

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
MEETING MINUTES
KINCHELOE ROOM, CASS COUNTY BUILDING**

Date January 17, 2018

Time: 8:00 am

Board Members present: Troy Clay X, Kevin Anderson __, Roseann Marchetti X, Rick Russwurm X, Eugene Wagner X, Junior Oliver __, James Finan __, Johanna Timpson __, Eileen Toney X, Dawn Bolock __, Harry Shaffer X and Karen Folks X.

Also present: Emilie Sarrtore, David Johnson, Geraldine Sims, Barkley Garrett and Nina Lilley.

Troy Clay called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

Karen Folks moved to amend the agenda and add under Old Business, #1. The Strategic Plan. Eileen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Public Comment: Nina Lilley spoke about her efforts to develop the Cassopolis Center of Learning, Technology & Creative Arts and presented a handout which explains her project.

Eugene Wagner moved to approve the November 15, 2017 minutes and after a second by Harry Shaffer, the minutes were approved unanimously.

Operations Report: Barkley Garrett reported that Miles Trucking has had a second meeting with Howard Township and things are going well. Miles hope to add from five to ten jobs within the next three years. There is still interest in solar panels in Jefferson Township but it is going slowly. A South Bend Company is looking to locate to southwest Michigan. Indek has its state approval and will likely break ground in the spring. Eugene Wagner reported that the old “Neighbors” building on M-62 and M-60 has been sold and the buyers will add offices and apartments.

Old Business

1. Strategic Plan

The 501© (6) paperwork has been filed. Eileen asked for a timeline and Troy suggested using a task tracker. No work has been done on the 501 © (3).

2. Imagine Cass.....Embrace the Vision

The task Force has been meeting and lots of invitations have gone out. The venue has been changed from Midwest Energy to the Council on Aging. So far 65 have registered. The budget was distributed and another \$1000.00 was requested. Harry Shaffer made a motion to approve the budget of \$16, 000.00. Eugene Wagner seconded and the motion passed. Lists of potential attendees were distributed and

the members were urged to make calls, ask for people to attend and to become sponsors. A report was given on sponsors and Midwest Energy offered \$5,000.00. Sponsors should make out checks to Cassopolis Mainstreet, a 501 © (3). Discussion followed on sponsorship and a review of the lists.

There being no further business before the Corporation, Eileen Toney moved to adjourn and on a second by Rick Russwurm the meeting adjourned at 9:35 am.

We attest the Board of Directors of the Cass County EDC has approved these minutes as the official minutes of the meeting recorded herein.

Troy Clay, Chair_____

Roseann Marchetti, Secretary_____