

ERIE COUNTY DIVERSE ERIE COMMISSION

Special Meeting Minutes

September 12, 2022

1128 State Street, Suite 300, Erie, PA 16501

7:30 AM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81474983314?pwd=eDVUUGhxMWNMTnBuRXNqeDljQVNXQT09>

Meeting ID: 814 7498 3314

Passcode: 808108

Invitees: Gerald Blanks; Sarah Carter, M.D.; Adrienne Dixon, Ph.D.; Matthew Harris, Sr.; Tiffany LaVette; Gwendolyn White; Brandy Cortes; Timothy Wachter; Gary Lee

1. Call to Order/Roll Call 7:42 AM
 - i All Present
2. Welcome of New Commissioner – Ms. Brandy Cortes
3. Hearing of the Public
 - i None Present
4. Consideration of Generational Impact Grant Awards

Tiffany LaVette along with Attorney Tim Wachter gave a summary for each of the organization's projects, described the process of assessing and evaluating the recommended grant applications and mentioned how thorough the process had been. Mr. Tyrone Clark of 3i Networking helped to answer questions from Commission Board members. Ms. LaVette allowed the commission board members to vote on the recommendations. The organizations that have been selected for the grant award were Greater Erie Economic Development Corporation (GEEDC); Eastside Renaissance (ESR); Minority Community Investment Coalition (MCIC), GMA Development Group will each to be awarded \$250,000.00 and Mercy Center for Women's *Phase 3* Mercy Anchor Community Center Renovations/MACC with an awarded amount of \$100,000.

Mr. Blanks asked Ms. LaVette to chair the remainder of the meeting.

a) Mercy Center for Women- Phase 3 Mercy Anchor Community Center Renovations/MACC.

Motion to approve the resolution to award a \$100,000 Generational Impact Grant to the Mercy Center for Women- Phase 3 Mercy Anchor Community Center Renovations/MACC was made by Tiffany LaVette and seconded by Gwendolyn White.

	YEA	NO	ABSTAIN
Gerald Blanks	X		
Gwendolyn White	X		
Tiffany LaVette	X		
Brandy Cortes	X		
Matt Harris	X		
Dr. Sara Cater	X		
Dr. Adrienne Dixon	X		

b) Minority Community Investment Coalition (MCIC)

Motion to approve the resolution to award a \$250,000 Generational Impact Grant to the Minority Community Investment Coalition (MCIC) was made by Tiffany LaVette and seconded by Gerald Blanks.

	YEA	NO	ABSTAIN
Gerald Blanks	X		
Gwendolyn White	X		
Tiffany LaVette	X		
Brandy Cortes	X		
Matt Harris	X		
Dr. Sara Cater	X		
Dr. Adrienne Dixon	X		

c) Eastside Renaissance (ESR)

Matt Harris did disclose that he is an officer of Eastside Renaissance, Inc. As such, he abstained from deliberation on any of the grant submissions and from the vote on this resolution. Additionally, an abstention memo was filed with the Board Secretary and is to be made a part of these minutes in accordance with the Pennsylvania Ethics Act.

Motion to approve the resolution to approve award

	YEA	NO	ABSTAIN
Gerald Blanks	X		
Gwendolyn White	X		
Tiffany LaVette	X		
Brandy Cortes	X		
Matt Harris			X
Dr. Sara Cater	X		
Dr. Adrienne Dixon	X		

d) GMA Development Group

Motion to approve the resolution to award a \$250,000 Generational Impact Grant to GMA Development Group was made by Tiffany LaVette and seconded by Matt Harris.

	YEA	NO	ABSTAIN
Gerald Blanks	X		
Gwendolyn White	X		
Tiffany LaVette	X		
Brandy Cortes	X		
Matt Harris	X		

Dr. Sara Cater	X		
Dr. Adrienne Dixon	X		

e) Greater Erie Economic Development Corporation (GEEDC)

Mr. Gerald Blanks disclosed that he is the administrative head of GEEDC, and Dr. Adrienne Dixon disclosed that she is on the GEEDC Board. As such, they abstained from deliberation on any of the grant submissions and from the vote on this resolution. Additionally, both Commissioners filed abstention memos with the Board Secretary, and they are to be made a part of these minutes in accordance with the Pennsylvania Ethics Act.

Motion to approve the resolution to award a \$250,000 Generational Impact Grant to the Greater Erie Economic Development Corporation (GEEDC) was made by Tiffany LaVette and seconded by Matt Harris.

	YEA	NO	ABSTAIN
Gerald Blanks			X
Gwendolyn White	X		
Tiffany LaVette	X		
Brandy Cortes	X		
Matt Harris	X		
Dr. Sara Cater	X		
Dr. Adrienne Dixon			X

The Grant Selection Committee agreed to award each organizations half of their respective requests in order that the Generational Impact Grant Fund maintains its budget. Ms. LaVette thanked 3i networking and committee members who diligently worked together to carefully evaluate each qualified application using the appropriate American Recuse Plan (ARP) rules and the grant’s guidelines.

5.Adjournment 8:35AM