



State of New Jersey
URBAN ENTERPRISE ZONE AUTHORITY
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PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

LT. GOVERNOR SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Commissioner

NEW JERSEY URBAN ENTERPRISE ZONE AUTHORITY

Board Meeting

Wednesday, June 14, 2023

2:00 P.M.

Microsoft Teams or call in (audio only)

1 (856) 338-7074

Phone Conference ID: 212 438 293 #

MINUTES

Notice of Public Meeting: Read by Chairwoman Kimberly Holmes: In accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act, notice of this meeting has been sent to the Bergen Record and the Trenton Times at least 48 hours prior to this meeting and a meeting notice has been posted on the Secretary of State's bulletin board at the Department of State.

The following recusal process will be followed at all UEZ Board meetings:

To the extent feasible, meeting materials involving a matter from which a Board member must recuse himself or herself will not be distributed to the Board member. At the subject Board meeting, The Board member must place his or her recusal and the reason therefore on the record prior to any discussion of the matter and shall not participate in any discussion or comment leading up to the vote nor shall the member participate in the vote. The recusal shall be noted in the minutes of the Board meeting. In the event the matter in question shall be discussed at any non-public portion or executory session of the meeting, the Board member shall leave the meeting room and not return until the meeting has returned to public session.

Roll Call

Kimberly Holmes, Department of Community Affairs Chair Designee
Julie Diaz, The Department of Labor & Workforce Development Designee
Aaron Binder, The Department of the Treasury Designee
Tai Cooper, New Jersey Economic Development Authority
William Gruccio, Public-at-Large
Carmen Mendiola, Public-at-Large
William Johnson, Public-at-Large
Douglas Schneider, Public-at-Large

Approval of May 10, 2023, UEZ Authority meeting minutes:

Motions:

Approve: Julie Diaz

Second: William Gruccio

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Recusals: 0

Abstentions: 1 - Douglas Schneider

Motion carried with a vote (5/0/0/1)

NEW BUSINESS

1. Executive Director's Report.

We are meeting with our UEZ partners to learn about their challenges, provide encouragement for increasing business certification and maintaining their share in the Enterprise Zone Assistance Fund. UEZ communities are aggressively preparing project applications, so we want to ensure these applications are following UEZ rules.

Now we are auditing projects approved in FY 2022. Our auditors have assisted UEZ communities to clarify their expenditures, provide greater details on the projects and make fiscal adjustments. In addition, we have encouraged comments from our UEZ Communities on the UEZ website, which is being updated biweekly. Our Publication, "The Guide for Completing Zone Assistance Funding Applications" is online and will be mailed to UEZ Coordinators in July 2023. Next week, two of the much-needed staff are onboard, joining the UEZ.

We will be working with the Division developing rules for preliminary zone development plans. This is essential as some of the UEZ's are looking to adjust their own boundaries, as permitted in the 2021 legislation, they can take a second look to prepare a comprehensive plan through an RFP process, UEZ communities can receive up to 10% of the municipal Zone Assistance Fund allocation for the preliminary Zone Development plan or \$125,000 whichever is greater. However, we will not stop our process and review individual project proposals as time goes on, there will be adjustment once proposed plans get approved by the UEZA Board. We are collaborating with the legal team to prepare a resolution to authorize UEZ communities to apply for preparing request for proposal to hire a consultant and prepare a preliminary zone development plan.

This is a snapshot of our ongoing activities from last month and into this month.

2. UEZ Coordinators/Representatives Roll Call

Bridgeton, Stephanie Gonzalez
Carteret, Bob Makin
Lakewood, David Klein
Long Branch, Richard A. Thompson
Mount Holly, Josh Brown
Orange, Christopher Mobley
Passaic, Ricardo Fernandez
Perth Amboy, Noelia Colon
Plainfield, Jeannette Aparicio
Roselle, Shanel Robinson

3. Request to approve Bridgeton UEZ Central Business District Sanitation in the amount of - \$40,000.

Motions:

Approve: Carmen Mendiola

Second: Tai Cooper

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Recusals: 1 – William Gruccio

Abstentions: 0

Motion carried with a vote (6/0/1/0).

Bridgeton's UEZ Coordinator, Stephanie Gonzalez, was present during the meeting to address questions or concerns raised by the Board.

