

Opportunity Grosse Ile
Monday, June 7, 2010
Welcome Home! Center

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Present: Ron Baker, Andrew Johnson, Dena Dardzinski, Craig Pilkington, Greg Goyert, Ann Loftus, Shirley Mohny, Armando Sardonopoli, Greg Karmazin, Chad Novak, Irene Will, Ron Morris and Susie Harrison

Agenda Andrew Johnson asked for any additions to the agenda. None forthcoming from the group
Andrew then read our Mission Statement to keep us focused.

May 3, 2010 minutes – moved and seconded to accept as written

Request for a donation - Ron Baker had spoken with a gentleman named Glen Parvin of Custom Architectural Sheet Metal Specialists, Inc. who has requested a donation of a thermo cooler filled with Grosse Ile promotional materials to be raffled off at his company gathering. Discussion suggested a cap of \$200.00 in donated items. Moved and seconded to proceed.

Treasurer's Report Jim Schiesel, treasurer, in absentia, presented the current financial statement showing a \$2,076. net profit in the account when the total of \$1,000. is received from the DDA & B&B Builders as promised reflected in our Accounts Receivable.

Projects & Status of such

Ron Baker reported that the Island Fest booth was a success. At least 40 to 50 people came by and chatted with our workers. There was no cost for the space. The need for reasonable looking display materials was discussed. With professional looking display boards. Suggestion by Craig Pilkington to provide OPPGI T shirts and a Procedure manual to aid in set up for future displays and fundraisers. Suggestion to talk to Savvy Advertising on the T shirts. Many thanks to Armando Sardonopoli and his wife Barbara who pitched in at the clean up along with Ron Baker and Dena Dardzinski.

Website A Business Section will be appearing on the site within the next two months. – the sale of advertising could help defray Ron's expense and labor remuneration.

A section on Grosse Ile stories found in other print media. And the links to Face book from our members. At this time there are 182 members on FaceBook and 60 followers on twitter.

The Newsletter and Calendar of events are in the works.

Island Promotions – Andrew Johnson spoke with a Chris Baum, senior vice president of the Convention and Business Bureau of visit.Detroit.com. Andrew invited him to do an island tour to include in future publications and promotions. filmdetroit.com is also another one of his ventures. Rumor of a film company filming at the Metro airport. Hopefully details will follow.

Welcome Home! Center - Dena Dardzinski reported that 195 man hours were volunteered in May, 2010 at the Center with her grateful thanks. 3 volunteers came from the Ile Camera ad. And the need to keep better track of visitors names & comments. Saturday volunteers are difficult to nail down and Irene Will, Shirley Mohny and Ann Loftus said that they would work to provide coverage.

Grosse Ile image - Greg Karmazin told a story of being approached by a film company wishing to include the Grosse Ile Toll Bridge in their film. Greg checked them out, felt that they were real and came up with restrictions and allowable views to be incorporated into a film. To prevent any future liability or negative image. And passed that information on to the OPPGI Group as a caution for future promotions.

Media Relations – Ron Baker reported that he has been speaking with Karen Risko who liked our site and might be interested in writing about and interviewing people who live on Grosse Ile for Downriver Profile magazine.

Dena Dardzinski is submitting stories to the Ile Camera.

Membership – proposal to ask 2-3 new members to join our Board of Directors to replace individuals who can't make meetings. Julie Cortis and Tammy Travis-Taylor were named as good candidates. In the course of the discussion Greg Karmazin was also asked and he agreed to sit on the Board as he makes most meetings, anyway. Karen Risko's name was also a suggestion but has not been asked. We know that our bylaws state 20 members on the Board but that could be modified. Craig Pilkington suggested that we use the services of an attorney to help thru the legal maze.

Pirate Weekend – Little Pirate's Parade Friday, July 30, 1010 The Historical Society led by Tammy Taylor will be having a treasure hunt with weekly hints in the Ile Camera to culminate with awards at Macomb Commons after the parade. This event is being sponsored by Trenton Federal Credit Union here on Macomb Street. There will also be hints on Grosse Ile TV in a Power Point presentation. Shirley Mohney is contributing colorful construction paper to create pirate hats. We've received 50 gift bags as a donation to date.

Pirate's Cove at Chateau Elba – Saturday, July 31, 2010 - Liability Insurance being handled by Daly Merritt with a \$688.00 cost. Includes liquor liability. Perhaps would be best to have an outside source handling the distribution of liquor with their own insurance. Details to be expanded upon to possibly hire professional bartenders. Drink tickets will be sold and are not part of the ticket price. Calls going out to Grosse Ile Country Club and West Shore G&CC.

VIP valet parking for a reception from 5-6 with wine tasting and hors d'oeuvres on the second floor. Details of the food being served at this one hour reception sounded great. Tickets \$200. for 2 guests. \$500. for 6 tickets and advertising on the OPPGI website. Details being worked out as to other benefits from these ticket purchases.

Attendees to the event after 6:00 pm paying a \$25.00 per ticket fee. Wrist bands will separate the paying guests from the party crashers. Guests to be signed in at the gazebo down on Elba Drive. Tickets needed asap to begin selling. Ron Baker has created postcards and the ticket design.

Chad Novak has a 20 x 20 tent; 16 hightop tables; and wishes to rent a 20 x 40 tent for \$249.00; Bellacosa will have a cigar rolling bar; there will be a coffee bar; the Captain Morgan rum bar; hiring a Gypsy Band for \$300.00 for 4 ½ hours; \$300. worth of black fabric has been purchased to create a host of black flags everywhere;

Shuttle service from the airport with Trinity bus service holding 26 people rotating every 20 minutes. Off duty police force to control traffic (see Julie Cortis).

Caterer's can park at Chateau Elba. 5-6 pm guests parking on Elba Drive suggested.

Got It! Campaign – support Grosse Ile and the attendant businesses on the island. A calendar with shots of local sites of interest & homes; T shirts; Postcards; punch cards from each business with a Further talk about reestablishing a Chamber of Commerce. Suggestion to meet with the DDA at their next meeting about assistance with formulating Macomb business ideas.

A suggestion to contact Bill Krauss, Jr. who manages the condos at the corner of East River Rd and Macomb St., about the possibility of securing a Macomb St. Marina for guest dockage. Home 675-9878 and his cell at 313-580-5859.

OPPGI Funding & Executive Director compensation are ongoing discussions and must be taken care of in a systematic manner.

Grant writing being expanded upon.

IRS Status (501c3) & Final ByLaws – parties who were charged with finalizing these details must either finish their work or turn things over to those who will take the assignment and run with it.

Next meeting – Monday July 12th at the Welcome Home! Center at 7:00 p. m. Bring a chair. K

Adjourned at 8:58 p. m.

Susie Harrison
Secretary