



IRONWOOD

MICHIGAN | *Find Your North*

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

A Regular Meeting of the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) was held on Wednesday, December 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	X	
Lemke, Joseph	X			
Korpela, Nancy	X			
Sclafani, Velda	X			
Ramme, Dave	X			
Ruppe, Mark	X			
Schonberg, Bob	X			
Wyssling, John	X			
Gary Burnett	X			
Quorum	8	1	Quorum	

Also Present: Community Development Director Tom Bergman and Community Development Assistant Tim Erickson.

3. Approval of the November 1, 2017 Meeting Minutes:

Motion by Burnett to accept with the correction of Mark Ruppe calling the meeting to order.
Second by Thorsen. **Motion Carried 6 to 0.**

4. Approval of the Agenda

Motion by Ruppe to accept the Agenda. **Second** by Sclafani. **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. Presentation by Gogebic County Brownfield Commission.
 - I. Rudy Grbabavich chairman of the GCBC addressed the Corporation. He discussed the tax abatement and the fact that the different communities across the Gogebic Range have different needs and that projects on a local level help the region. He also discussed the purpose of brownfields and what kinds of properties can be classified as a brownfield. He discussed the need for an administrator to manage the Commission which could be funded by Gogebic County and each municipality within the county.
 - B. Redevelopment Ready Communities – Potential strategies for redevelopment.
 - I. Update on sites (Bookworld and Lindquist Electric)
 1. Director Bergman stated that Lindquist Electric has closed it's doors but is in the process of being purchased. He also discussed the Bookworld site and stated that the he is looking at finding businesses that might fit into it. The Corporation also discussed the Pamida/Wells Fargo lot.
 - II. Vilas County Survey Review
 1. Director Bergman presented the survey. The Corporation would like Director Bergman to make a survey for the City of Ironwood businesses.
 - C. Comprehensive Plan Implementation Status of Priority Action Items:
 - I. Strategy 6.2(b) Implement Endowment Fund Program for Economic Development – Burnett, Sclafani
 1. Director Bergman stated that he had reached out to the Iron County Wisconsin Economic Development Administrator. There is a potential collaboration with Iron County.
 - II. Strategy 6.3(g & h) Develop/Continue a Business Incubator and Entrepreneurial Support Spaces – Korpela
 1. No updates.
 - III. Strategy 6.4 Create internship/apprenticeship program with local business to market to colleges and trade schools – All Members
 1. Director Bergman stated that he is working directly with Gogebic Community College.
 - IV. Strategy 6.6(e) Create a 5-year marketing plan – Sclafani, Thorsen
 1. Director Bergman stated that the committee hasn't met. He presented a draft process to use for marketing redevelopment sites.
 - V. Strategy 6.3(f) Expansion of Fiber throughout community
 - 1.
8. Other Business: Ramme asked about the Knights of Columbus building. The Corporation discussed other businesses that are opening up.

9. Next Meeting: January 3, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.
10. Adjournment. **Motion** by Ramme to adjourn at 10:25 a.m. **Second** by Ruppe. **Motion Carried to 0.**



John Wyssling, President



Tim Erickson, Community Development Assistant