

**VILLAGE OF GROSSE POINTE SHORES, A MICHIGAN CITY
MINUTES OF THE AMBASSADOR COMMITTEE MEETING
September 11, 2012**

A meeting of the Ambassador Committee of the Village of Grosse Pointe Shores, A Michigan City, was held on Tuesday, September 11, 2012 in the Council Chambers of the Grosse Pointe Shores Municipal Building. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM.

Present:

DJ Boehm, Chair
Gloria Anton, Member
Madeleine Phillips, Member and Recording Secretary

Absent:

Alex Lucido, Member
Chace Wakefield, Member
Kay Felt, Council Liaison

Invited Attendees:

Tom Krolczyk

Audience Member:

Jan Pemberton

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The revised minutes of the August 14, 2012 Ambassador Committee Meeting were approved.

ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Realtor Conversations

As follow up to the realtor conversations, the following action items were discussed.

1. One-Day Park Pass Implementation Feedback

The One Day Park Pass was Implemented during the summer. The Committee is seeking feedback on whether or not there were any issues or opportunities resulting from this program.

***Action Item:** Kay Felt will check with Chief Schulte on whether or not there were any issues or visitors for the One Day Park Pass program that was implemented this summer.*

2. Certificate of Occupancy

As reported in August, the Certificate of Occupancy (C of O) is already in place for rentals. Gloria Anton restated her opposition to a C of O for home sales. Other members of the committee who usually speak in favor of the C of O for homes sales were not in attendance. The C of O issue has been moved out of this committee. It is up to City Council to determine whether or not they will pursue the issue. *No further action required by this committee at this time.*

3. Vacant Homes Update

Standing Action Item: Alex Lucido, who could not attend the meeting, will continue to check on vacant homes and update Chief Schulte.

4. Open House Sign Ordinance Update

The Open House Sign Ordinance will be discussed at the Council meeting on Tuesday, September 18. This ordinance does not cover any other signs, such as auction, garage sales, etc. Committee members are encouraged to attend the Council meeting.

Action Item: DJ Boehm will advise absent committee members about the City Council meeting.

5. Schools Update

The Grosse Pointe Public Schools (GPPS) didn't issue any e-alerts that were relevant to the committee's work. However, a meeting the School Board did set a \$13,030 tuition rate for those violating residency rules. DJ Boehm noted that in Governor Snyder's April 2012 posted plan to reinvent the Michigan's educational system schools, he proposed that funding follow the student. "Residents of a local district will still have the first opportunity to enroll, but schools will no longer be able to refuse out-of-district students

Standing Action Item: DJ Boehm will continue to monitor the GPPS E alerts.

B. Current Real Estate Market Perspective

Due to the absence of realtor committee members, this standing agenda item will be discussed at the next meeting.

C. Park Enhancement Update

The City is meeting with vendors regarding the Splash Pad project. If the project is pursued, the construction will not be until 2013. In some cases, children and grandchildren of residents are moving back in with parents. There may be a subsequent

increase in facility use.

D. Advertising and Promotion Discussion

- 1. Book Update** - This agenda item will be moved to October.
- 2. Tile Update** - This agenda item will be moved to October.
- 3. City Website Update**

The Committee is excited that the City will be revamping the website. The Committee discussed interviewing city officials as part of promoting Grosse Pointe Shores as a great place to live on the soon to be revised City website. Invited guest, Tom Krolczyk, reported that it would be possible to post interviews and videos. The city expects that the web links will be very user-friendly. The City is considering providing mobile alerts for weather. The possibility that residents may be able to pay their taxes online with a credit card was raised. Costello Designs has state-of-the-art technology. Implementation is expected to be completed this fall.

We are at the earliest of stages of considering how to promote the Shores on the website. Ideas will be gathered from the committee for discussion in October

Action Items

All committee members should consider what features they'd like to see on the new City Website including what image advertising and promotions the committee should pursue

E. Other Items

Observer Jan Pemberton stated that she feels that the committee is feeding information to the Council on ordinances, creating a need that is superfluous to the community. The Chair's response was that the committee does not make policy. Through our Council Liaison we do make recommendations. City Council chooses whether or not to take action on any recommendation. The ordinance decisions are up to City Council, not this committee.

Other items included:

1. Should real estate information packets be available at the City offices?

Action Item: *We ask that Alex Lucido and Chace Wakefield consider a response to this question for the next committee meeting.*

2. Should we consider a promotion for BooFest?

***Action Item:** Gloria Anton will make a recommendation at the October meeting on whether or not “BooFest” is a promotional opportunity for the committee.*

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 AM

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Ambassador Committee is Tuesday, October 9, 2012 at 10 AM in the Council Chambers.

Respectfully submitted,

Madeleine Phillips, Member and Recording Secretary