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Meridian creates its own business incubator, set to open by Aug. 1

The Meridian Development Corp. board of directors gave final approval Wednesday to the creation of an almost 3,000 square foot downtown business incubator, MDC administrative director Shaun Wardle said Wednesday morning.

The as-yet unnamed facility will be at 136 E. Idaho, which housed Commercial Newspaper Service until a fire last year forced the company to relocate. The owners of the building are restoring the building right down to its historic facade, Wardle said.

MDC will lease the entire ground floor for the incubator for \$2,725 a month. It will then lease space to small entrepreneurs who now have to work out of their homes or coffee shops.

Wardle said MDC hopes to open the incubator by Aug. 1.

The MDC project is the latest business incubator to spring up in the Treasure Valley. Boise last week launched The Green House, a nonprofit facility at 5th and Idaho streets the city hopes will attract small startups devoted to environmentally friendly projects. The project is modeled after the WaterCooler business incubator created in Boise by BoDo developer Mark Rivers.