

**MINUTES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
JANUARY 17, 2012**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Jurchen, Patrick Smith, Cindy Rieck, and Tommy Woog

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ed Larsen

ALSO PRESENT: Sandy Peine, City Clerk; Sheila Haverkamp; BLAEDC; Ruth Ann Hanson, Chamber of Commerce; and Mayor Nancy Adams

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Jurchen at 8:00 a.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

MOTION BY CINDY RIECK AND SECOND BY TOMMY WOOG TO APPROVE THE 11/15/2011 EDC MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

3. Chamber Update

Ruth Ann Hanson gave a Chamber update which included the following:

- Sue Gallegan will be leaving her position at the Chamber. The Chamber will be working at finding someone to replace her.
- Membership fees will be changed to reflect a tiered dues structure.
- There will be a focus on meeting with the members to find out what the needs are and what the members expect from the Chamber.
- Career Fair (Career exploration day) – March 11th – The Chamber is working with BLAEDC and school districts on this event.
- New Visitor Guide will be available soon
- Changing Website to incorporate more information for members
- Marketing efforts
- February 16th, 8:15 a.m. Board of Directors meeting at American Inn. EDC and city staff invited to meet the board.

4. BLAEDC Update

Sheila Haverkamp provided a BLAEDC update as follows:

- Glynlyon – a new company that recently located in Nisswa. The company provides on-line educational products and curriculum.
- BLAEDC’S – annual meeting will be held on January 30th.
- BLAEDC is in the process of studying the entrepreneurial patterns and initiatives to try to determine what can be done to grow entrepreneurialism.

5. General Discussions/Updates

Comp Plan – Vice Chair Jurchen noted that the Comp Plan is not approved. He noted that the City should not dwell on this as there are many good things that continue to be accomplished such as the redesign of the Business Park ordinance.

Lime Greenery – Mayor Nancy Adams noted that Lime Greenery has been purchased and will be named The Wild Daisy. It is planned to open three weeks before Mother’s Day.

RFP – Utility Rate Study – The Clerk noted that RFP’s are being accepted for a utility rate study and will be given to the Council for consideration on February 7th.

Future Goals - It was suggested to add this to the February EDC agenda.

6. Other Business

Discussion was held on the number of existing businesses in Pequot Lakes who have remained in business for many years. Tommy Woog stated that the EDC should promote the economic development gardening concept which is to grow existing businesses in the City. He noted that this is something the EDC could do by either inviting businesses to the EDC meeting or physically visiting businesses and asking them what the EDC can do to help them.

Mayor Adams discussed the need for a revolving loan fund. She stated that she is in the process of meeting with local bankers to see if this can be accomplished through the banks.

7. February EDC Meeting

Agenda Topics:

- Ideal Systems will be present at the next meeting to talk about their business
- Future Goals

8. Adjournment

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, COMMISSIONER WOOG MOVED TO ADJOURN. COMMISSIONER RIECK SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 a.m.

Sandy Peine
City Clerk