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 not present.

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

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES
A MOTION TO APPROVE THE JULY 24, 2015 MINUTES WAS MADE BY D. RUSHFORD, SECONDED BY D. BALDINELLI 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.

COMMITTEE REPORTS
G. Corkin presented the Executive Committee report; topics discussed included the Regional Prosperity Initiative, increased staff capacity at CUPPAP, a draft budget for FY 16 which amounts to $747,000, and a discussion of where CUPPAP 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.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT
J. Schultz gave a snap shot of the Draft Budget proposed at $747,000. A status quo budget for the exception of two major pass thrus- a Target Market Analysis of $145,000 under contractual and a projected $200,000 in grant funds from the RPI, although we could receive more or less than this. This estimate is conservative. The $200,000 request (due December 1, 2015) will support strategic initiatives that Joel elaborated on that aim to affect population through the enhancement of wages and “place” in our region. Examples of this include a Place Making grant, Complementary Currency Program, and supporting a Pure Michigan campaign. He encouraged members of the group to help identify projects pertinent to their region that could possibly complement the RPI since this is a major opportunity to address long standing challenges in our region.

NEW BUSINESS
1) Approve FY16 Budget: Tabled until February due to lack of quorum
2) Review Staff Activities Report: Tabled until February due to lack of quorum

PROGRAM
Director of the Menominee Business Development Council, Nancy Douglas, presented to the group an update on two transformative downtown development projects in the central business district- Lloyd House 1 and 2. She explained the pain staking process it took to finally manifest into the beautiful developments they are today, beginning in the 1980s designating the downtown a national historic district, to trying to identify a developer for the project and seeking grant funds. The major project, Lloyd House 1 was a $15 million project leveraged with Historic Tax Credits and developed by Ohio-based WODA group into 45 units all but two subsidized. The emphasis on partnerships and long term understanding of the benefits are crucial. The project necessitated the local municipality to do a PILOT for 30 years but the blight from the center of town is removed now and it is catalyzing other development in the area, increasing the tax base. This project was recognized by Governor Snyder as a good case study.

The second development was a $2.2 million project and received Elimination of Blight grant funds from CDBG and will result in 13 market rate apartments.

Vice Chair of the Menominee County Board of Commissioners, Larry Scheii was welcomed and he updated the group on Menominee County matters:
• Marinette pulled out of the “Twin Cities” airport and now Menominee sponsors it. It has been a learning curve. They are looking into facilitating a University flight school to provide training programs there locally;
• Their three-way road program was very successful;
• The County Administrator is also the Parks Administrator;
• The County invested in Courthouse Security for a Single Point of Entry and new equipment and made the Court House energy efficient;
• The County is dedicated to addressing unfunded liabilities and the MERS fund so they have created a fund to address this setting aside a certain amount of funds every year to address this;
• The County has scheduled patrols now out of Stephenson greatly improving service delivery to the North side of the County;
• The County is also considering the proposal by CUPPAD to provide the County with GIS service

ADJOURNMENT
A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING WAS MADE BY L. BAL, SECONDED BY D. RIVARD AT 2:10 p.m. and members convened for the tour of the Lloyd House with Nancy Douglas.