



# IRONWOOD

MICHIGAN | *Find Your North*

## Proceedings of the Economic Development Corporation Meeting Wednesday, May 5, 2018

A Regular Meeting of the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) was held on Wednesday, May 5, 2018 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			
Sclafani, Velda	X			
Ramme, Dave	X			
Ruppe, Mark	X			
Schonberg, Bob		X	X	
Wyssling, John	X			
Gary Burnett	X			
<b>Quorum</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Quorum</b>	

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

3. Approval of the April 4, 2018 Meeting Minutes:  
**Motion** by Thorsen to accept the April 4, 2018 meeting minutes. **Second** by Sclafani. **Motion Carried 6 to 0.**
4. Approval of the Agenda  
**Motion** by Lemke to accept the Agenda. **Second** by Thorsen. **Motion Carried 7 to 0.**

5. Citizens wishing to address the Corporation regarding Items on the Agenda (Three-minute limit): Director Meyer spoke in favor of the Find Your North Marketing Plan. He discussed the recent Western U.P. Chamber Alliance meeting and discussed the new Western U.P. Brew and Wine Trail.
6. Citizens wishing to address the Corporation regarding items not on the Agenda (Three-minute limit): None.
7. Items for Discussion and Consideration
  - A. Redevelopment Ready Communities – Potential strategies for redevelopment.
    - I. Update on certification.
      1. Director Bergman stated that the City is moving forward with the zoning ordinance revision and will be meeting with the consultant next week. He discussed the need for the EDC and the DIDA to be a part of the revision process.
    - II. Redevelopment Sites.
      1. Director Bergman stated that the demolition site will be done by the end of next week. He talked about what will be done with the property after it is cleaned up. He also discussed the sale of the old Pamida lot. Director Bergman talked about the new MEDC project for the downtown that is in the works. Ruppe talked about the spec building. Director Bergman discussed a proposal from a company that is looking at the area. He also stated that one of the RLF accounts has been paid out. Director Bergman talked about working with Gogebic Community College to fulfill workforce needs.
  - B. Comprehensive Plan Implementation Status of Priority Action Items:
    - I. Strategy 6.2(b) Implement Endowment Fund Program for Economic Development.
      1. Director Bergman stated that they haven't met since Gary left.
    - II. Strategy 6.3(g & h) Develop/Continue a Business Incubator and Entrepreneurial Support Spaces.
      1. Director Bergman talked about the Northern Michigan University Smart Zone and the meeting that they held last month. They are looking at partnering with Gogebic Community College.
    - III. Strategy 6.4 Create internship/apprenticeship program with local business to market to colleges and trade schools.
      1. Director Bergman discussed that they are working with the college to start using their programs to fill voids in our community.
    - IV. Strategy 6.6(e) Create marketing plan.
      1. Director Bergman presented the marketing plan.
8. Other Business: Director Bergman stated that the First Friday event will be coming. He talked about trying to get people downtown the Friday before the Red Bull 400. He also talked about a new position at the City for a Marketing Strategist. Gina talked about getting interns in the area together, and discussed two issues with the small businesses administration legislations at the

State. Ruppe stated the Xcel energy invited the EDC to meet at their location. Ruppe also discussed a new water bottling plant in Marenisco.

9. Next Meeting: June 6, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

10. Adjournment. **Motion** by Burnett to adjourn at 10:26 a.m. **Second** by Ramme. **Motion Carried 7 to 0.**



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John Wyssling, President



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Tim Erickson, Community Development Assistant