

Grand Valley Metropolitan Council

Public Information & Education Subcommittee

Friday, April 16, 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 Bowman at 8:10 AM.

Members Present:

Caryl Sue Abendroth	Citizen
Judy Barnes	Home Builders Association
Jim Buck	City of Grandville
Rick Chapla	Right Place Program
Bonnie Shupe	Cannon Township
Rick Sullivan	Center for Environmental Study

Members Absent:

Beverly Drake	ACSET Council
Thomas McWhertor	Calvin College
Carol Townsend	MSU Center for Urban Affairs
Dave Van Antwerp	Creative Partners
Kendra Wills	MSU Extension

Others Present:

Andy Bowman	Grand Valley Metro Council
Jay Hoekstra	Grand Valley Metro Council

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes for March 19, 2004 were accepted.

3. Staff Updates:

Blueprint Awards

With only one award submission this year from Burton Heights Neighborhood Association, the PIE Committee agreed to examine past award nominees for advancements. Three other projects were chosen to review: City of Wyoming Downtown Plan, Millennium Park and Sustainable Business Forum. PIE members Dingman, Sullivan and Chapla agreed to investigate new developments in each of these previous projects.

With so few submissions this time, it was decided to offer a lunch hour discussion about how far we have come, but how much further we need to go. Bowman agreed to work on some comments along this line.

4. Work Session: Growing Communities Conference

More discussion centered on final brochure document and other conference details.

5. Other Items of Business

Gayle McGrath of GVMC described the current work being done in the area of Education, specifically:

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- Support for local government and land use curricula including the new Civics Institute sponsored by several municipal associations as well as the "This Land is Your Land" learning program for 3rd to 5th grade.
- A Speakers Bureau for local schools and other institutions or associations covering local and regional issues.
- Ozone Action and other environmental issues including the recent work with NPDES and the Lower Grand River Watershed work.
- Amtrack/Westrain collaborative passenger train support.
- Direct involvement with the ISD and other school districts on issues of joint concern.
- The Regional Youth Summit conducted by metro area youth this year with potential for future linkage to Growing Communities Conference.

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. However, the next PIE meeting has been rescheduled for May 14, 2004 due to the Blueprint Award schedule

7. Adjournment:

Bowman adjourned the committee meeting at about 9:25 AM.