

**Board of Directors  
Opportunity Grosse Ile, Inc.  
Minutes  
November 30, 2009**

**MEETING** called to order at 8:03 pm – East River Board of Education by President Andrew Johnson.

**PRESENT** Andrew Johnson, Dena Dardzinski, Jay Frucci, Pam Frucci, Greg Goyert, Ann Loftus, Armando Sardonopoli, Ron Janowski, Ernie Horvath, Ray Biddle, Chad Novak, Warren McLeod, Susie Harrison

**ISLAND ACTIVITIES** Ann Loftus reported that the fund raising event January 30, 2010 “An Enchanted Evening” is shaping up. Ron Baker has ordered several thousand postcards which will be handed out beginning December 4th at the Island Glow. As well as several thousand business cards announcing Opportunity Grosse Ile.

That there are 18 restaurants that will be approached for matching food donations - \$1.00 for \$1.00 – which help the participating restaurants offset their donation costs. Each will have to man their own display. Chad Novak is working on securing the beer and wine. The cost per person attending the event will be \$25.00 with a cash bar. Celebrity bartenders will be secured. 40’s music and dance theme.

Entertainment in the securing process. We will need help setting up and tearing down.

**WELCOMING CENTER** Dena Dardzinski reported that we now have the key to the new location with a projected grand opening date of January 1, 2010. Insurance is being secured from John Daly at Daly Merritt Insurance. A group with decorating skills is needed. Ray Biddle Grosse Ile TrueValue will donate the paint. Warren McLeod will follow up on a possible source for the hardwood flooring repair. The group is working on a sign for the front of the complex and Dena Dardzinski is lining up talented students to paint a mural on a removable panel depicting island life. The suggestion that community service hours could be earned for working on and in the center.

**TREASURER for OPPGI** Thanks to Ray Biddle’s efforts Jim Schiesel, CPA has agreed to take on the treasurer position with our grateful thanks. Jim is CFO of a Swiss based chemical coating company. He has handled a Lacrosse 501c3 program in the past and is very well suited to handle this position. And will be at our next meeting.

**BY LAWS** Jay Frucci pointed out that the last item for decision was Section 3, subsection 3.2 with regard to selection of Directors – minimum of 9 and

maximum of 20. In March of 2010 we will have our first Annual Meeting and at that time through the election process this issue will be decided. And directors will be voted upon to serve for one year. Armando Sardonopoli commented that section 2.9 was changed removing membership classification. With those changes the ByLaws were complete, were **voted upon, and approved** to much thanks and applause.

**COMMENTS** Ron Janowski had talked to a developer with the discussion focusing on smaller home development on Grosse Ile. And with the question as to how deeply we are to become involved in government election issues. What will OPPGI choose to accomplish?

It was pointed out that in Section 1.4 C of our ByLaws we are not to carry on propaganda or otherwise attempt to influence legislation, nor participate or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. That we are a 501c3 federally regulated entity and cannot influence legislation. We can suggest but not demand change.

That issue education vs. issue advocacy is the mandate.

**FUNDING** Greg Goyert suggested a greeting card program depicting Grosse Ile scenes and life. There is a Hallmark Holiday program that is available and this will be followed up.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS** an ongoing work. The postcards and business cards are the first physical handout to begin that process.

**MYTH BUSIERS & OUT OF THE BOX THINKING** Ernie Horvath presented a creative thinking comparison showing that productive discussions involve the right words in communication. That he will provide a packet of suggestions. There is a 3 day training session in Southfield with emphasis on counseling for creative solutions. Learning to give incentives for ideas. Recommended reading *Think and Grow Rich* and Steven Covey's *7 Habits of Highly Effective People*. Warren McLeod spoke of a group that he belongs to which emphasizes marketing solutions called "NO B.S." website NOBSMichigan.com There is a membership fee of \$300 per year.

**OLD BUSINESS & NEW BUSINESS** Since there were none, and there is no designated official date for our next meeting –

**ADJOURNED** at 9:09 pm.

Respectfully, Susie Harrison