4. Request to approve Carteret UEZ Admin Budget for FY23: 07-01-22 to 06-30-23 in the amount of - \$31,000.

Motions:

Approve: Tai Cooper

Second: Douglas Schneider

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0

Recusals: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion carried with a vote (8/0/0/0).

Carteret's UEZ Coordinator, Bob Makin, was present during the meeting to address questions or concerns raised by the Board.

5. Request to approve Lakewood UEZ Transportation Bus Expansion in the amount of - \$1,680,000.

Motions:

Approve: Carmen Mendiola

Second: Douglas Schneider

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0

Recusals: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion carried with a vote (8/0/0/0).

Lakewood UEZ Coordinator, David Klein, was present during the meeting to address questions or concerns raised by the Board.

6. Request to approve Long Branch UEZ Improvement Russell Court West Phase 1 in the amount of - \$407,800.

Motions:

Approve: William Gruccio

Second: Tai Cooper

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Recusals: 1 – William Johnson

Abstentions: 0

Motion carried with a vote (7/0/1/0).

Long Branch UEZ Richard A. Thompson, was present during the meeting to address questions or concerns raised by the Board.

7. Request to approve Mount Holly UEZ Admin Budget FY24: 07-01-23 to 06-30-24 in the amount of - \$56,982.

Motions:

Approve: Julie Diaz

Second: Carmen Mendiola

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0

Recusals: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion carried with a vote (8/0/0/0).

Mount Holly UEZ Coordinator, Josh Brown, was present during the meeting to address questions or concerns raised by the Board.

8. Request to approve Orange UEZ Military Park Rehabilitation Project in the amount of - \$388,500.

Motions:

Approve: Carmen Mendiola

Second: William Gruccio

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0

Recusals: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion carried with a vote (8/0/0/0).

Orange's UEZ Coordinator, Chris Mobley, was present during the meeting to address questions or concerns raised by the Board.

9. Request to approve Passaic UEZ Carnie Bragg Park Phase 1 in the amount of - \$50,000.

Motions:

Approve: William Gruccio

Second: Douglas Schneider

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0

Recusals: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion carried with a vote (8/0/0/0).

Passaic's UEZ Coordinator, Ricardo Fernandez, was present during the meeting to address questions or concerns raised by the Board.

10. Request to approve Passaic UEZ Riverwalk at Market and South Streets in the amount of - \$50,000.

Motions:

Approve: Carmen Mendiola

Second: Tai Cooper

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0

Recusals: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion carried with a vote (8/0/0/0).

Passaic's UEZ Coordinator, Ricardo Fernandez, was present during the meeting to address questions or concerns raised by the Board.

11. Request to approve Perth Amboy UEZ Seasonal Clean Team Project in the amount of - \$196,350.

Motions:

Approve: Julie Diaz

Second: Tai Cooper

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0

Recusals: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion carried with a vote (8/0/0/0).

Perth Amboy's UEZ Coordinator, Noelia Colon, was present during the meeting to address questions or concerns raised by the Board.

12. Request to approve Plainfield UEZ Admin Budget FY23: 03-01-23 to 06-30-2023 in the amount of - \$41,304.

Motions:

Approve: Carmen Mendiola

Second: Julie Diaz

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0

Recusals: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion carried with a vote (8/0/0/0).

Plainfield's UEZ Coordinator, Jeannette Aparicio, was present during the meeting to address questions or concerns raised by the Board.

13. Request to approve Roselle UEZ Sign and Façade Improvement Revolving Loan Program in the amount of - \$361,800.

Motions:

Approve: William Gruccio

Second: Carmen Mendiola

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0

Recusals: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion carried with a vote (8/0/0/0).

Roselle's UEZ Coordinator, Shanel Robinson, was present during the meeting to address questions or concerns raised by the Board.

OLD BUSINESS

Other

None

Open to the public

None

Adjournment: 2:45 p.m.

Motions:

Adjourn: Carmen Mendiola

Second: Julie Diaz

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0

Recusals: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion carried with a vote (8/0/0/0).

Rasha Hassan

I, Rasha Hassan, have taken minutes at the June 14, 2023

Urban Enterprise Zone Authority Meeting