

**GRAND VALLEY METROPOLITAN COUNCIL  
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**May 12, 2010**

**8:30 a.m.**

GVMC Offices  
678 Front Ave., Suite 200  
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

**MINUTES**

**1. Call To Order**

Vice Chair Mike DeVries called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Present:

Haris Alibasic	City of Grand Rapids
Alex Arends	Alpine Township
Sam Bolt	City of Wyoming
Jim Buck	City of Grandville
Bill Cousins	Cascade Township
Mike DeVries	Grand Rapids Township
Denny Hoemke	Algoma Township
Don Hilton	Gaines Township
Jim LaPeer	Cannon Township
Don Stypula	Grand Valley Metro Council
Keith VanBeek	Ottawa County

**3. Review Candidate Letter**

Don Stypula reviewed the proposed candidate letter. There are anticipated to be between 35-37 candidates. Don will keep track of who has responded. If they have not sent back their survey by mid May, he will send out a reminder. We will compile the answers by district and send them out to everyone and also include them on the website.

Mike DeVries stated after we get a response, we should tell them we will be having a legislative breakfast to discuss the responses and how we can work together to achieve the goals.

Keith VanBeek suggested letting them know they will not be invited to the legislative breakfast if they don't respond to the survey.

Mike DeVries said in the reminder we should notify them of the breakfast and tell them we will want them to discuss the questions there.

Don Stypula stated he would flag those who RSVP but do not send back the survey. We can target them at the breakfast and pepper them with questions from the survey.

Mike DeVries discussed the format of the breakfast. First there should be a presentation from Don and others on why these issues are important. We can turn it into a regional program where we put them at tables with people from their district. We need to impress the importance of attendance to our membership. He suggested we put the issue recap on each table and have one person assigned at each table to discuss.

It was decided that a luncheon be held rather than a breakfast and it would be in place of the July 12, Quarterly Luncheon.

Don Stypula suggested GVMC Board members and guests be invited plus those on the Legislative committee.

#### **4. Issues Update**

State Budget Negotiations – Nothing much to say. No resolution in sight.

Keith VanBeek said everyone he has talked to says it is most likely to be resolved in the lame duck session.

Don Stypula reported there is talk about addressing unfunded mandates, but not much is happening.

Don Hilton said medical marijuana is becoming an increasingly prevalent issue.

#### **5. Adjourn - 9:40 a.m.**