



Northeast Michigan

Regional Prosperity Initiative

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**Minutes
Of
CDC/MEDC
Region 3 Regional Prosperity Initiative Collaborative
October 19, 2016
University Center
Gaylord, MI**

Call to Order: Doug Baum called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

Members Present: Doug Baum, Niki Chamberlain, Donna LaCourt, Cameron-Koch, LuAnn Mabarak, Lisa McComb, Steve Milford, Marisue Moreau, Patty O'Donnell, Eric Podjaske, Tom Stevenson, Hannah Sanderson, Janie McNabb and Natasha Allen

Staff: Dave Glenn, Theresa Huff

Introductions: All attendees introduced themselves to the group.

Roll Call: Done by sign-in sheet(s).

Minutes of Previous Meeting: L. Mabarak moved, supported by D. LaCourt to approve the minutes of the August 24, 2016 meeting. All ayes, 0 opposed, motion carried.

Financial Report: D. Glenn briefly reviewed the financial statement handout for period ending September 30, 2016. M. Moreau moved, supported by N. Chamberlain to approve September 30, 2016 financial statements. All ayes, 0 opposed, motion carried.

CDC/RPI Topic Discussions

10 year RPI Plan: Various upcoming meetings. 3 levels: collaborative, council, board for funding. Various levels require 10 year plan. Probably won't be combining the 8+3 counties due to legal issues. NW is the only one that has done this, but they're boundaries in the RPI perspective have not changed. Still a good idea to have a region plan regardless how the plan changes over the 10 years. RPI is seed money, but identify and support RPI with other funding options. Having the 10 year plan gives us more options. (Sara Lucas, contact regarding CEDS)

3 year Plan/Amend: Option to add 3 changes to it. Should the opportunity to act on it comes up within the next 1-3 years. No budget amounts for those changes yet. Group thinks those items can fall under other line items that already are listed in the current plan.

RPI Plan for FY17 application (due by the end of December) draft was handed out. Retention visits should be removed : The plan should be done in next week or two to review for application submission. Will communicate via email to get information/decisions without having to meet in November. (Diane-Budget and application in by November/Dave-10 year plan by end of December.) RPI Plan in on the website; you can refer to it while looking over the draft of 1 year budget before giving input.

J. McNabb: A lot of focus on career opportunities. Input she has “doing better”, but still having challenges. Such challenges as wages and people. Word is getting out. Using MI Works! is a great option vs head hunters, etc. Need a way to let down-staters know that there are jobs here. Also, housing needs and skilled people such as electricians and plumbers. Some business’ are posting wages on bill boards, encouraging employees to leave their current employment and move to a new job. If there is something working, you can build on it to expand to other areas. As age changes, needs change, infrastructure has to match to those needs. “Go Pro”: new program like Pure Michigan. Tourism is vital in our plan, 10 years from now perhaps “managed” tourism-wood industry, health industry. Retirees are the ones to focus on if millennials want to go to busier towns and cities.

Promoting townships, villages, cities, etc. so they know Prosperity exists (awareness).

Dave will send out upcoming meeting schedules and will also provide something to share to draw attendance.

Retention visits: It’s tough to meet with businesses and have 2 people attend. Still working on them.

Next Meeting Date: November 17, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at the University Center

Meeting Adjourned: 3:40 p.m.