

OPPORTUNITY GROSSE ILE

Minutes of the Meeting

October 19, 2009

MEETING called to order at 7:10 pm – East River Board of Education

PRESENT – Ron Baker, Andrew Johnson, Dena Dardzinski, Greg Goyert, Pam Frucci, Jay Frucci, Ann Loftus, Craig Pilkington, Armando Sardonopoli, Irene Will, Ray Biddle, Ron Janowski, Warren McLeod, Chad Novak and Susie Harrison

AGENDA presented by Ron Baker to included Prioritization Action Steps and Funding Concepts.

MINUTES from October 5, 2009 meeting read and approved with no corrections or additions.

WEBSITE - Ron Baker brought us up to date on website additions including a **new OGI Logo**. Showed us Harvest Day Event photos (23 included) and Dr. Murphy's letter. Also all of the additional photos in his saved folder that could be added. Could also key into Women's History Month" March, 2010.

ANN LOFTUS was pleased to announce that our airport now has 3 B-17's from the Yankee Air Force Museum, out of Willow Run Airport, that will permanently "dock" at Hanger #2. These planes come with a ground crew of 30 and we are excited to have these treasures as a tourist attraction here on Grosse Ile.

Also the Amelia Earhart picture in Hangar #2 could key into the new "Amelia" movie which was just released.

JAY FRUCCI –was pleased to report that the Articles of Incorporation have been filed with the State of Michigan. 15 member board and the 5 incorporaters included.

Discussion of those **who should comprise this 15 member board** and the suggestion that no Grosse Ile Board of Trustees member should be voting members as this is a conflict of interest. However, township commission members could qualify for these positions as there is no apparent conflict. We need an official opinion in writing from the Township so there will be no problems down the road.

We are delaying our official vote on officers until this issue is resolved.

And possibly a nominating committee would be in order.

FUTURE MEMBERS – Lots of names have been put forth for inclusion in Opportunity Grosse Ile but no names mentioned at this time, because we have no idea who will consent to join the group.

WELCOME CENTER – An individual has given the committee a space on Grosse Ile to develop this welcoming center on Macomb Street. The need to underwrite the necessity for a telephone. Suggestions for this Center – Art works, Made On Grosse Ile items, brochures and maps of Grosse Ile as well as brochures from businesses. Also Grosse Ile “Bucks” given out by businesses to give discounts. Volunteers to work the space on a regular basis. That it is to be a temporary site on Victorian Commons. Dena Dardzinski working on getting the keys.

BUSINESS CONNECTIONS – Ann Loftus, Susie Harrison, Shirley Mohney compiling the list of businesses and organizations to contact and bring along into the program on an ongoing basis. A letter will be going out to introduce them to Opportunity Grosse Ile.

FUND RAISING – President Andrew Johnson has stressed the importance of raising the funds for programs. At this time there is \$40.00 in our non profit checking account. Greg Pilkington informed the group that a 501c3 organization must receive 30% in contributions from a broad portion of the community.

IRENE WILL told us about the Grand Rapids Art Show created with a \$500,000 donation from Rick DeVos that was one of a kind and took 1 ½ years to bring about. Suggestion for future programs and residents providing housing for visitors.

MEDIA RELATIONS – again the need for all to see the preliminary budget and see what we can start with. Drafting press releases, etc.

And to approach the Time Magazine local editors. Promote to alumni.

A suggestion to have a 2 day **FILM WORKSHOP** was suggested by Pam Frucci. And the development of a curriculum. This could be promoted on OPP Website.

See list of **PRIORITIZATION ACTION STEPS** included here.

ADJOURNED at 9:04 p.m.

NEXT MEETING - Monday November 2, 2009 – 7:00 same place.

2 GROSSE ILE QUOTES “Thank God – I’m Home”

“This Is Someplace Else”

Respectfully submitted

Susie Harrison

