



Southcentral Michigan Planning Council

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May Board Meeting Minutes

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, May 5, 2015
MEETING TIME: 2:00 pm
MEETING LOCATION: The Gilmore Car Museum
6865 W Hickory Rd, Hickory Corners, MI 49060

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Members Excused:** Dunn, Reid
3. **Members Present:** Amos, Baker, Byrnes, Frantz, Geiger, Hazelbaker, Huffman, Robey, Seyburn, Shaffer, Wheat
4. **Action: Approval of the Agenda**
 - a. Shaffer made a motion to approve the agenda.
 - i. Huffman seconded the motion.
 - ii. **The motion carried.**
5. **Action: Approval of the Minutes**
 - a. Baker made a motion to approve the agenda.
 - i. Hazelbaker seconded the motion.
 - ii. **The motion carried.**
6. **Citizen Comments**
 - a. None made.
7. **Reimbursements and Invoices**
 - a. None
8. **Treasurer's Report**
 - a. Staff provided the Treasurer's Report. Staff also outlined the new format for the monthly statements. The board had a few changes they would like to see to the statement format. Staff will incorporate the desired changes for the next meeting.
 - b. Byrnes made a motion to approve the agenda.
 - i. Robey seconded the motion.
 - ii. **The motion carried.**
9. **Transportation/KATS Items**
 - a. KATS Staff gave a written and oral report of activities conducted during April. KATS Staff noted that the organization hired a new staff person to replace the previous planner.
 - b. The board had some questions about the PASER ratings.
 - c. A brief discussion about Calhoun County historic data occurred.
 - d. A question about a planning workshop was raised. Several board members helped to provide input.
10. **Discussion: Regional Prosperity Initiative**
 - a. Staff gave an update on the Regional Prosperity Initiative in Region 8. The update included details about the newly created subcommittee structure and information about their meeting.
 - b. Staff also noted that the next two meetings and recent subcommittee meeting had a focus on education. Staff also performed, in conjunction with the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission, completed an inventory and survey of educational entities in the region.
 - c. Byrnes also provided an update on Region 4.
 - i. The group is about to perform an analysis of the Muskegon's deep water port.
 - ii. The group recently launched their website.

11. Action/Discussion: Continued Organizational Discussion

- a. Staff led the board through information on potential services offered by SMPC. The information now includes more detail about the services offered and general cost estimate.
- b. Questions about municipal bidding processes spurred brief discussion.
- c. Members of the board thought it would make sense to upload an abbreviated version of the information to the SMPC website and create a flyer to help disseminate the information.
- d. Members of the board felt that SMPC could find a niche in recreation plans or grant writing/administration.
- e. A board member raised the point that the current staffing level might not allow SMPC to take on too many project simultaneously.
- f. Staff also updated the board on the effort to secure assistance with marketing from WMU.

12. Discussion/Action: Water Trails

- a. Staff felt that the creation of a water trail through SMPC could help the organization gain notoriety.
- b. Staff led the board through the materials provided in the packet related to water trails.
- c. The board discussed the water trail idea.
 - i. Funding came up in the discussion and staff noted that this project should be funding neutral.
- d. The board was generally supportive and thought the project would be a great benefit to the region. It also connects a number of the communities in the region.

13. Discussion: Gilmore Car Museum Wastewater Project

- a. Byrnes outlined the water treatment needs of the Museum.
 - i. The board provided some feedback and brainstormed some ways to help move the project forward.

14. Action/Discussion: By-Law Review

- a. Staff led a continuation of the by-law discussion from April. Staff outlined the suggested alterations to the by-laws.
- b. The board noted a couple of typographical and grammatical changes needed.
- c. Baker made a motion to approve the by-laws as amended.
 - i. Frantz seconded the motion.
 - ii. **A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

15. Staff Report/Other:

- a. Staff gave an update on the planning services rendered to St. Joseph County. The board had a question about the type of services rendered; staff mentioned that they rendered ordinance review to the planning commission. A brief discussion ensued.

16. Board Member Comments

- a. Some board members thanked the Gilmore Car Museum for hosting the meeting.

17. Action: Adjournment

- a. Huffman made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
 - i. Frantz seconded the motion.
 - ii. **The motion carried.**