1. **CALL TO ORDER**
The meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m. by Chairperson Gerald Corkin; a quorum was present.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
A MOTION TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA MADE BY J BEAUDO SUPPORTED BY J. DOUCETTE, MOTION CARRIED.

3. **ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES**
A MOTION TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 28, 2017 MINUTES MADE BY R. ANDERSON, SUPPORTED BY J. BEAUDO CARRIED.

4. **TREASURER’S REPORT**
The Treasurer’s Report was presented to the Executive Committee. Treasurer J. Beaudo stated that the budget looked good but we should be careful about charging too much staff time to “indirect”. LaJoye addressed a concern that was raised last month regarding EDA funding. Treasure J. Beaudo acknowledged that there is no longer a concern since the budget now shows payment from EDA. A MOTION WAS MADE TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE TREASURER’S REPORT BY J. DOUCETTE, SECONDED BY D. RIVARD, MOTION CARRIED.

5. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**
LaJoye reported the grant writing workshop sponsored by CUPPAD is currently being held in Manistique with Kayla West as the presenter. Twenty-two people are registered for this event. CUPPAD hopes to do more of these throughout the region. LaJoye reported on her presentation to the Marquette Township
Association. The timing was right in that she was able to describe the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy at a time when CUPPAD is in the process of updating the plan in preparation for submittal to the EDA. LaJoye said she plans to do more of those presentations in the future but needs to get a new staff person in place first.

LaJoye reported that the Art Place grant for $460,000 received by CUPPAD in 2016 has been defined. Award-winning, world-class artist, Mia Tavonatti will be taking her community-driven, public art project titled “Power of Words” to 6 communities throughout the central region for a total of 12 large murals over the next 2 years. LaJoye provided samples of Tavonatti’s work via iPhone. R. Anderson would like have her come to the City of Norway. His daughter volunteered as a local artist for Tavonatti while the Iron Mountain projects were being developed and he believes the city of Norway has a wall that would be ideal for her art. LaJoye said she would pass that information along as Tavonatti is currently scoping for locations across the region over the next couple of days.

LaJoye discussed receiving several applicants for the GIS Technician/Community Planner job that is open. One applicant stands out among the others. He is an AICP and has a demonstrated background in community planning, economic development and public engagement. His most recent job was with the MEDC working with communities throughout the Upper Peninsula to become Redevelopment Ready Certified communities. He cannot move to the Upper Peninsula until December 1 but can work remotely until then. He would like to receive $20 per hour if possible. He has a house available to him in Marquette County and would like to work from his house and not have to commute to Escanaba or move to Escanaba. LaJoye said CUPPAD has retained remote employees in the past. This employee is originally from Marquette County and wants to move back. LaJoye said the job is project based, by hourly rate according to contract so it will not be difficult to manage. He will be required to log hours onto his time sheet by projects and final payments through the door will be evidence of completion. Concern was raised about the reduction in pay he would receive to work for CUPPAD.

G. Corkin believes the employee needs to be onsite. J. Beaudo thinks a remote employee will be challenging to manage, R. Anderson said he does not think this is an unusual situation as he too took a 40% reduction in pay to relocate to the Upper Peninsula and that managing a remote employee can be done as long as it fits into the budget. LaJoye and Executive Committee members discussed current employee production. R. Anderson believes certain CUPPAD staff is still valuable but maybe they would like to go part-time. Committee members encourage LaJoye to approach certain staff about their future retirement plans and possible part-time employment. MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT MADE BY J. BEAUDO, SECONDED BY G. CORKIN, MOTION CARRIED.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

7. NEW BUSINESS

Budget adoption

Treasurer J. Beaudo said that she recommends the FY 2018 budget for adoption by the full commission and any necessary amendments can be addressed and adopted as needed. MOTION TO ADOPT THE BUDGET MADE BY J. BEAUDO, SECONDED BY R. ANDERSON, MOTION PASSED

Budget adoption will be conducted by the full commission on February 23, 2018 in Alger County
8. **FEDERAL REVIEWS**
   None

9. **NEXT MEETING**
   The next Executive Committee will be January 25, 2018 at at 3:00 pm

10. **ADJOURNMENT**
    Meeting adjourned at 12:12 p.m. by Chairperson Gerry Corkin.

    Meeting minutes prepared by D. LaJoye