



Southcentral Michigan Planning Council

300 South Westnedge Avenue · Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007

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January Board Meeting Minutes

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, January 5, 2016
MEETING TIME: 2:00 pm
MEETING LOCATION: W.E. Upjohn Institute
300 S Westnedge Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Attendance**
 - a. Members excused
 - i. Shaffer, Robey
3. **Members Present**
 - a. Baker, Carahaly, Dunn, Geiger, Hazelbaker, Reid, and Seyburn
4. **Action: Approval of the Agenda**
 - a. Dunn made a motion to approve the agenda as amended.
 - i. Baker seconded the motion.
 - ii. **The motion carried.**
5. **Action: Approval of the Minutes**
 - a. Reid made a motion to approve the agenda as amended.
 - i. Baker seconded the motion.
 - ii. **The motion carried.**
6. **Citizen Comments**
7. **Invoices**
 - a. None
8. **Treasurer's Report**
 - a. A discussion around the SMPC sponsored retirement account. The Board wants staff to develop a plan to close the account and disburse the funds.
9. **Transportation/KATS Items**
 - a. KATS staff provided an update on their work performed on behalf of SMPC in December. The work performed centered on the Rural Task Force.
10. **Discussion: Regional Prosperity Initiative**
 - a. Staff gave a brief overview of RPI for the benefit of the new member.
 - b. Staff informed the board that a decision regarding FY 2016 funding has not been made by the state.
 - c. Staff shared the 2016 work plan/calendar of activities for RPI with the board.
 - d. Staff mentioned that the RPI Committee plans to hold educational sessions at the beginning of each meeting.
 - e. Other items for the meeting include:
 - i. A plan for strategic planning
 - ii. Policies for the Committee
 - iii. Funding to local partners
11. **Discussion: SMPC Goals**
 - a. 2016 Goals
 - i. Full Membership

1. Geiger expressed concern over the lack of participation from a couple of the counties. Geiger led a discussion around gaining full participation from each of the counties.
 2. The board brainstormed a few ways to encourage greater participation from the Kalamazoo County Board and others.
 3. To encourage more participation, the board decided to move the meeting to the first Tuesday at 11:30 am.
- ii. Contracts with a municipality in each county
 1. The board discussed various ideas for garnering greater involvement from local municipalities.
 2. Education sessions are important for assisting local municipalities and increasing the notoriety of SMPC.
 - a. A grant writing workshop was suggested.
 - b. Staff already gives master planning and TIF workshops.
 3. The board discussed offering SMPC service at a discounted rate or creating a grant program with the reserve funds as an effort to increase notoriety.
 - a.
- iii. Create promotional items and a plan for distributing them
 1. The board wanted staff to create a promotional brochure to advertise SMPC services. Staff will update the brochure created by KATS.
 2. The board also shared ideas around how to contact local units of government.

12. Staff Report/Other:

- a. Pennfield Township Recreation Plan
 - i. Staff noted that the plan should wrap up later that evening
- b. Fabius Township
 - i. Staff secured a contract with the Township to conduct a master plan survey
- c. Barry County
 - i. Staff gave a workshop on TIF to folks from Barry County.

13. Board Member Comments

- a. None.

14. Action: Adjournment

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 3:47 pm

Next Meeting: February 2, 2016
Coldwater Municipal Building
One Grand Street, Coldwater, MI 49036