

Antrim County Economic Development Corporation

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

**September 19, 2023
Minutes**

Members present: Rachel Krino, Sherry Comben, Garry Ellison, Pete Garwood, Cherie Hogan,
Dawn LaVanway, Kathleen Peterson, Tim Timmer, Christy Wilson
Members Absent: None
Others Present: Janet Koch

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Rachel Krino.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Dawn LaVanway, second by Sherry Comben, to approve the August 15, 2023 meeting minutes. Motion – approved.

4. 2024 Strategic Plan/Proposed Agenda Template

The EDC discussed the finalized strategic plan and the proposed agenda template.

Brownfield projects regarding housing were discussed; it was mentioned that it might be useful to provide local units with basic information about the changes in Brownfield legislation.

The Elk Rapids Downtown Development Authorities were mentioned. Ms. Comben said the Antrim County Board of Commissioners is waiting for a new plan from the Elk Rapids DDA before a consideration of opting into the tax capture.

A broader action item regarding preserving and protecting natural resources was discussed. Ms. Comben said the Treasurer's Office releases information about property foreclosures on April 1 of each year.

Motion by Pete Garwood, second by Kathy Peterson, to approve the 2024 Strategic Plan as amended. Motion – approved.

5. EDC Elevator Speech

The speech was discussed and revised. Ms. Koch will bring the revisions back to the next meeting.

6. EDC FAQs

Example FAQs were provided in the agenda packet. Mr. Garwood said that a big draw for the county for younger demographics is it's a good place to raise children. It was noted that creating the FAQs will be a moving target.

7. EDC Board Matrix

Ms. Krino said she'd used matrices in other organizations and has found it useful. Additional line items of agricultural, recreational organizations, and business organizations were suggested. Ms. Koch will contact those by email who don't give her a matrix.

8. Various Matter/Roundtable Updates

Ms. Peterson said the Elk Rapids movie theater has been sold to the highest bidder. Ms. Wilson said she hopes the new Fireside Lounge location will open in November.

9. Public Comment

None.

Meeting adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

DRAFT