CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME
The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chairperson Corkin. The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was recited. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WAS MADE BY J. MALNAR, SECONDED BY M. SLOWN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES
A MOTION TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 23, 2015 MINUTES WAS MADE BY J. MALNAR, SECONDED BY M. SLOWN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SECRETARY’S REPORT
None

TREASURER’S REPORT
A MOTION TO APPROVE THE TREASURER’S REPORT WAS MADE BY J. MALNAR, SECONDED BY M. SLOWN, AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Treasurer Beuado noted an increase in operations, the organization is on solid financial footing and the next budget will reflect the $320,000 RPI grant.

COMMITTEE REPORTS
G. Corkin presented the Executive Committee report; topics discussed included the Regional Prosperity Initiative, increased staff capacity at CUPPAD, a draft budget for FY 16 which amounts to $747,000, and a discussion of where CUPPAD wants to be in the future as an organization. At its current size of nine staff, there is a diverse array of service delivery including technical assistance, planning development, and even videography. The Audit was explained – no findings- but a question arose about where the FY15 RPI was reflected in it.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT
J. Schultz gave a snap shot of the ten FY 16 RPI Strategic Priorities supported by the freshly awarded $320,000 grant. These include a Talent and Attraction Strategy, GIS, Place Making Grant funds, EDO support, Health Needs Assessment, Pure Michigan Partnership, Sawyer Airport Customs Study, and more. Two videos were shared outlining the Place Making grant program as well as CUPPAD’s video portion of a grant application to ArtPlace America to promote Place Making and programming in State, local, and National Parks.

NEW BUSINESS
1) Approve FY16 Budget: A MOTION BY D. WILSON, SUPPORTED BY M. SLOWN, THE FY 16 BUDGET WAS APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

PROGRAM SPEAKERS
Johnathan Mead, UPCAP- highlights included UPCAP’s 50th Anniversary; they serve every County in the U.P.; UPCAP evolved from an economic development organization to full-service, growing social service agency offering health and wellness, housing management and development, managing 700 units, and 120 employees.
Vicki Schwab, Delta County EDA- highlights included 957 jobs posted in Delta County, 662 of which were filled; Chamber has grown to 700 members; new developments include Meijers and job growth has occurred at Soft-Tech, Northern Machining, and Verso.
Ed Legault, the Escanaba Downtown Development Authority- highlights included new Farmers Market, and façade improvements downtown.

ADJOURNMENT
A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING WAS MADE BY G. JOHNSON, SECONDED BY D. RIVARD AT 2:10 p.m. and members convened for the tour of Soft Tech Rail Car Repair.