

**Keweenaw County Economic Development Committee**  
**March 4, 2015 Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Peg Kauppi.

Members present: Peg Kauppi, Don Piche, John Sturos, Don Secor, Jill Protzel, Sam Raymond, and Ned Huwatschek

Member(s) absent: none

The March meeting agenda was approved with a motion by Sam Raymond, seconded by Ned Huwatschek. All in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes of the February 4, 2015 meeting were read and approved with a motion by Ned Huwatschek, seconded by John Sturos. All in favor. Motion carried.

Guest Speaker(s) – none

Old Business –

**KC Communications Infrastructure:** Don Secor will get a hold of Alex Protzel to get an update on north end cell tower politics. Sam Raymond reiterated that the county board should look into getting out of the contract with SBA. It does not seem like Keweenaw County is getting a very good deal. Don Piche stated that he has spoken to Donna Jaskelinen who says that the contract is up to date and we cannot get out of it. Peg Kauppi suggests getting the independent engineer and SBA at the same table to have an honest conversation. Don Piche will get a copy of the SBA contract for the next meeting. Alex Protzel will be invited to the next EDC meeting.

**KC Marketing:** Peg Kauppi reported that CHIA has secured funds from the Copper Harbor DDA for advertising and is approaching Grant Township for funds to stay competitive with larger areas that have more money. We need to find different sources to fund the trails.

**Planning Commission:** Ned Huwatschek reported that the PC amended and made the presentation about Copper Harbor Zoning changes. The changes passed. The PC will have Jim Huovinen talk to the EDC about a possible fiber optics project. Jim will be invited to the next EDC meeting.

**Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners:** Don Piche reported the KML is working with a new accountant and with Michigan Works on a new marketing plan.

New Business:

**Copper Harbor rails Club support:** Sam Raymond reported that the Copper Harbor trail system is currently rated top 11 in the world by IMBA (International Mountain Biking Assoc). However, Marquette and Duluth are quickly climbing the ladder as they are the shiny new toys and they have municipal support. The CHTC is asking the KML to support the trails at the Summit Level (\$2,500). On a motion by John Sturos, seconded by Don Secor, that the EDC suggests to the county board, a CHTC membership at the Summit Level. All in favor. Motion Passed.

Public Comment: none

On a motion by Sam Raymond, seconded by Ned Huwatschek, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m. All in favor. Motion passed.