

EUP REGIONAL PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Executive Committee Meeting
Thursday, September 29, 2016 – 9:00 a.m.
Sault Service Center – 1118 E. Easterday Avenue; Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Minutes

Call to Order

The EUP Regional Planning Development Commission Executive Committee meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Attendance

Colleen Duflo (Phone) Jeff Holt Dean Reid (Phone)
Richard Timmer

Excused: Don McLean

Approval of Agenda

Two items were added to the agenda under New Business—Old Mission Bank Visa Application and the Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Insurance Renewal. J. Holt moved to approve the revised agenda with support by D. Reid.

Public Comment

There was no public comment addressed at this meeting.

Program Updates

a. Regional Prosperity Initiative – Committee Composition; PY 2016 – 2017 Meeting Dates

The Regional Economic Development Advisory Collaborative (REDAC) met on September 9. This was the first meeting in which members of the EUP Workforce Development Board were integrated into the group as it was determined that it would be feasible to merge the two groups to provide guidance in both economic development and workforce issues. The REDAC is scheduled to meet on the 2nd Friday of each month at 9:00 a.m. at the SmartZone in Sault Ste. Marie. Due to the Veteran's Day Holiday, the November meeting will be held on Thursday, November 10. It is anticipated that the REDAC will not meet during the summer quarter.

b. EDA Partnership Planning Grant Application

The EDA grant application was accepted and approved. This grant totals \$273,140.

c. Other Projects:

- **Newberry Project Rising Tide** – An agreement was created to have Regional Planning work with the appointed consultant to assist in three components of the Master Plan: GIS Mapping, Socio/Economic Demographics and the Action Plan. This contract totals approximately \$5,000.
- **Soo Township** – Demographic and GIS Mapping, including Land-Use Mapping for the Master Plan will be completed with this project. It will provide a revenue of approximately \$2,500.
- **City of St. Ignace** – This multi-year project entails providing assistance of all of the components of the St. Ignace Master Plan except the Public Involvement Section. This project totals \$11,700.

D. Reid mentioned that St. Ignace is in the process of regulating housing issues within the city which may be determined to be overly restrictive in meeting the housing demands of the area.

- **Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA)** – The MCACA Mini-Grants have been awarded by the review committee:
 - Chippewa County Historical Society (Summer History Camp)
 - LSSU (Superior Children's Book Festival)
 - Tahquamenon Logging Museum (Lumberjack Music Celebration)
 - Hessel School House (Local Native American Exposition)
 - Les Cheneaux Arts Council (The Guide)
 - Les Cheneaux Historical Association (Programs & Activities)
 - Mackinac Arts Council (Music in the Park)

The overall distribution of FY 2017 MCACA Mini-Grants total \$15,500.

Old Business

Septage Waste Disposal Discussion (from 7/27/16 Board Meeting)

A committee is being created to review current land use zoning issues. As many townships do not have updated land use ordinances in place, there is little, if any, control of the type of activities which can occur such as commercial septic disposal. In this case, the company filed the necessary paperwork with the State and met the DEQ's requirements as there was no local zoning ordinances in place even though there are issues with neighboring land owners.

J. Hagan indicated that the upcoming RPI application may include Land Use Zoning Education to municipalities.

It was also noted that staff member N. Rapp has created a Pollution Story Board Map of the Region. He plans to present this map at the EUPRPDC meeting on October 26.

New Business

- a. NADO Innovation Award: Presentation October 18, 2016 San Antonio, TX –**
J. Hagan will be attending this presentation to accept this National Association of Development Organizations Award for the “Elevating the Eastern Upper Peninsula” plan on behalf of the EUP Regional Planning and Development Commission.
- b. MAP Innovation in Regional Planning Award: Presentation October 26, 2016 Kalamazoo, MI –** This plan also won the Michigan Association of Planning award. J. Hagan and E. Wedesky will be attending this presentation.

*Executive Committee Members commended the staff for their efforts and creating this plan and obtaining both of these awards.

- c. Old Mission Bank Visa Application**

In order to finalize the Visa application with Old Mission Bank, a signatory from the Executive Committee is required. C. Duflo moved to appoint J. Holt as this signatory. D. Reid supported. Motion passed.

- d. Solid Waste Plan Amendment**

It was mentioned that Republic Waste, hauler of solid waste, has recently purchased a transfer station in Cheboygan and would like to haul from Mackinac County to Cheboygan. Although Cheboygan has an agreement in place that would allow this type of service, Mackinac County does not. The current Chippewa-Luce-Mackinac Solid Waste Management Plan, amended in 2007, requires approval from 67% of the municipalities in each county to amend this plan in order to send it to the DEQ for formal adoption. Due to the high cost and time required to create this type of amendment, it was noted that Republic Waste may need to hire a consultant to oversee this process.

- e. Regional Recycling Meeting**

A meeting to discuss regional recycling has been scheduled to be held on October 18 at the Smart Zone in Sault Ste. Marie from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

f. FY 2017 Budget Discussion

The financial report for year ending September 30, 2016, was reviewed with no issues or concerns noted.

Upon review of the FY 2017 budget, it was noted that some funding has not been finalized at this time but there are no funding issues anticipated.

g. Consideration of Salary Adjustments for FY 2017

As the FY 2017 budgets have not been finalized, it was recommended to table possible salary adjustments or performance incentives until the December meeting.

h. Committee Member Updates/Discussion

D. Reid described the continuing zoning issues in St. Ignace and also provided an update of the MEA's broadband survey process.

C. Duflo provided an update of Rising Tide project.

J. Holt provided an update of the following:

- The Sault Ste. Marie EDC is hosting an Open House on October 12 at 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Smart Zone.
- The Sault Ste. Marie Airport Advisory Group have been improving amenities of the airport.
- An unpaid intern from LSSU has been assisting at the Smart Zone with overall good results.

R. Timmer provided an update of current road commission projects including utilizing technology and installing additional stop signs in selected areas.

i. Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Insurance Renewal

The Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Insurance renewal package effective January 2017 was reviewed. It appears to have a 5.08% rate increase. It was noted that there could be a possible rate savings if a different prescription rider was considered. As this plan is not in effect until January, it was suggested that staff be asked if there would be an impact if the change in prescriptions was adopted.

Next Meeting Dates

- Governing Board Meeting – October 26, 2016 - 9:00 a.m. – SmartZone, Sault Ste. Marie

- Executive Committee – December 7, 2016 – 10:00 a.m. – Regional Planning Office – Video

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m. upon a motion by D. Reid and support by C. Duflo.