

## **Keweenaw County Economic Development Committee May 2, 2012 Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairperson Ray Chase.

Members present were: Ray Chase, Shari Chase, Ned Huwatschek, David Sundberg, Jill Protzel, John Sturos, and Richard Schaefer.

Member(s) absent: Peg Kauppi, Don Secor, and Don Piche (all excused)

The May 2, 2012 meeting agenda was approved with a motion by John Sturos, seconded by Shari Chase. Motion carried.

Minutes of the April 4, 2012 meeting were approved with a motion by David Sundberg, seconded by Ned Huwatschek. Motion carried.

Guest Speakers: none

Old Business:

Bio-mass Technology –

- Short Rotation Forestry (SRF) – John Sturos had nothing new to report at this time.
- SRF Communications – Ned Huwatschek had nothing new to report at this time.
- Greenhouse Technology – Dave Sundberg reported that he forwarded information to Kraig Mahrley and Sam Lockwood about Sonic Bloom (sound frequencies increasing growth in greenhouses).
- Mt. HG Fuel Production Project– Ray Chase had nothing new to report at this time.

Keweenaw County Recreational Trails (KCRT) – Ray Chase thanked Polaris and Yamaha for the grants received by the Keweenaw ATV Club. He shared the 2012 ATV trail maps with the committee. He also stated that a vote passed at the DNR meeting to approve the director's order for full designation of the trails.

KC Communications Infrastructure – At this time AT&T is not willing to expand their fiber optics, but they are willing to listen to local interest pushing for action. The EDC will write a letter once more information is forthcoming. A representative from AT&T is sending information to the county. On another note, David Sundberg is going to make inquiries into Natural Gas lines being extended from Kearsarge to Ahmeek. This, he said, would bring Natural Gas to six surrounding communities and reduce energy costs.

Water Park/Playground – Shari and Ray Chase received a quote from Jeff Lococo, which was way out of the price range for our area. They asked him for a new quote for only a basic site evaluation and his travel expenses.

#### New Business:

Brownfield Redevelopment Authority - Dave Sundberg reported that they are still waiting for a response from Louisiana Pacific on the property to purchase proposal. A report is currently being written about the completion of the Mohawk Gas Station project. Also, the Mt. HG project is going ahead with the “back to nature” plan. The property title search has been completed, which revealed that the housing property was never transferred to the AirForce; KC remains the owner. The RDA is in the process of looking up the lease now. The water was polluted by the AirForce and needs to be cleaned up. Jill Protzel will forward information to David about the Army Corps of Engineers program for cleaning up former military sites.

Planning Commission - Ned Huwatschek had nothing new to report at this time.

Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners - Don Piche was absent. No report sent.

Additions – Ray Chase mentioned that GMO is currently logging near Clark Mine / Estivant Pines area.

On a motion by Ray Chase, seconded by Shari Chase, the meeting was adjourned at 7:07p.m.