partner organizations that they are sponsoring, managing or coordinating in programs such as Watch Muskegon 2.0, Livability, Make My Move, Now Hiring, Muskegon Stars, and Muskegon In Focus. Each program has a link to explain what the programs are about.

9. Fundraising Update – No Report

10. Other

- Governor Press Release Re: Michigan Achievement Scholarship – Ms. Byard Karaba shared a press release announcing that Michigan universities are experiencing record enrollment numbers for first-year students after the implementation of the Michigan Achievement Scholarship.

11. Next Meeting Date

- December 12, 2023 – 8:00 a.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/Barbara Irej/

Barbara Irej, Recorder