

Keweenaw County Economic Development Committee August 1, 2012 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman David Sundberg.

Members present: Peg Kauppi, Don Piche, Jill Protzel, Don Secor, John Sturos, Ned Huwatschek, Richard Schaefer and David Sundberg

Member(s) absent: none

The meeting agenda was approved with a motion by Richard Schaefer, seconded by Don Secor. Motion carried.

Minutes of the June 6, 2012 meeting were read and approved with a motion by Ned Huwatschek, seconded by Jill Protzel. Motion carried.

Guest Speaker(s): Don Keith was present to ask for support in pursuing a Regional Upper Midwest National Cemetery at Mt. Horace Greeley. He stated that a national cemetery would bring jobs and visitors to KC, the project would clean up the property, and is consistent with KC zoning. Mr. Keith asked the committee to send a letter of support for this project. With a motion by Jill Protzel, seconded by Ned Huwatschek, the EDC unanimously decided to draft a letter of support for this project.

Old Business –

Short Rotation Forestry(SRF): John Sturos had nothing new to report at this time.

Greenhouse Technology: Dave Sundberg had nothing new to report at this time.

Keweenaw County Recreational Trails (KCRT): The committee will keep KCRT as an agenda item despite Ray Chase's resignation; however there was nothing new to report at this time.

KC Communications Infrastructure: Don Secor reported that fiber lines are being installed along HWY 41 by Peninsula Fiber. David Sundberg will invite Charlie Hopper of Pastynet to the September meeting to clarify internet accessibility and expansion plans for KC. SBA is going ahead with towers in Delaware and Lake Medora. If private land is available near Copper Harbor for a cell tower, the owner should contact Nathan Haupt.

New Business –

Brownfield Redevelopment Authority: Dave Sundberg reported that the BRA did not meet last month. He reported that Louisiana Pacific has declined their offer and the report on the Mohawk Gas Station property is complete. David suggested that the national cemetery idea be included in the final report for the Mt. Horace Greeley property,

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

Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners: Don Piche reported that the roof is currently being replaced on the KC courthouse. The total cost for the project is \$47,000 with \$40,000 coming from the Americana Grant and \$5,000 from the Heritage Grant.

Additions: A lengthy discussion about the EDC's mission statement, goals, objectives, and purpose ensued.

On a motion by David Sundberg, seconded by Don Secor, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45p.m.