

MEETING MINUTES  
GRAND RIVER CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY  
SEPTEMBER 5, 2019 – 8:00AM  
JON GRANT COMMUNITY CENTER  
29260 GRAND RIVER AVENUE  
FARMINGTON HILLS MI, 48336

**CALLED TO ORDER BY:** CHAIRMAN PRICE AT 8:09 AM.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** PRICE, MASSEY AND SMITH

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** BRAZZLE, MANN

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Samantha Seimer, Economic Development Director/Staff Liaison

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion by Massey, support by Smith, to approve the agenda as submitted.  
Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**July 11, 2019:**

Motion by Price, support by Smith, to approve the May 9, 2019 minutes as submitted  
Motion carried unanimously.

**BUSINESS:**

**GRAND RIVER CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY GRANT FOLLOW UP**

Ms. Seimer reviewed that the CIA has previously approved a Façade Grant Program designed to encourage building owners to make improvements to enhance the overall aesthetic value of the corridor and foster reinvestment in the district. To date, only one grant has been fulfilled, with no interest in the last twelve months. At the May meeting, the Board discussed increasing the amount of funding available on an annual basis for the program and better marketing including fliers and direct mail to businesses. It was the consensus of the Board to budget funds of \$30,000 annually for site improvement grants with awarded amounts to be determined on a case-by-case basis. Additionally the board discussed adding information about the grant opportunity to the Grand River Corridor Improvement Authority website and talking with Farmington to see if they have a similar grant program. Ms. Seimer informed the Board that the City of Farmington Grand River Corridor Improvement Authority has annual tax capture about one tenth the size of Farmington Hills and therefore does not currently have any grant program.

Ms. Seimer informed the Board that at the time of the meeting, marketing materials have been sent to the printer and will be ready to be mailed to commercial businesses within the Grand River Corridor Improvement Authority as soon as a press release is ready.

No action necessary

**FARMINGTON/FARMINGTON HILLS CIA JOINT MEETING DISCUSSION**

Ms. Seimer mentioned to the Board that she met with Mr. Christiansen, the Economic and Community Development Director for the City of Farmington to discuss updates to the Grand River Corridor Improvement Authority Website. At the meeting, it was mentioned that the CIA Boards of Farmington and Farmington Hills used to meet together routinely. Ms. Seimer asked if the Board would be interested in coordinating a joint meeting in the next few months with the City of Farmington Grand River CIA. It was the consensus of the Board to proceed with scheduling a joint meeting.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

The Board had a discussion about a Road Diet study that was conducted for the Grand River Corridor a few years ago. Ms. Seimer stated that she has had discussions with the City Traffic Engineer about approaching MDOT about the study and working together to begin moving forward. The timing works well with all of the other surrounding major MDOT

Road projects wrapping up in the area. Mayor Massey suggested when the information is mailed to commercial property owners in the district about the grant opportunity, perhaps it would be good to survey and see if they would be interested in the road diet and explain the benefits of slowed traffic in the area.

Mayor Massey reminded the Board that the Authority currently has two vacant seats. If anybody knows of somebody who is interested in serving to please contact him. A member of the Grand River Corridor Improvement Authority must either be a resident or own a business within the geographical boundaries of the CIA District.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

There were no public comments.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no objections, the meeting adjourned at 8:49 AM.

Minutes drafted by: Samantha Seimer