## Keweenaw County Economic Development Committee February 1, 2012 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:35p.m. by Chairperson Ray Chase.

Members present were: Ray Chase, Shari Chase, Ned Huwatschek, Peg Kauppi, David Sundberg, Jill Protzel, John Sturos, Richard Schaefer, and Don Secor.

Member(s) absent: Don Piche (unexcused)

The February 1, 2012 meeting agenda was approved with a motion by Shari Chase, seconded by John Sturos. Motion carried.

Minutes of the January 4, 2012 meeting were approved with a motion by Peg Kauppi, seconded by Shari Chase. Motion carried.

**Guest Speakers:** 

1. Sam Lockwood and Kraig Mahrley from the Old School Baking Company in Lake Linden spoke to the committee about their successes so far and their plans for expansion. They are hoping to get an additional kitchen for manufacturing gluten-free foods. They are also hoping to create an indoor, year-round market for local farmers. Kraig would like to utilize his property for green housing and to use the mine shaft water as a geothermal energy source. Ray Chase suggested they work together with Dave Sundberg and to keep the EDC in the loop when considering applying for grants at the state and federal level. Sam is planning to work with Julie Melchiore on grant writing.

2. Frank Fiala wanted to warn the committee that we are heading for a train wreck when it comes to the cell phone tower location on Brockway Mountain. It is placed on a location that qualifies for National Historical Registration. Migratory birds are federally protected. He is looking for support from the EDC concerning the location and is hoping for a 'stay of execution' on the tower placement.

Old Business:

Bio-mass Technology -

- Short Rotation Forestry (SRF) John Sturos stated that MTU is testing a hybrid poplar, but it is too soon to make a suggestion. He will continue to gather information.
- SRF Communications Ned Huwatscheck had nothing new to report at this time.
- Greenhouse Technology Dave Sundberg reported that he attended a "hoop house" seminar in Calumet. He believes this form of green housing will be

viable in the Keweenaw. Dave also shared the UP Farm Directory with the committee, which is available online at <u>www.marquettefood.coop</u>

- Mt. Horace Greeley Fuel Production Project (Mt. H.G.) – Ray Chase had nothing new to report at this time.

Keweenaw County Recreational Trails (KCRT) – Ray Chase stated that the Keweenaw ATV Club received the Yamaha Grant for \$15, 055 to be used for trail improvements.

KC Marketing – Shari Chase & Peg Kauppi had nothing new to report at this time.

KCCI – nothing new at this time.

Water Park/Playground – Shari and Ray Chase met with Peg and Don Kauppi. Julie Melchiore is no longer with MSU but she is doing independent consulting. She is willing to consult on this project pro bono. Shari Chase will contct the property owners about a letter of commitment for this project. Ray Chase will contact an engineer he knows who could come up to help draw up a plan for this project.

New Business:

Brownfield Redevelopment Authority - Dave Sundberg reported that a list of who owned what and when is being compiled for Mt. Horace Greeley. They are hiring a title company to do the research and create a report to make claims with the Air Force. Dave also reported that the committee is trying to get Louisiana Pacific to agree to Phase Two of the project and to cede the property to Brownfield.

Planning Commission - Ned Huwatschek had nothing new to report at this time.

Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners - Don Piche was absent. No report sent.

Additions - Dave Sundberg brought up the issue of waste management in the Keweenaw. Currently our waste is transported to Green Bay. He suggested that we look into turning household/ lumber waste into a marketable energy source to be manufactured and used in the Keweenaw.

On a motion by Dave Sundberg, seconded by Shari Chase, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.