

Grand Valley Metropolitan Council

Public Information & Education Subcommittee

Friday, March 19, 2004
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 8:10 AM.

Members Present:

Jim Buck	City of Grandville
Thomas McWhertor	Calvin College
Bonnie Shupe	Cannon Township
Carol Townsend	MSU Center for Urban Affairs

Members Absent:

Caryl Sue Abendroth	Citizen
Judy Barnes	Home Builders Association
Rick Chapla	Right Place Program
Beverly Drake	ACSET Council
Lori Larsen	Citizen
Rick Sullivan	Center for Environmental Study
Dave Van Antwerp	Creative Partners
Kendra Wills	MSU Extension

Others Present:

Brian Berdanier	Grand Valley Metro Council
Andy Bowman	Grand Valley Metro Council
Jay Hoekstra	Grand Valley Metro Council
Don Stypula	Grand Valley Metro Council

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes for February 20, 2004 were accepted.

3. Staff Updates:

A. Blueprint Awards

Bowman reported that there was only one new applicant for the MDB award: Burton Heights neighborhood plan. Though likely to be a good project, the need to widen the prospects was discussed and the committee concluded that they should play a greater role in identifying award prospects throughout the community.

For next year, the committee felt that (i) PIE committee should play a greater role in bringing in potential award recipients and (ii) that there needed to be specific announcements made at GVMC Board meetings about the awards and the call for projects.

Bowman stated he would more closely examine past nominees to see if there are more prospects for consideration.

4. **Work Session: Growing Communities Conference**

Bowman briefed the committee on the final roster for the meeting, but had Chris Dingman of GVMC's Transportation Division describe the problems he ran into securing Gloria Jeff and Rodney Slater as speakers for the conference. Dingman informed the committee that he has other options available through various services and he will check them out to firm up those speakers.

Bowman informed the committee that the "tickler" will have to go out without the Transportation segment being fully known and agreed upon.

Further discussion centered on logistics and details for completing the conference schedule.

Bowman mentioned the "Regional Youth Summit" on land use issues he attended and suggested this might be a great way to involve youth again in our conference. Caryl Sue Abendroth's role in involving youth this year was not being emphasized so Bowman was directed to contact Abendroth before setting up further details for youth involvement. Bowman mentioned both Gayle McGrath of GVMC and Lynn Hemstra from the City of Grand Rapids as contacts for this aspect of the conference.

The last word on conference planning was that PIE Committee members needed to consider their usual contacts for sponsoring the conference. Bowman was directed to ask Babcock to send around a copy of the calling sheet before the next meeting.

5. **Other Items of Business**

Carol Townsend mentioned a survey conducted by Wayne State University that might be an interesting comparison to our survey. She said she would get more information to staff about that survey.

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

The PIE subcommittee meets on the 3rd Friday of every month at the Grand Valley Metro Council at 8:00 AM. The next PIE meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 16, 2004.

7. **Adjournment:**

McWhertor adjourned the committee meeting at about 9:15 AM.