



## United Growth Coalition Meeting Minutes Tuesday, February 20, 2007 Kent/MSU Extension

Attendees: Cynthia Price, Don Hilton, Paul Haan, Marsha Wilcox, Lori Stanton, Jill Myer, Dave Bee, Herb Ranta, Christine Helms-Maletic, Mike Williams, Andrea Bardelmeier, Carol Townsend, Dean Salisbury, Candace Chivis, Tom Cary, Elizabeth Gorski, Kendra Wills

Call to order at 8:37 a.m. by Cynthia Price.

- I. **Welcome and Introductions.** A special welcome was extended to new attendees Andrea Bardelmeier of Turner Street Gateway Project; Candace Chivis of Garfield Park Neighborhoods Association, Christine Helms – Maletic of Midtown Neighborhood; Dean Salisbury, Grattan Township resident; and Elizabeth Gorski, Sparta DDA and Chamber Director.
  
- II. **New Business**
  - a. Review Draft Bylaws. Carol gave a general overview of the bylaws. There was some discussion and questions. Question whether if a member is removed if membership dues shall be reimbursed, general consensus was no, the dues will not be reimbursed as the individual would still be a member, just not a committee member. Four items for PMT review at their next meeting:
    - i. Section 5.9 Would Robert's Rules of Order only apply to BoD meetings?
    - ii. Section 6.9 Is there a conflict with this section and the previous section stating that BoD members cannot receive compensation?
    - iii. Article XI Should the word "whether" be changed to "if"? Or "shall" be changed to "in the event of a conflict of interest, members shall declare it"?
    - iv. Should the membership term of May 1 – April 30 be added to the bylaws?
  
  - b. Participants were then asked to complete a short survey on their membership status and interest in running for the Board of Directors or being a member of any of the three proposed committees of the Board. All surveys were to be turned in at the meeting. A similar survey will be distributed in Feb to those that weren't present at this meeting.
  
  - c. Quick Announcements:
    - i. Feb 8 and Feb 22 the Grand Rapids Planning Commission will be deciding on the adoption of the results of the Midtown Neighborhood Charrette as an Area Specific Plan as part of the City's Master Plan. Christine passed around the binder of the charrette results and drawings. Nederveld Associated was a consultant on this project.
    - ii. April 30 – May 2 is the Affordable Housing Conference in Lansing. Scholarships may be available for nonprofit organizations. This is an excellent and nationally significant conference.
    - iii. Ottawa County will soon begin drafting a PDR ordinance after go ahead given by Board of Commissioners. Erika Rosebrook is working on this effort.
    - iv. Monday, Feb 19, is the MSU land Use Summit at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing. The schedule was passed around. United Growth will be a \$500 sponsor and will have a table at the event.
    - v. Allegan County is starting a classroom-based Citizen Planner Program in February. All Citizen Planner sessions are now available online.

### III. Committee Selection

- a. Participants were given a handout listing the four goals and possible projects under each goal (this was also emailed the day before the meeting). Time for these committees to meet will be reserved after each Coalition meeting from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. These committees are replacing the Rural and Urban Committees in 2007.

Participants were asked to group together in their committees. Due to the fact that only two people were interested in joining the committee to work on “Increasing density and mixed-use development along transit corridors” that committee was combined with the large “Revitalizing Neighborhoods” committee. Each committee met for an hour to work on their action plan to present at the March 20 meeting to the entire group. The following are committee members as of Jan 16 (others will be encouraged to join):

- i. Revitalizing Neighborhoods: Lori Stanton, Paul Haan, Jill Myer, Mike Williams, Andrea Bardelmeier, Christine Helms – Maletic, Cynthia Price, Tom Cary, Dean Salisbury, Carol Townsend
- ii. Land Preservation Education: Marsha Wilcox, Herb Ranta, Elizabeth Gorski, Kendra Wills
- iii. Intergovernmental Cooperation: Don Hilton, Dave Bee, Bonnie Blackledge, Candace Chivis (and Kendra Wills when possible)

Each committee adjourned at or before 10:30 a.m.

Submitted by: Kendra Wills