

Keweenaw County Economic Development Committee October 3, 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 October meeting agenda was approved with a motion by Jill Protzel, seconded by Richard Schaefer. Motion carried.

Minutes of the August 1, 2012 meeting were read and approved with a motion by Richard Schaefer, seconded by John Sturos. Motion carried.

Guest Speaker(s): none

Old Business –

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

Greenhouse Technology: Dave Sundberg reported that he had connected with *Downtown Calumet* about Michigan Tech starting a green housing project with Calumet High School.

Keweenaw County Recreational Trails (KCRT): Don Piche reported that the Houghton County attorney has reviewed the joint trails committee draft and that the Keweenaw County attorney has not. He stated that the draft must be reviewed before we can move on. Peg Kauppi stated that the trails are the lifeline of the area and they need to be marketed. David Sundberg suggested that marketing be returned to the EDC agenda.

KC Communications Infrastructure: The committee discussed the need for internet speed in KC. Don Secor reiterated that we need to invite Charlie Hopper of Pastynet to the next meeting to clarify internet accessibility and expansion plans for KC.

New Business –

Brownfield Redevelopment Authority: Dave Sundberg reported that the final

reporting is done and they will meet on the third Tuesday of this month to figure out what comes next.

Planning Commission: Ned Huwatschek reported that the Planning Commission toured the Centennial Mining Facility. He stated that the facility was very clean and that it currently employs 20 people making above average wages for the area. Richard Schaefer stated that there will be a shortage of natural resources and this mine has great potential. John Sturos said he will reinvite Ross Grunwald to present to the committee.

Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners: Don Piche reported that the KC courthouse roof project is complete. 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. The committee agreed that by the time the next board of commissioners is in place we should have our charter, mission statement and budget figured out.

On a motion by David Sundberg, seconded by John Sturos, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40p.m.