

Keweenaw County Economic Development Committee

Meeting Minutes

February 2, 2011

Meeting held at the Keweenaw County Courthouse was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Raymond Chase.

ROLL CALL: Present: Richard Schaefer, Don Secor, Raymond Chase, John Sturos, Ned Huwatschek, Peg Kauppi, Shari Chase, David Sundberg, Don Piche, Darleen Huovinen

AGENDA: Motion by Peg Kauppi, supported by Shari Chase, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

MINUTES: Motion by John Sturos, supported by Ned Huwatschek to approve the January 5, 2011, EDC Minutes. Motion approved.

GUEST SPEAKERS: None

CHAIRMAN COMMENTS: Raymond Chase welcomed new committee member Don Piche. Mr. Piche will serve as the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioner's liaison to the EDC.

OLD BUSINESS:

Keweenaw County Communications Infrastructure: Shari Chase

- Property owner in Phoenix, MI contacted Verizon regarding cellular tower. Verizon will pursue another site for a cellular tower in Keweenaw County.

KC Court House Renovation: Darleen Huovinen – No report.

Bio-mass Technology: Raymond Chase – No report.

Keweenaw County Recreation Trails: Raymond Chase

- Thanked Richard Schaefer for compiling a letter of support to be sent to area businesses and residents to pursue financial support for the purchased of an ATV to be utilized by the Keweenaw County Sheriff's Office to patrol the trail systems in Keweenaw County.
- ACTION ITEM: EDC members to develop a mailing list of area businesses. Send information to Darleen Huovinen who will compile the address list.
- ATV Trails Map is ready to go to printers. Waiting for additional financial assistance.

Keweenaw County Manager: Board Discussion

Don Piche addressed the topic of a county manager. Salary will be a major factor in attracting a qualified person for the position. At this time, the KC Board is focused on other issues in the county. EDC will explore the duties and responsibilities of a county manager.

ACTION ITEM: John Sturos will contact an area county manager regarding the role and responsibilities of a manager. Topic will become a future agenda item.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Brownfield Redevelopment Authority: David Sundberg
 - Phase I (environmental study) completed at Mt. Horace Greeley. Phase II underway.
 - Louisiana Pacific property: Phase I study will be completed in March, 2011. Property acquisition being pursued.
 - Keweenaw County Historical Society has requested Brownfield assistance/study at the school property, owned by the KCHS, in Gay, Michigan. EPA has approved the study.
 - Brownfield exploring study at a former gas station located in Mohawk, Michigan.
 - Brownfield is looking for new committee members.
- Green Sand Feasibility Study: Don Secor
 - Contacted personnel at MTU. Will pursue technical information that could be utilized to develop a business plan to create a manufacturing facility. Key issue is job creating in KC.
- Planning Commission: Ned Huwatschek
 - Planning Commission met with EDC on January 25, 2011 to discuss the KC Master Plan. Commission is requesting input from committees, residents and townships to compile an all inclusive list of items to create a vision for future land use in Keweenaw County.
 - Planning Commission would like to schedule future meeting with the EDC.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

NEXT EDC MEETING: March 2, 2011, 6:30 P.M., Keweenaw County Courthouse

Motion to adjourn was made by Don Secor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:

Darleen M. Huovinen