



IRONWOOD
MICHIGAN | *Find Your North*

**Proceedings of the Economic Development Corporation Meeting
Wednesday, August 2, 2023**

A Regular Meeting of the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) was held on Wednesday, August 2, 2023 at 10:00 A.M. in the Women’s Club Room

1. Director Bergman called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
2. Recording of the Roll

MEMBER	Present		EXCUSED	NOT EXCUSED
	YES	NO		
Thorsen, Gina	X			
Korpela, Nancy	X			
Lehto, Steve	X			
Meyer, Michael	X			
Corcoran, Kim	X			
Raush, Ken	X			
Schonberg, Bob		X		X
Ackerman-Behr, Glen	X			
Libby, Carolyn	X			
Quorum	8	1	Quorum	

Also Present: Community Development Director Tom Bergman and Community Development Assistant Tim Erickson.

3. Approval of the June 7, 2023 Meeting Minutes:
Motion by Corcoran to accept the meeting minutes. Second by Lehto. Motion Carried 8 to 0.
4. Approval of the Agenda.
Motion by Corcoran to approve the Agenda. Second by Korpela. Motion Carried 8 to 0.
5. Citizens wishing to address the Corporation regarding Items on the Agenda (Three-minute limit): None.
6. Citizens wishing to address the Corporation regarding items not on the Agenda (Three-minute limit): None.
7. Items for Discussion and Consideration.

- A. Housing Update: Discussion of a region wide housing plan facilitated through MSU and WUPPDR is in progress. Funding for housing projects in the region may disseminated to local or regional entities to address housing concerns.
- B. Marketing Booklet for Developers (Home and Commercial Building Rehab) Rural Readiness Grant: This grant will fund a strategic housing plan. The plan will address market rate along with some missing middle housing stock options. Identifying potential sites and developing a guidebook will be a part of it. Getting development ready sites as fast as possible is a goal. A nonprofit developer is working with the City of Ironwood to develop the Wells Fargo site.

The Corporation discussed Highland Copper and what other communities are doing to get ready. The mine operation will put a strain on the short term and long-term rental market. Ackerman-Behr proposed doing a design competition for housing architecture for pre-approval. The building trades program is interested in doing those units.

Libby brought up the need for smaller footprint homes and senior living homes.

Working with current assisted living to add assisted living could be a goal. Long term and assisted care providers should be in the discussion.

- C. Update on Downtown Development Plan and TIF Plan: The August 14th City Commission meeting is the potential date for adoption.
 - D. Redevelopment Ready Communities Update: Staff has two items left before certification.
- 8. Other Business: Meyer updated the EDC with a visitor survey and also the next chamber fall social. Hiawatha Park Playground was discussed. Lehto talked about Michigan Works and a few projects.
 - 9. Next Meeting: September 6, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.
 - 10. Adjournment. **Motion** by Ackerman-Behr to adjourn at 10:49 a.m. **Second** by Korpela. **Motion Carried 8 to 0.**


Michael Meyer, President


Tim Erickson, Community Development Assistant