

**United Growth for Kent County, Inc.**  
**Minutes of Board Meeting February 6, 2008**

Present: Paul Haan (Chair), Chistine Helms-Maletic, Kevin Wisselink, Cynthia Price, Kendra Wills, Mike Williams, Herb Ranta.

MINUTES: People took time to read the minutes. Mike moved, Kevin seconded that they be approved. The motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Herb reported that we had had membership renewals, amounting to \$100 in January. Merry Malfroid had run out some detailed reports in checkbook ledger format, through the end of 2007 and then a separate one for January, where the memberships were the only activity. Everyone was pleased with the information. An ending balance of \$5991.04 was reported for 2007. Herb pointed out that we had since had one expenditure, for the phone, but this would be an approximate correct balance. Cynthia moved, Christine seconded, that we accept the treasurer's report, and the motion passed.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS/SURVEY: Kendra had enclosed the revised calendar proposal and we reviewed it. We modified it to read "Election of board members" rather than officers, who are elected by the board, under the March 18 annual meeting entry. We had a few suggestions for programmatic speakers at coalition meetings and for what to do on special events. There is a proposed bus tour of the GrandWalk area in June and a big event in May by the Land Preservation Committee, as well as a lunch presentation for which we can probably charge big bucks and hope to partner with Land Conservancy and the Grand Rapids Bar. (Cynthia said she would approach the Bar Assoc., since she speaks to them on a weekly basis.) We still want to do the Business After Hours modeled event with Founders Brewery. We discussed having some kind of incentive for people who took the bus to that event. Christine said she would call Founders about it. We suggested 5:30 to 7:30.

Kendra had tallied the survey results but had sent it only to Paul. However, it did figure into how she set the calendar, including some of the speakers she suggested.

We approved the calendar, allowing Kendra some flexibility if she needed it.

FEBRUARY COALITION AGENDA: The suggested speaker is Greg Northrup on the West MI Strategic Alliance. We approved the suggestions, which were nothing out of the ordinary.

NOMINATIONS FOR BOARD: Kendra will send out information to the whole e-mail list. Bonnie suggested that she would be willing to step down since this is a busy year for her, but at this time that was not necessary. We were reminded that there were one-year and two-year terms, and checked who was on what schedule. Cynthia, Christine and Kevin were on the one-year list.

DRAFT MEMBERSHIP LETTERS: Kendra had not included this in the packet. She will send it to Paul to approve first and then to the rest of the board.

CITIZEN PLANNER LEADERSHIP ACADEMY SCHOLARSHIPS: Kendra reported that Dorothy Johnson, Dickinson Elem. School principal; John Westra, Ada Twp. Trustee; and Rebekka Kwast of Neighborhood Ventures were approved to go. Sarah Smith had gotten in a late application but since there was money left we all agreed to fund her; however, by the time Kendra checked, there was not

room for her. We agreed if a spot opens up, we would still fund her, because even that would not put us over the budget.

We adjourned at about 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cynthia Price, Secretary