

**City of Sault Ste. Marie
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
April 13, 2021 via Zoom**

1. Call to Order & Introductions

Chair McCoy called the meeting to order with the time being 12:14pm. It is to be noted that there is not quorum at this time.

2. Roll Call

Members Present:

Dr. Rachael McCoy Chippewa Co., MI	Tim Ellis Chippewa Co., MI
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Dan Dasho Chippewa Co., MI	Gary Sharp Chippewa Co., MI
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Members Absent:

Jim Devaprasad	Kelley Bunker	Rob Landis	Tom Veum
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Staff Present:

Jeff Holt	Tracey Laitinen
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Others Present:

City Commissioner Liaison, Shane Miller
Tony Haller, Chamber of Commerce
Dan & Kim Arbic – Arbic Construction
Jeff Hagan, EUP Regional Planning
Angie McArthur, EUP Intermediate School District
Don Gerrie, USDA and Mayor City of Sault Ste. Marie
Fred Smith, Smith & Co. Real Estate

It was moved by Dasho, supported by Ellis to excuse those board members absent. Motion will be ratified at our May meeting. Roll call vote: McCoy – Yea, Sharp – Yea, Dasho – Yea, Ellis – Yea

3. Agenda: Changes, Additions, or Deletions

It was moved by Ellis, supported by Dasho to table item #12 until next month when we have quorum. Motion will be ratified at our May meeting. Roll call vote: McCoy – Yea, Sharp – Yea, Dasho – Yea, Ellis – Yea

4. Matters presented by the Public

Gerrie thanked the EDC for the work that they do and apologized for the lack of quorum. Gerrie reported they have received 6 applications for the 2 EDC vacancies and encouraged members to reach out to discuss and give input prior to the vote. Gerrie added that one of his goals as mayor is to attend board and commission meetings. Gerrie participated in the recent Kmart redevelopment meeting and was happy to see that project moving forward. Gerrie added that budget meetings start April 26th and that the budget is slimmer than we have seen in the past. McCoy encouraged the group to reach out to Gerrie with input on board positions.

Haller reported that they are looking forward to hosting their events this summer and fall and noted that the golf event is being planned at this time. The Chamber continues to share funding opportunities and support to its members during this difficult time.

5. Project Birch update

Presentation was given as an update on the project in the Air Industrial Park (AIP). The purchase offer has been changed from 3 to 5 lots to keep grow operations and distribution facilities 100' from the property line. Building materials have seen a significant uptick, but the developer and investor still want to move forward. Smith added that there is a hyper demand for housing of this type. McCoy asked the group if there were any concerns or questions to which none replied.

It was approved by Ellis, supported by Dasho to accept the offer for all 5 lots for \$50,000 as presented. Motion will be ratified at our May meeting. Roll call vote: McCoy – Yea, Sharp – Yea, Dasho – Yea, Ellis – Yea

6. **Approval of Minutes**

It was moved by Sharp supported by Ellis to accept the March 9, 2021 EDC Board Meeting. Motion will be ratified at our May meeting. Roll call vote: McCoy – Yea, Sharp – Yea, Dasho – Yea, Ellis - Yea

7. **Approval of Financial Report: Profit & Loss, Balance Sheet & Check Detail**

Laitinen reviewed each fund YTD, Redevelopment, Essex, Incubator, and EDC Operations. Rent invoices were just sent out. Incubator revenues are coming in and no capital projects are planned. Prior to June 30 we will need to amend the Incubator repairs and maintenance due to the sewer line emergency repairs. For EDC Operations, grant revenues are still coming in and expenses are under budget due to Covid.

It was moved by Dasho, supported by Ellis to accept the financial report as presented. Motion will be ratified at our May meeting. Roll call vote: McCoy – Yea, Sharp – Yea, Dasho – Yea, Ellis - Yea

8. **Director's Report**

Holt gave a verbal report to the board.

9. **Status Reports** – summaries of meetings were included along with the flyer for Young Eagles on June 5th.

10. **Other Matters**

Holt updated the group that officer positions expire June 30 this year so we will look for nominations at the May meeting.

11. **Next meeting is May 11, 2021** and is expected to be a hybrid of in person and Zoom. Gerrie added that the Chippewa County emergency order is effective until December 31, 2021 to allow for virtual meetings. Laitinen will send out a poll.

12. **Approval to enter into closed session to discuss J. Holt Performance Evaluation – TABLED**

13. **Adjournment**

It was moved by Ellis, supported by Dasho to adjourn the meeting at 12:50 pm. The motion carried unanimously.



Dan Dasho, Secretary