

**Opportunity Grosse Ile  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
February 22, 2010**

**MEETING** called to order at 7:06 pm by President Andrew Johnson at the Grosse Ile Welcome Home! Center.

**PRESENT** Ron Baker, Andrew Johnson, Jim Schiesel, Dena Dardzinski, Chad Novak, Armando Sardinopoli, Greg Goyert, Irene Will, Greg Kish, Ray Biddle, Ron Janowski, Craig Pilkington and Kirk Hinson

**MINUTES** from Monday, January 18th were approved.

**MEETING STRUCTURE** Ron Baker presented and discussed a new format for our meetings which is designed to concisely and accurately present project status reports to the board members for their consideration as well as streamline our meetings. As the number of OPPGI projects increase, the new format will provide a structure for board members to oversee project plans and budgets. The format is also designed to help board members activate new OPPGI members. The Board will begin using the new format at the March 22, 2010 meeting.

**ASOURCE MAGAZINE** Ron Baker presented the Metro Detroit aSource magazine article and display advertisement. The magazine is distributed by Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties; Automation Alley; the Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce; The Detroit Economic Growth Corporation, local Chambers of Commerce and the State of Michigan. The article and ad will also be used as a handout at the Welcome Home! Center and various events, e.g. conferences and meetings, attended or sponsored by OPPGI. Township Supervisor Brian Loftus, The DDA and the Bridge Company have agreed to pay portions of the cost of the insert, leaving OPPGI to pay \$250 plus create the text, photos and camera ready art.

**WELCOME HOME! CENTER** Dena Dardzinski discussed improvement progress, including painting, flooring, furnishings, etc. Greg Kish discussed installation of the interior door and lock set and the Internet connection. Irene Will discussed Grosse Ile artists' participation. Dena also presented a sign-up form for volunteers to help staff the WH!C. Ray Biddle recommended WH!C signage be placed at key locations around the island. Ron Baker related that Karin Risko has agreed to head up an Island bike tour.

**PROJECTS** Ron Baker possibly participating in the Southern Wayne County Regional Chamber, Business and Lifestyles Exposition, May 13-15 at the Yack Arena, Wyandotte. Board members reached a consensus deciding not to participate in the Exposition. Board members came to a consensus and agreed to participate in, to some degree, or directly manage the following projects and events: The Downriver Council for the Arts, Wyandotte, March 27, 5-10pm; The Wyandotte Regatta; The Wyandotte and the Trenton Art Fairs; The News-Herald Track and Field Championships; The Walleye Fishing Tournament; Gander Mountain Ice Fishing Tournament; Island Realtor's Open

House; The NAS Duathlon & Boat Show; Island Fest; Island Fest Sunday music concert; Island Fest parade float; the Ball Nautique; the Farmers Market; GIHS Home Coming; Halloween Parade; Harvest Fest; Boar's Head; Recognition Banquet / Business of the Year; the Azalea Festival; OPPGI Annual Meeting; Historic Register Airport and Pilot House; Enchanted Evening.

**501c3 STATUS** John Gatti reported via email that our 501c3 status is in process.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS** we are working on an article in the *Downriver Profile*. Ray Biddle and Dena Dardzinski discussed the need for joint advertising efforts directed toward island realtors. An island event electronic sign was discussed. Ron Baker said Enchanted Evening sponsors have indicated their interest in placing an OPPGI logo / link on their websites and in their advertising.

**STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES, OPPORTUNITIES, THREATS (SWOT) ANALYSIS** Ron Baker discussed our need to bring new members into OPPGI, then activate them and keep them active via participation in OPPGI projects.

**FINANCIAL REPORT** Jim Schiesel presented a financial report and a check request form. He urged members to use it. He also discussed expenditure limits, an approval process and tracking donations.

**NEXT MEETING** March 22, 2010, the location will be determined at a later date.