

# Grand Valley Metropolitan Council

## Public Information & Education Subcommittee

Friday, April 15, 2005  
8:00 AM  
Grand Valley Metro Council  
40 Pearl NW, Suite 410  
Grand Rapids, MI

### MINUTES

#### 1. Call to Order and Attendance

The PIE Committee was called to order by McWhertor at 8:05 AM.

##### Members Present:

|                  |                                |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| Jim Buck         | City of Grandville             |
| Rick Chapla      | Right Place Program            |
| Thomas McWhertor | Calvin College                 |
| Bonnie Shupe     | Cannon Township                |
| Rick Sullivan    | Center for Environmental Study |
| Kendra Wills     | MSU Extension                  |

##### Members Absent:

|                     |                                  |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| Judy Barnes         | Home Builders Assn of Greater GR |
| Caryl Sue Abendroth | Citizen                          |
| Beverly Drake       | ACSET Council                    |
| Carol Townsend      | MSU Center for Urban Affairs     |
| Dave Van Antwerp    | Creative Partners                |

##### Others Present:

|                  |                            |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| Andy Bowman      | Grand Valley Metro Council |
| Jay Hoekstra     | Grand Valley Metro Council |
| Priscilla Martin | Grand Valley Metro Council |

#### 2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes for March 18, 2005 were accepted.

#### 3. Staff Updates:

##### A. MDB Awards

Bowman announced that he is meeting with the two Blueprint award committees next week to review nominations. Recommendations will be coming to the PIE Committee at the May 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Development/Design committee will be reviewing six nominations and the Policy/Program Committee will be reviewing two nominations. Both committees use a scoring sheet that Bowman developed which compares the project to the Blueprint Principles and how well the project incorporates these principles. Bowman stated that some of the projects submitted stated that matched many of the principles without explanation of how. Because of this, Bowman plans to ask nominations to explain in more detail next year.

##### B. Growing Communities Conference

Discussions ensued regarding having topic discussion tables during the break. It was decided to go with a less formal approach where attendees could come and go as they please. Martin is to look into having these discussion tables in the Grand Room and registration area. It was decided to have 4- 6 tables (with four tables for speakers) depending on space availability.

Martin announced that we have received \$8550 in sponsorships to date (Last year we received \$7950). McWhertor noted that it appeared our earlier effort to obtain additional sponsors and funds didn't seem to pay off. Members were encouraged to make sponsor calls if they hadn't done so already. The cut off date for sponsorship advertisement in the handout given out the day of the conference is May 20<sup>th</sup>.

Martin distributed the conference evaluation form for review. One typo was pointed out. Martin noted that the food critiquing section had been removed as suggested from last year's conference. The registration brochure is at the printers currently. Martin to email a .pdf of the brochure to PIE members and PIE members to email the form to anyone they can think of.

**4. Work Session: GVMC Survey**

Bowman announced that Alex Nesterenko has completed the first round of this year's survey. This survey included the same questions included in previous year's surveys. The second survey will be conducted soon. This survey will contain different questions for the same people questioned in the first survey. Discussions ensued and it was decided to include questions regarding open space on the second survey. If you have suggestions for questions please advise Bowman.

Bowman noted that the Land Conservancy conducted a survey of municipality officials regarding measures taken to preserve open space. The results indicated that most officials thought they already had an open space program in place when they actually did not. Our survey will ask similar questions of the general public.

Chapla informed those present that he is working on a land use survey instrument for the general public that will collaborate and coordinate survey efforts in the region. They are asking for funding for three years.

**5. Other items of Business**

None

**6. Future Agenda Items/Next Meeting Date:**

The PIE Committee meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of every month at the Grand Valley Metro Council at 8:00AM. **The next PIE meeting has been re-scheduled for Friday, May 13, 2005.**

**7. Adjournment:**

Bowman adjourned the committee meeting at 9:00 AM.