

KALAMAZOO COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
MINUTES

MEETING DATE: Thursday, February 23, 2012

PLACE OF MEETING: County Administration Building

Present: Joe Agostinelli, Larry Baumgart, Ruth Blake, Brandt Iden, Ken Peregon, Julie Rogers, Anne Summerfield, Matt VanDyk, Andy Wenzel, Thell Woods

Excused: Clare Annen

Community: Mary Brown

Staff Support: David Artley, David Stegina (consultant), Lotta Jarnefelt

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Van Dyk called the meeting to order at 4:45pm.
2. MEMBERS EXCUSED: Clare Annen
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Approved by consensus
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: deferred to March meeting
5. CITIZENS COMMENTS: None
6. ACTION AGENDA: Agostinelli moved and Peregon seconded that a special meeting be held in March to accommodate a report from Southwest Michigan First. Motion Carried.
7. REPORTS
 - a. EDFP:
 - Meeting March 5 with a possible partner
 - Community Infrastructure project outside City of Kalamazoo may be upcoming.
 - Additional funds were allocated from the County for a total of approximately \$680K for FY 2012. It is unlikely that any more funds will be allocated this year.
 - b. ACW Update: Peregon reported no action
 - c. Event Center: no new information (tied to ACW)
8. Other:
 - Van Dyk indicated he will not be available to chair in the upcoming year.
 - Artley reported that a letter has gone out to the e-mail list of real estate brokers and developers asking for indications of interest in projects and directing them to the website for an application
 - Rogers suggested (a) that the letter of interest be more prominent on the website (it's somewhat buried) and (b) that if commercial real estate brokers/developers

were not included in the distribution of the letter of interest, that they be included.

- There have been meetings in many communities to develop the Plan for Region 6 of the State of Michigan Economic Plan. Discussion centered on the process for approval of the plan and the resultant actions (e.g. which organization would submit the plan).

9. Board Member Comments:

Theil commented that there are many designated powers that the EDC is not exercising. He recommended that this potential be investigated.

10. Meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, March 22, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. before the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority meeting