



MINUTES
Newaygo Economic Development Organization Meeting
October 21, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chair Armstrong called the Newaygo Economic Development Organization (NEDO) Meeting to order at 12:07 pm at The Stream located at 1 State Rd., Newaygo MI 49337. Kim Goodin acted as recording secretary.

Roll Call: Present: Ron Armstrong, Matthew Boynton, David Casey, Scott Faulkner, Ed Fedell, Jason Harris, Steven Radtke,

Absent: Luke Francis, Morgan Heinzman, Cory Nelson, George Suchy

Others Present: Jon Schneider, Kelly Rider, Denise DeVries, Kim Goodin, Heather Allen, Shelly Staeven, Rachelle Nausadis, Amy Postma

Motion by Fedell, second by Radtke to approve the amended agenda adding future meeting dates. AIF/MC

Motion by Fedell, second by Boynton to approve the 01/21/2022 NEDO Meeting Minutes. AIF/MC

BOARD BUSINESS

Motion by Faulkner, second by Radtke to hold the first NEDO meeting of 2023 in February on the 2nd or 3rd Thursday of the month at 3:00 pm. AIF/MC Schneider will look at the schedule and send out final date for February. Future 2023 meetings will be approved at the February meeting. Schneider discussed moving the future NEDO meetings prior to TIFA meetings allowing time to prepare documents if something needed to be discussed or decided at TIFA in regards to NEDO projects.

Armstrong explained why NEDO was established and discussed NEDO's purpose.

Board and all in attendance discussed the following ideas for Economic Development:

- Better use for Loomis Lodge and Shaw Park
- Old Power House Building on the river
- Public Restrooms downtown Newaygo
- How to make Newaygo a year round destination as January-April can be slow months for many businesses in Newaygo. Ways to expand retail in Newaygo.
- Additional Housing
- Museum strategic planning for the future
- Year round family friendly activities
- Activities for middle and high school age kids
- Possibility of passenger railcars

Armstrong and Schneider emphasized the need for volunteer coordination with projects and that each project needs a champion to lead the project.

Kelly Rider, Executive Director of River Country Chamber of Commerce, gave an update on the Social Zone stating a grand opening is being planned for November 11th. She said that they are working on Small Business Shopping, Christmas Festivities, and finalizing Chamber activities for 2023.

Schneider gave an update on housing projects discussing River Hills Estates, River Run Apartments, Brookhaven Estates, and a few houses throughout the City.

Schneider gave updates on current and upcoming projects and discussed the TIFA Property Improvement Grant Program stating that he had received approximately 10 inquires and had received 1 completed application. He said that all paperwork had been submitted to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) for the City to receive Redevelopment Ready Communities (RRC) Essential Status.

Motion by Fedell, second by Radtke to adjourn the meeting at 1:23 pm. AIF/MC

Kim Goodin, Recording Secretary