

Opportunity Grosse Ile, Inc.

Minutes

Monday, January 4, 2010

MEETING called to order at 7:10 pm at Island Kiddie Kampus.

PRESENT Ron Baker, Andrew Johnson, Dena Dardzinski, Susie Harrison, Greg Kish, Greg Karmazin, Greg Goyert, Armando Sardonopoli, Ann Loftus, Chad Novak, Shirley Mohny, Ron Janowski.

MINUTES from Monday, December 21, 2009 were read and approved.

WEBSITE update. Ron Baker that within a few days over 100 businesses will be posted on the site. And will feature a business on the opening page of the business section of the OPPGI website.

We need addresses and email addresses for businesses.

Our bank account has been opened with Bank of America and for a 3% fee, we will be able to have a credit card acceptance for individuals wishing to purchase tickets on credit. This to be accomplished through Google.

Officers' four signatures will be entered on the checking account card but only one signature needed to write a check. And that we now, officially, have a "27" non profit number.

Duck hunter rescue: Talk of the Detroit News story on Grosse Ile and Good Morning America article on Grosse Ile January 4, 2010. That stories create hits on the site.

That we have received "hits" from France, Germany, Mexico and Canada subsequent to the Detroit News article.

That promotion through Money Magazine in conjunction with the Grosse Ile Supervisor's office would be an ideal scenario.

That we are in a good position to handle the necessary things in advertising formats and are expanding our contacts.

Greg Kish who is on the Township website committee talked about creating a link to the OPPGI website where businesses will be featured instead of on the Twp. site which should deal with just Twp. business.

Also Greg Kish asked to include sports photos of third to sixth graders on the website.

Brian Loftus, Township Supervisor, has placed OPPGI on the Agenda for Monday, January 11th at 7:30 at the Township Board of Trustees meeting in order to make a presentation on our group and our objectives.

ENCHANTED EVENING – tickets to be sold were passed out to board attendees. Susie Harrison has the numbered list.

Committee is working on formulating a budget for the evening.

Chad Novak spoke of the different themes in each room at the Pilot House. Cash bar for beer and wine with tickets to be sold at the welcoming table. No money is to be exchanged across the bar. Beer, wine and pop will be brought in by Grosse Ile Yacht Club.

Dena Dardzinski will donate tickets for a raffle that evening.

Entertainment for the evening being formulated.

Deb Kennedy and other celebrities to be asked to be bartenders.

Lena at the Ile Camera to do an article on this event.

Food donations from various restaurants and yacht clubs. Ford Yacht Club is closed in January and West Shore Yacht Club has closed its' food facilities permanently.

Andrew Johnson stressed the need for email lists to promote the event.

Chad Novak asked Dena Dardzinski & Greg Kish if we could have the help of school kids to help set up and clean up

FUNDING nothing to report

MEMBERSHIP Warren McLeod has agreed to head this committee.

PUBLIC RELATIONS Recognition of the Ile Camera letter and an article to be put into Downriver Profile Magazine and News Herald – Ron Baker to contact Rod Leighton, editor & owner of the magazine.

OUT OF THE BOX Greg Karmazin reported on multiple studies he has conducted which includes the fact that the median listing price on Realtor.com for all houses (not including condos) in Brownstown Township, Trenton and

Woodhaven is \$129,000 and Grosse Ile's median house (not including condos) listing price is \$ 299,000.

That the notion that we are snobby and have a negative reputation seems to be dispelling and that we are in a better light than ever before to those considering the island.

That it is best not to be defensive. And the fact that land planning and development decisions have affected us more than anything else.

That it would be wise to just make a suggestion to the Township that the Master Plan be updated to include modifying previous land decisions in an attempt to encourage new construction to attract younger families.

That there is a need for community planning but done in the appropriate process. That the Master Plan needs to be updated every five years and that it has been eight years since the last update.

Greg's boss, Paul Smoke, is very supportive and is contributing \$500.00 to be used for promotion and advertising. And that he will work with Ron Baker on ad copy. That the E Newsletter from the bridge has a distribution of over 4,000 names and OPPGI will be mentioned on that site.

Shirley Mohny suggested that we not use the term "rural" in describing Grosse Ile – that we are an island with an unusual lifestyle and atmosphere. Ron Janowski agreed that we are unique.

WELCOME HOME! CENTER update –

We need measurements for the Township Building Department inspection. Ron Janowski will be handling this.

Dena Dardzinski told us about the 5' x 15' mural being painted by art students in the high school depicting buildings on Macomb St. in three-dimension.

That a fire extinguisher has been donated. And that a door is needed in the back where just a curtain hangs in order to secure privacy for the main tenant in the building.

That there is to be a meeting on Friday, January 8th at the 10:30 at the Welcoming Center to formulate a checklist of items needed, followed by a meeting at the Prudential Landmark office at noon.

NEXT MEETING Monday, January 18th at 7:00 pm Island Kiddie Kampus.

ADJOURNMENT 8:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Susie Harrison

Secretary