



IRONWOOD

MICHIGAN | *Find Your North*

Proceedings of the Economic Development Corporation Meeting Wednesday, June 6, 2017

A Regular Meeting of the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) was held on Wednesday, June 6, 2017 at 10:00 A.M. in the Women’s Club Room, Second Floor of the Municipal Memorial Building in the City of Ironwood, Michigan.

1. Chair Wyssling called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
2. Recording of the Roll

MEMBER	Present		EXCUSED	NOT EXCUSED
	YES	NO		
Thorsen, Gina	X			
Lemke, Joseph	X			
Korpela, Nancy		X	X	
Sciafani, Velda	X			
Ramme, Dave	X			
Ruppe, Mark		X	X	
Vacant				
Schonberg, Bob		X	X	
Wyssling, John	X			
Gary Burnett	X			
Vacant				
Quorum	6	3	Quorum	

Also Present: Community Development Director Tom Bergman, Community Development Assistant Tim Erickson, and Ironwood Chamber of Commerce Director Meyers.

3. Approval of the April 5, 2017 Meeting Minutes:

Motion by Thorsen to accept the April 5, 2017 Meeting Minutes. **Second** by Burnett. **Motion Carried 6 to 0.**

4. Approval of the Agenda

Motion by Burnett to accept the Agenda. **Second** by Lemke. **Motion Carried 6 to 0.**

5. Citizens wishing to address the Corporation regarding Items on the Agenda (Three-minute limit): None.
6. Citizens wishing to address the Corporation regarding items not on the Agenda (Three-minute limit): None.
7. Items for Discussion and Consideration
 - A. Comprehensive Plan Implementation Status of Priority Action Items:
 - I. Strategy 6.2(b) Implement Endowment Fund Program for Economic Development – Burnett, Sciafani
 1. Director Meyers stated that they now have a board of directors and are currently in the outreach phase. Burnett talked about the progress and some tasks that are ahead for the organization.
 - II. Strategy 6.3(g & h) Develop/Continue a Business Incubator and Entrepreneurial Support Spaces – Korpela
 1. No update.
 - III. Strategy 6.4 Create internship/apprenticeship program with local business to market to colleges and trade schools – All Members
 1. Burnett and Erickson discussed some success with using marketing for local businesses. Director Bergman discussed the importance of regional branding using the Wilds of Michigan and the state branding of Pure Michigan. The Corporation discussed adding an agenda item to discuss using the City's branding as a regional brand. Wyssling discussed the need for updated newer housing.
 - IV. Strategy 6.6(e) Create a 5-year marketing plan – Sciafani, Thorsen
 1. Director Bergman went over the assets from the last meeting and stated that they will go over the unique assets at the next meeting.
 - V. Strategy 6.3(f) Expansion of Fiber throughout community
 1. Director Bergman stated that the City of Ironwood is getting fiber into the City offices building. He also discussed a free WIFI program that will be spread out throughout key locations in the City. The Corporation discussed the amount of fiber that is currently in the City.
8. Other Business: Wyssling stated that he has new interests in highway property and the downtown.

Thorsen asked about the new European Food store.

Director Bergman discussed a new First Friday event on July 7th.

Director Bergman gave an update on the Zoning Ordinance update and the possibility of form based code for the downtown.

9. Next Meeting: July 12, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

10. Adjournment. **Motion** by Ramme to adjourn at 10:56 a.m. **Second** by Sclafani. **Motion Carried 6 to 0.**



John Wyssling, President



Tim Erickson, Community Development Assistant