

Opportunity Grosse Ile
Monday, July 12, 2010
Welcome Home! Center

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm

Present: Ron Baker, Andrew Johnson, Dena Dardzinski, Jim Schiesel, Armando Sardanopoli, Chad Novak, Craig Pilkington, Greg Karmazin, Tammy Taylor & Susie Harrison.

Agenda Andrew Johnson asked for any additions to the agenda. None forthcoming.

June 7, 2010 minutes – moved and seconded to accept as written.

Treasurer's Report – Jim Schiesel presented the current financial status of our organization. Broken down into **Revenue** (Enchanted Evening, Pirate's Cove and the GOT IT Campaign) and **Expenses** - (Welcome Home! Center, Enchanted Evening, Pirate's Cove and GOT IT Campaign). See attached hereto. Net Profit to date **\$1,253.08.**

Jim also asked that Donation letters be filled out by the donors. Forms are available at the Welcome Center.

Projects & Status Reports

The Pirate Ad in the Ile Camera will be appearing just prior to the event. And the GOT IT Campaign will be initiated in August, 2010.

Also under Media Relations – Rod Leighton of Downriver Profile Magazine and Karen Risko are being contacted for advertising opportunities.

Under **Social Relations** – 190 friends on FaceBook, 16 posts, 43 viewed the page and 54 came in to Twitter.

Suggestion that in our OPPGI Website that each member write why they are members of this organization and it will be published.

Welcome Home! Center – report for June, 2010 prepared by Dena Dardzinski.

51 visitors, several from out of state, 172 hours worked by volunteers and the Island Fest booth. New families and prospective families follow up. Welcome basket was given out to the new St. Thomas Lutheran church pastor. Island Fest booth was well received and in a very good location in the airport hangar. The new Phone System with Comcast should help – we had to change carriers. Time may come when the Center will have to modify its' hours and many businesses and groups on Grosse Ile still need to provide information on themselves.

Little Pirates Parade – Laura from Trenton Federal Credit Union is providing the ice cream on the ice cream truck and Shirley Mohney, Island Kiddie Kampus the paper for the pirate hats for the parade on the 30th of July and providing organization for the parade. Times Square Boutique has donated a \$50.00 savings bond for the best hat. Everyone, however, will be a winner. Armando Sardanopoli will set the day aside to run things. How about snare drums from the high school band? 6:30 at Macomb Commons and 7:00 to the Welcome Home! Center.

Pirate's Cove – Saturday, July 31, 2010 – Chateau Elba – 19 businesses/sponsors have contributed to this event. Bellacoso Wine providing liquor. VIP ticket holders to start at 4:45 to 6:00. Special wristbands to be provided for these VIP's as well as parking on the Chateau Elba grounds. Different color wristbands will separate the level of participation. 3 golf carts to be provided for moving guests. Trinity Shuttle to work from 5:30 to midnight, every 20 minutes from the airport. There will be 3 Drink Ticket area with workers in 2 hour shifts selling drink tickets. Discussion on the cost of each type of drink. Someone will be

needed at the Elba island entry as well as the Gazebo on the grounds to meet and greet guests and take ticket money.

Tents, pirate entertainment, the Bawdy Boys to entertain from 6:00 to midnight for \$300.00. A cigar bar, costumes, professional bartenders, martini hurricane bar. A Captain Morgan rum bar and fireworks presented by Ron Morris on a barge provided by Hurst Marine for free.

Important to find a secure place for the money taken in that night.

\$2,200. food budget.

Kroger's providing the flowers.

Jim Schiesel will need a list of who, what, and when to pay.

Vitale's providing pizzas.

Daly Merritt Insurance providing liability insurance for the event.

GOT IT Campaign – Suggestion that each every business on Macomb St. and at the airport give out tickets to visitors to their business, fill out the back and take to the Welcome Home Center for a drawing every Wednesday at noon. 1,000 tickets are being printed for the first time out. Suggestion, too, that this be a DDA Program.

Dreams – A marina at the foot of Macomb St. where the current deck is located. Public docks to attract visitors to the street. On property acquired from the township. Possibility of renting a couple of docks from the Royal Orleans association.

Website advertising – Ray Biddle from Grosse Ile Hardware one of the first to advertise in the website. Advertising funding could create the revenue stream needed to keep this venture going.

IRS 503c status – Jay Frucci had the done the final work on the By Laws. In order to submit this application a fee of \$850.00 is needed to be sent to the State. Susie Harrison to check the previous minutes and find previous ByLaws. Suggestion to use Tom Kuzmiak, attorney, to audit the application.

Grants & grant educational classes – request made to the Twp. higher ups for financial assistance for those taking the Grant Writing Classes - no response yet.

Threat – keeping the momentum going

Membership Chairman needed – information to follow.

New business – Al Petri Bicycles to rent out bikes and helmets for those wishing to ride around the island. Looking for a storefront. Tammy Taylor to call Mackinac Island to see how their system has been formulated.

Andrew Johnson met with a VIP from the film commission who filled him in the vast scope of film companies making movies in the Michigan area. They expect that in 2010, 200 million dollars will come into our area as a result of filming. See the website – sitelocationvacation.com. We have learned that Grosse Ile has 7 attributes that could contribute to our qualifications as a possible film site.

Next Meeting – Monday, August 9, 2010 – 7:00 at the Welcome Home! Center – bring your chairs.

Adjourned 9:18 pm.

Respectfully

Susie Harrison, secretary