

NORTHWEST OTTAWA RECREATION AUTHORITY

Grand Haven Area Public Schools

1415 Beechtree Street, Grand Haven, MI 49417
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NORA ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: January 22, 2015 **Time:** 5:30 P.M. **Location:** 1415 Beech Tree, Grand Haven

1. Call to order: Chairperson Bessinger – 5:30pm Welcomed Carl Treutler, GHAPS School Board Representative, replacing Joanne Query.

2. Present: Karl French, Grand Haven Twp. Mary Jane Belter, Grand Haven Twp.
 Tracy Mulligan, Robinson Twp. Kathy Kuck, Robinson Twp.
 Mike Fritz, Grand Haven Bill Hunter, Grand Haven
 Scott Blease, Ferrysburg Craig Bessinger, Ferrysburg
 Carl Treutler, GHAPS

Absent: None

Also Present: Jill Vander Stel, NORA Coordinator
 Liza Dora, NORA Assistant
 Pam Blough, PM Blough, Inc.
 Brigit Hassig – Four Pointes Director

3. Approval of Meeting Agenda. Motion by Fritz, seconded by Mulligan. Approved unanimously.

4. Approval of Consent Agenda. Motion by Fritz, seconded by Kuck. Approved unanimously.

A. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes of November 20, 2014 as printed.

B. Financial Reports

1. December 31, 2014 NORA Financial Report
2. December 31, 2014 Activity Fund Balance Report
3. Chris Christiansen Financial Report- not available

5. Four Pointes Center for Successful Aging Presentation by Brigit Hassig, Director. Vander Stel explained to the board that she met with Hassig and has presented to the Four Pointes board to open the doors of communications towards possible collaboration. Hassig shared what Four Pointes is and how many people they serve. Hassig announced that Grand Haven has been identified by the State of Michigan as “A Community for a Lifetime.” She stated that her organization was originally NOCCOA (North Ottawa County Council on Aging). They rebranded when they moved into their new facility to help people to rethink their need even though they are not old. Federal level supports senior agencies in 17 different areas to any individual 60 years or older. Four Pointes stands for the 4 important areas of living: spiritually, physically, socially and intellectually. Four Pointes is “Masterpiece Living” pilot site and the first Nationally to be recognized. They have roughly 1,200 members on the center side. Their biggest growth group is 60-70 so they are adding more evening classes so they can be more social in their age group. They provide assistance in several areas to help frail individuals be able to stay in their home from cleaning, cooking, errands, etc. Four Pointes currently has 60 individuals that are 90 years old or older. Seventy percent of their budget comes from 8 different community millages and the remainder is from the United Way and some member based fees. She handed out a list of all the services they provide. Four Pointes currently has 50 volunteers and 3 full-time staff. Seventy percent of classes are member lead so they don’t have to hire many instructors. Hassig stated there is tremendous potential for collaboration as the more variety that we all can offer the more people that will become active.

6. NORA Millage Planning- Pam Blough – Vander Stel reminded the board the YMCA had approved the Memorandum Agreement. She asked Blough to put together a rough draft press release. Blough stated it's very important to put it out there to the community so they know we are working towards collaborations with the community. Vander Stel reminded the board that a subcommittee should be formed to keep the communication going. This subcommittee needs to meet on a regular basis to bridge the information between both groups. The community needs to feel that this is an ongoing process, not stagnant. Fritz suggests presenting to their board and maybe hold a joint board meeting from time to time to keep those communications open. Belter and Kuck suggest releasing this to radio, social media, and all the governmental units. Bessinger recommends a subcommittee to meet with Four Pointes. Treutler & Fritz volunteered. French and Mulligan volunteered to form the subcommittee for land acquisition and hold discussions with Grand Haven Township regarding a piece of land that is willed to them.

7. Public Comments – Laird Schaffer – complimented Fritz on the connection with Four Points and asked if he would do the same to connect Four Pointes with the Loutit Library. Belter said she would handle that as she is on that board.

8. Old Business

9. New Business

A. 2015 Proposed Inline Hockey Budget – Vander Stel stated that because we have less players than we used to we may be moving to a three on three league. She stated it is still a great program that gets area youth active. French motioned to approve the budget, Mulligan seconded. Approved unanimously.

10. Coordinators Report – no comments

11. Advisory Board Comments or Suggestions

Mulligan stated she was glad we're forming subcommittees.

Belter stated that NORA public image that we just have programs for children needs to be changed.

Blease agreed that great headway is being made and once we start rolling with this, we may see some of the areas that aren't interested at this time, change their minds.

French stated that Grand Haven Township did a phone survey of a sample of 300 residents regarding a bike path .4800 mills for GHT and it came with 54% in favor of it. He also stated that Ottawa County area is the 9th largest growth area in the USA and 67th internationally. Cost of survey was \$2,000 and encourages NORA to do this before moving forward on a millage.

Fritz welcomed Treutler. He announced the fundraiser for the Coal Tipple renovation will be Friday, 2-7pm at the Eagles (beer & wine tasting). He mentioned the Community Wide Rec. Plan is available on Grand Haven's website, so you can see the master plan. Public comments are open for 30 days and then public hearing at each governmental unit.

Treutler stated that it sounds like this board has done a lot already and it is going to be amazing. He would love to see this great facility that the board is working towards.

Bessinger welcomed Treutler.

12. Next Scheduled Meeting: Special Millage Planning February 26, 2015, 5:30 P.M. at the ESC.

13. Adjournment 6:50pm

Prepared by: Liza Dora, NORA Assistant
Jill Vander Stel, NORA Coordinator

Approved minutes date: _____

NORA Board of Trustee Secretary Signature: _____