

**Opportunity Grosse Ile
Minutes
January 18, 2010**

MEETING called to order at 7:08 pm by President Andrew Johnson at Island Kiddie Kampus location.

PRESENT Ron Baker, Andrew Johnson, Jim Schiesel, Ann Loftus, Chad Novak, Armando Sardinopoli, John Gatti, Ron Janowski, Ernie Horvath, Greg Karmazin, Shirley Mohney, Craig Pilkington, Susie Harrison

MINUTES from Monday, January 4th clarified from the Out Of The Box section by Greg Karmazin with regard to statistical figures. Motion to approved corrected minutes and seconded.

WEBSITE UPDATE Ron Baker commented on the *Ile Camera* article duplicated on the site; showed us the Newsletter format, news stories and directed our attention to the left side of the Newsletter with articles on the Eagle Tour, Humbug Marsh, Birding on Ice, Preschool co-op, and Garden Club Xmas fund raiser for the Salvation Army and Grosse Ile Goodfellows.

102 businesses now on the website and Ron showed us how a business can enter their information.

Discussion ensued concerning residents with off island businesses serving Grosse Ile that should be on this site. The question being in what section of the business listings.

Again discussion about the Grosse Ile Township website and the fact that they feel that their website should not have businesses listed. But our feeling that there should be, at least, a link to OPPGI.

Greg Karmazin suggested that assistance from the Downtown Development Authority in the form of donations to the promotion fund could be a timely idea.

ENCHANTED EVENING update. B & B Construction is sponsoring the entertainment for the Jan. 30th event. Ron Baker is in the process of securing entertainers for the evening and with Andrew Johnson's assistance.

Online ticket sales are becoming a reality and in the process of being set up thru Google to Pay Pal. There is a \$1.50 online service charge for this service. And that our treasurer Jim Schiesel will be involved in setting this up.

Ann Loftus did a ticket count to see what sales have been to date. Reaffirmed ticket sales locations – Grosse Ile Yacht Club, Grosse Ile Market Place, Grosse Ile Recreation Department, Perdinos, Grosse Ile Hardware.

Chad Novak reported on the different themes in each room for the event. The Stage banquet room with a Hawaiian theme, the Barlow room with white table cloths and the Bar Area in silver and white.

That there will be six or seven raffle items and that a schedule is being set up to obtain volunteer workers for the evening.

Food donations will be scattered through the three rooms

That beer is in 12 oz. glasses at \$2.00 a glass and wine in 8 oz. glasses at \$3.00 each. That donations are to be solicited from area restaurants and clubs. That beer will be secured from Grosse Ile Yacht Club – checking on whether the \$200. figure for a keg of beer is for a half or a whole keg. And that the committee will be asking members to bring donations of wine to Susie Harrison's office from 9:00 to 5:00 prior to the event to her office at 7717 Macomb St. This will save the organization \$28.00 for 1.5 liters of wine each and will help generate revenue from the evening. Also that West Shore Golf Club will be donating wine – the amount to be determined.

That a one day “Dram Shop” insurance policy be obtained for the event for the organization’s protection. Ron Baker to look into this.

501c3 status – John Gatti reported that we do not have our 501c3 status totally in place at this time. Once it is approved then it will be retroactive. And that another application will not be due for another 27 months after application approval.

Discussion on purchase reimbursement procedures.

WELCOME HOME! CENTER – The business sign to be placed over the front door was on display. Created and painted by April DeCardenas it features an osprey and grey and red lettering. Installation will occur after building department inspection and approval.

Tiles to be painted by Elementary school kids to frame the inside door are being passed out in art classes.

Ron Janowski ordered the Township inspections – he needed contact numbers for himself, Ron Baker, Andrew Johnson and Dena Dardzinski. That a schedule does need to be set up so that the doctor renting the rest of the space is aware of who and when others are in the building.

Ron Janowski was hesitant to do anything until liability insurance has been secured. Ron felt that we did not need to have Planning Commission approval to set up this center. And that the square footage of the site is 645 sq.’

A computer and printer have been donated for use.

The smoke detector needs a battery.

Moved and seconded to take the lowest bid on work being done on the site. Jim Schiesel, Ron Baker and Andrew Johnson to review any quotes for work to be done.

Dena Dardzinski to coordinate entry to the site with the resident doctor who shares the rest of the space in the entire building.

Any kids that come into the site need adult supervision.

ADVERTISING Greg Karmazin reported that a red and black signboard is being installed at the toll bridge western entry promoting our event. And that a large ad has been placed in the Ile Camera that to Paul Smoke and Grosse Ile Toll Bridge Company.

FUTURE EVENT DISCUSSION

Amelia Earhart event in March during Women's History Month

Mark McPherson presentation during that time

Nautical Ball in July

Welcome Home! Center opening February 27 & 28, 2010

OUT OF THE BOX Ernie Horvath talked about a theme that he would like to expand upon in memory of veterans who have served in our wars. Take a "veteran to dinner" as a thanks for what they have done for this country. Maybe in mid May as an example. This came about because of his memories of his father and a film that he mentioned called the "Greatest Generation".

Ernie also talked about his research and that he would be making a future presentation to interested parties.

Ron Baker expressed his wish that the Azalea Festival be revisited and brought back to life. A future task force could be formed.

SPONSORS for Opportunity Grosse Ile. At this time there are three – B&B Construction Company, SLATS, and the Grosse Ile Bridge Company.

PUBLIC RELATIONS – pending articles in with Shirley Mohney's assistance and in the News Herald. And acknowledged stories in the Ile Camera and the fine ad for Enchanted Evening that appeared.

OPPORTUNITY GROSSE ILE MISSION STATEMENT AND PURPOSE. Susie Harrison expressed her feelings about the fine individuals serving on this committee, but

that other issues needing attention, to be dealt with in a civic action group separate from this organization.

NEXT MEETING will be at the Enchanted Evening event. Susie Harrison