

# Antrim County

## Economic Development Corporation

Mission Statement: Retain, expand, and promote County-wide economic growth and stability.

**October 16, 2018**  
**Minutes**

Members present: Sherry Comben, John Meeske, Veronica Welter, Dave Heeres, Kathy Peterson,  
Mike Allison, Pete Garwood  
Members Absent: Bonnie Robbins  
Others Present: Mathew Cooke, Jane McKenzie, Janet Koch

### **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m. by Mike Allison, Chair

### **2. Public Comment**

None.

### **3. Approval of Minutes**

**Motion by Sherry Comben, seconded by Pete Garwood to approve the minutes of September 18, 2018 as presented.**

**Motion Carries- Unanimous**

**Absent- Krino**

### **4. Affordable Housing Presentation**

*Rachel Krino entered the meeting at 9:06 a.m.*

Jane Mackenzie, Northern Homes Community Development Corporation Executive Director, gave a presentation on her organization's involvement with affordable housing (see attached pgs. 4- 27). She gave some history of the formation of Northern Homes, and previous projects they have completed. Ms. Mackenzie gave an overview of different funding sources that Northern Homes has utilized to assist with affordable housing. She gave an update of current projects they are working on including; Central Lake Townhouses in Central Lake, Coble Creek I in Grayling, and rehab and resell projects in East Jordan and Petoskey. She noted that Northern Homes has funding for one more rehab and resell project.

The Corporation Board discussed affordable housing and how they can assist with it including:

- Land Bank Authorities;
- Michigan State Housing Development Authority's Workforce Attainable Modular Homes Pilot (MHP) Program;
- Encouragement of local units of government to adopt planning and zoning principles which encourage and facilitate the development of affordable housing;
- Developments like the [Beaghaus](#) development being planned in Bellaire.

## **5. Northern Lakes Economic Alliance (NLEA) Update**

Janet Koch gave an update regarding the on goings of NLEA including:

- Central Lake dock project will be completed at the end of month through the “Rising Tide” Program;
- Central Lake pavilion project has been set for 2019 (also through the “Rising Tide” Program);
- DDA Forum on form based zoning took place on October 1, 2018. Ms. Koch said this type of zoning can speed up the permitting process and is normally instituted in an area of a municipality, not the entire municipality;
- The NLEA is moving forward with the Broadband Consortium;
- Connecting Entrepreneurial Communities workshop took place on October 3-4, 2018. Kathy Peterson attended ~~part of~~ the program. She noted she found the event was beneficial. Ms. Koch said the location for next year’s event is yet to be determined. They are looking at more defined tracks for groups, such as Planning Commissions, Downtown Development Authority members, Entrepreneurs, etc.;
- The Property Assessed Clean Energy (P.A.C.E.) Program loan minimum was lowered to \$100,000. Ms. Koch said this could help with program enrollment;
- The Antrim County Pitch Night event is scheduled for November 7, 2018. The winner will join winners from the three other NLEA member counties at the Grand Event at the Great Lakes Performance Center on November 27, 2018;
- Rental Rehab program money is available from Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC). Funds can be used to pay for rehabilitation of second floor apartments above businesses. The rehabbed apartments must be rented to low to moderate-income individuals or families for one year after money is received;

Ms. Koch mentioned a program she learned of at an MSU Extension event called Strategic Doing. This is essentially getting a group of decision makers together to develop a plan of action.

## **6. Review of 2019 Antrim County Road Map Draft**

Mr. Cooke presented the road map design draft that was done by Bailey Designs. He said over the next couple of weeks, he will work with Bailey Designs to solidify pictures for the map. A final draft will be presented at the November meeting. The Corporation discussed the presented draft.

Comments from the Corporation included:

- Adding (231) to phone numbers
- Adding Antrim County Road Commission Logo/ Phone number
- Including State Land in the acreage available for recreation in Antrim County

## **7. Various Matters**

Mike Allison hopes to have good news regarding the Village of Mancelona at the next meeting.

Kathleen Peterson mentioned the Green ~~Elk Rapids organization Group of Alden~~ will have a free movie on October 26 at 7:00 pm on green energy. The movie is titled “A Clean Energy Revolution” and will be screened at the theatre in Elk Rapids.

Dave Heeres said one of the oldest cemeteries in the state is in Banks Township. It will be rededicated to Banks Township at 4:00 on October 25.

John Meeske discussed a potential trail between Shanty Creek and Bellaire.

Rachel Krino said there is momentum behind a skate park in Bellaire. There is an upcoming meeting with the Tony Hawk Foundation.

Mr. Cooke reminded the Corporation Board that the next meeting will be on November 27, 2018.

Pete Garwood said a date has been set by the Board of Commissioners for discussion on the Facilities Master Plan. This special meeting will take place on October 29 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board of Commissioners Room. Up for discussion are the different options and potential timelines for further decisions.

## **8. Public Comment**

None.

*The meeting adjourned at 11:48 a.m.*

DRAFT