

Opportunity Grosse Ile
Monday, April 12, 2010-04-24
Grosse Ile High School Media Center

Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm

Present Ron Baker, Andrew Johnson, Dena Dardzinski, Jim Schiesel, Armando Sardonopoli, Chad Novak, Ann Loftus, Shirley Mohney, Irene Will, Ron Janowski, Greg Karmazin, Craig Pilkington, Susie Harrison

Minutes from March 22, 2010 approved.

Treasurer's Report Jim Schiesel reported that there was no additional income but lots of payouts. There are still several Enchanted Evening bills that must be paid. Jim pointed out the necessity to have a form to fill out acknowledging donations – 1 form per donation – and conversely one form for each expense to be paid. Ron Baker and Jim will be meeting to iron this system out. Also, there are more donations that need to be acknowledged and the list is being compiled.

There is an anticipated \$200,000 budget for the next 12 months.

Ron Janowski pointed out that Ron Baker needs to be paid for all of his time and contributions with the website creation and all systems coordination retroactive back to August, 2009 with a fee of \$2,000 per month. This was approved by members present; of course subject to checking/saving account balances.

Website status Businesses being promoted on the site include the Times Square Boutique grand opening as the feature story. Also opening up advertising to local businesses calling it a Revenue Stream Page. Will need a rate schedule. Ads could be clicked on to see coupons, promotions, etc. Ron could design company websites for local businesses, too. A Splash Page, report on the Lacrosse game, and sports events are included. A news page, double columns, and changeable banners to be implemented. Examples of "heartwarming stories" taped at the Welcome Home! Center could be highlighted on the site. Even Webcam News featured with current happenings from various island locations.

Greg Karmazin spoke about his mother, Nancy Karmazin's, historical articles that were in the Ile Camera at one time and that they would be ideal subject matter in our website. He is obtaining permission from the News Herald.

Story boards from Becca? Need help on this one, folks

Andrew Johnson reported that we are on Facebook.com/OPPGrosse Ile and Twitter.com.

Ron Baker reported that Roger and Pam Swap of Highway Service Company, Inc. 26401 Hall Road, Woodhaven, 48183, 675-1000 is doing the Welcome Home! Center signs. The original quote for signs and installation was \$550.00. The Swap family has decided to donate the entire sign and installation service. With our grateful thanks.

Media Relations Ron Baker, Andrew Johnson & Dena Dardzinski to be on WDET 101.9 FM National Public Radio on Friday, April 23rd at 10:45 AM. During the Craig Fawley Show.

Welcome Home! Center ribbon cutting Sunday, April 25th at 12:30 just prior to the real estate island wide broker Open Houses from 1:00 to 4:00. Celebrities to be invited, the News Herald, Downriver Profile magazine.

To approve shared cost of the full page Ile Camera ad promoting such. OPPGI donation \$200.00.

Suggested radio spots on WWJ, local cable TV.

Visitor Packet to formulated to be used by companies who are recruiting new employees.

A schedule of volunteers to be created to man the Welcome Home! Center on a regular basis.

Membership report 61 business members

Social Media Policy formulated by Andrew Johnson is a marvelous summary pointing out how ladies and gentlemen are to behave on our site and what will and will not be allowed to be presented. Unanimously approved.

Conflict of Interest Policy Dena Dardzinski presented a Disclosure Form for all to fill out who feel that they might have a conflict of interests between OPPGI and any organization that they might belong to. Voted upon and approved.

A Business Plan has been drafted spelling out paid hours vs volunteer hours and what is expected in each category. A 10 page DRAFT has been given to the group by Ron Baker who formulated this organizational blueprint to be adopted. Much discussion and ideas to be discussed in future meetings. For now, a review of such will give the background which will open up ideas.

IRS Status to be finalized. Jim Schiesel to meet with John Gatti to finalize the application. Needed to apply for Grants to underwrite our fund raising activities. Dena Dardzinski to meet with Brian Loftus to discuss ways and means to assist in underwriting training to apply for such.

Pirate Weekend formerly "Ball Nautique" to be held Friday July 30 and Saturday, July 31st.

Kids parade Friday evening the 30th down Macomb Street.

Saturday during the day to be a Treasure Hunt at the Historical Museum.

Saturday evening an adult's only party at the Olds Estate Mansion on Elba Island. \$50.00 per person fundraiser. Small tents on the grounds to display food samplings, a cigar bar, and fireworks. Wrist bands for participants. Permission being sought from Derek Thiel at the airport for parking prior to busing to the Elba island locale.

One day liability insurance expense being bid out.

Next meeting Monday, May 3, 2010 at 7:00 pm at the High School.

Adjourned 9:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Susie Harrison
Secretary