

**Muskegon County
Community Development/Strategic Planning Committee
December 19, 2013
4:00 p.m.
Hall of Justice
990 Terrace
Muskegon, MI**

Robert Scolnik, Chair

Benjamin Cross, Vice-Chair

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Scolnik at 4:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Benjamin Cross, James Derezinski, Marvin Engle, Susie Hughes, Kenneth Mahoney, Charles Nash, Robert Scolnik, Terry Sabo, Rillastine Wilkins

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Cross, supported by Wilkins, to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2013, meeting as written. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT (On an agenda item)

None.

PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Dennis Marvin, Public Affairs Director for Consumer Energy, and Mr. Juan Lopez-Doriga, Rockford Berge, presented the Muskegon Port End Users Report. Mr. Lopez-Doriga, Rockford Berge, was contracted with to conduct studies relative to options for replacing coal with other viable materials when the BC Cobb plant is closed, how to keep the port alive, potential future uses and comparing other active ports in the area. Recommendations include marketing at both the domestic level and international level and future economic viability studies.

Commissioner Sabo identified and thanked Mr. Ron Matthews, Vice-Chair of the Port Committee and Verplank CEO, for his continued work and support of this issue.

Commissioner Derezinski thanked Consumers Power for their Veterans' Memorial Park donation.

Mr. Bob Lukens, CVB Director, presented the Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) annual report. He previewed the 2014 Visitors Guide. Mr. Lukens also discussed future marketing initiatives, state and national tourism partners, advertising, billboards, e-newsletters and the 2014 plan and goals.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

There were no action items presented.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Community Development/Strategic Planning Committee, the meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m.