

Keweenaw County Economic Development Committee

Meeting Minutes

June 1, 2011

Meeting held at the Keweenaw County Courthouse was called to order at 6:35 P.M. by R. Chase.

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

Excused: John Sturos Absent: Don Piche

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

MINUTES: Motion by Ned Huwatschek, supported by Shari Chase to approve the May 4, 2011 EDC Minutes as amended. Motion carried.

GUEST SPEAKERS: None

OLD BUSINESS:

- Keweenaw County Communications Infrastructure: Shari Chase – Cellular tower installation proceeding with negotiations being handled by the county and private entities. Keep *KC Communications Infrastructure* on the agenda as a review topic.
- Bio-mass Technology: Raymond Chase – Met with David Sundberg. Cost analysis plan for bio-mass plant reviewed. Identified short rotation forestry and greenhouse technology as areas requiring additional research. As subcommittees, Don Secor and John Sturos were requested to research short rotation forestry. Ned Huwatschek and Richard Schaefer to develop a communications platform related to short rotation forestry. David Sundberg will research greenhouse technology. Three subcommittees formed.
- Keweenaw County Recreation Trails: Raymond Chase- *Keweenaw ATV Trail* dedication ceremony held on May 28, 2011 in Phoenix.
- Courthouse Renovation: Agenda item deleted. Issue being addressed by KC Board of Commissioners.
- Copper Harbor Trails Club: Peg Kauppi – IMBA (International Mountain Biking Association) conference was held in Copper Harbor in May. IMBA impressed with the quality of Copper Harbor trails and the scenic setting. Bike manufacturer, TREK, will host an Annual Meeting in Copper Harbor, August, 2011. Marketing non-motorized trails in Keweenaw County important. Recommended forming a committee to explore innovative technology as a marketing strategy. Peg Kauppi and Shari Chase to serve on Marketing Committee.
- WUPPDR: Discussion related to annual funding. July agenda item.

- Keweenaw County Manager:
 - Duties, responsibilities and potential recommendation to KC Board discussed.
 - Darleen Huovinen will prepare a bullet point presentation for EDC review. July, 2011 agenda item.
- Projects, Good and Services Needed To Economically Benefit Keweenaw County-Potential Private Business Ventures
 - Shari Chase: Items initially identified were reviewed and updated.
 - Will remain an agenda item for periodic review. Shari Chase will compile the updates and send electronically to the EDC.
 - David Sundberg: Identifying goods and services needed in Keweenaw County to the general public is essential to spur entrepreneurship. Communicating those ideas has the potential to create jobs in the private sector.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Brownfield Redevelopment Authority: David Sundberg - Received authorization to do Brownfield at the Mohawk gas station. Researching Brownfield possibilities for funding at Bio-Mass facility at Mt. Horace Greely as a remediation project. Updated EDC on Brownfield tax incremental funding and MEGA (Michigan Economic Growth Authority).
- Planning Commission: Ned Huwatschek – Keweenaw County Master Plan is progressing. Input has been received from some townships and county entities.
- Board of Commissioners: Don Piche- No report.

Public Comments: John Dodge, Eagle River. The identification of goods and services to spur economic develop in Keweenaw County that will serve residents is a mutually beneficial project. Public input important.

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

Motion to adjourn at 8:35 P.M. was made by David Sundberg.

Respectfully submitted:

Darleen M. Huovinen