



Board Meeting on June 7th

Our next Board Meeting will be held on Thursday June 7th at 8:30 am. Once again, it will be held in the Kent County Commission Chambers.

County Commissioner Dick Vander Meulen and West Michigan Sports Commission president Mike Gusweiler will bring the Board up to date on the West Michigan Sports Commission. The WMSC has been very active in bringing large sporting events to our region and they will talk to us about their many activities.

Also presenting to us at the Board Meeting will be Jared Rodriguez, president of the West Michigan Policy Forum. He will inform us of the latest information regarding this regional business and government conference. Jared and I have been also working on a special rate for GVMC members who wish to attend the WMPF.

Finally, we will have three contracts on the agenda that relate to our on-going efforts with LGROW

and the grants we have received. The contract for the Center Environmental Studies for \$28,960 and \$4,345 are to prepare a communications strategy for LGROW and for assistance in writing the business plan. Funding is from the Wege and Frey Foundations. The Community Media Center contract is for web-based communications. It is for \$5,280 and funded by GR Foundation. Finally, FTCH will receive a total \$5,250 from for development of educational materials and training. The GR and Wege Foundations are funding this contract.

Is Our Conference Room is Available?

Several of our members have asked if our large conference room is available for associated groups to meet. Yes, of course it is. We are centrally located, have free parking and the room is equipped with necessary technology. Also the restaurant in the building's lower level will cater. We welcome our members to use the conference room for training, other governmental associations or member related meetings. Currently, Kent County Emergency Management as an example, uses the room and we invite your government related group to do the same. For security reasons we are only able to offer the room during business hours. To schedule the room contact Gayle at mccrathg@gvmc.org.

Spotlight on Cooperation

Business/Government

Cooperation

Special Rate Available to GVMC for West Michigan

Policy Forum

This year the WMPF will be held September 12-13 in Grand Rapids. More than 500 business and government leaders will be attending and working together to collaborate on ideas to make us a better, stronger and healthier community. This conference is a way for local governmental officials to communicate directly with senior business and state government officials regarding the issues that most impact our region.

Bruce Katz, of the Brookings Institute will be among the featured speakers providing insights on how we can improve the health of Michigan's regional communities and our economy. Governor Snyder is also expected to speak to the attendees.

I serve as a member of the Steering Committee of the WMPF and have been involved in shaping the direction and content of the event. Through a special agreement, GVMC members that wish to attend the event will be given a discount for the conference. The discount is available until July 1st. This is an unpublished discount so please contact me directly for more information if you are interested in attending.

Reserve Your

Quarterly Luncheon Tickets

for

July 9th with Lt. Gov. Calley

Price: \$25.00 per person

RSVP to Gayle at mccrathg@gvmc.org