

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS 75th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 3, 2025, IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS/COURTROOM OF THE ROBERT E. NOVITKE MUNICIPAL CENTER, 20025 MACK PLAZA DRIVE, GROSSE POINTE WOODS, MICHIGAN.

Mayor Bryant called the meeting to order at 7:17 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Bryant
Council Members: Brown, Gafa, Granger, Koester, Motschall
Staff Members: Como, Korte
ABSENT: McConaghy, Schulte

Also Present: City Clerk Antolin

Motion by Gafa, seconded by Brown, that Councilmember McConaghy be excused from tonight's meeting.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Brown, Bryant, Como, Gafa, Granger, Koester, Korte, Motschall
No: None
Absent: McConaghy, Schulte

Motion by Granger, seconded by Gafa, that all items on tonight's agenda be received, placed on file, and taken in order of appearance.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Brown, Bryant, Como, Gafa, Granger, Koester, Korte, Motschall
No: None
Absent: McConaghy, Schulte

The first item was the Continuation of Prioritization and Discussion of the proposed 75th Anniversary Ideas.

Member Como provided updates on current activity:

- A 75th Anniversary E-Blast message has been sent
- Website dedicated to the 75th Anniversary has been created and is active
- The banners are being installed now
- Mr. Heffner, of the Ford House, expressed interest in supporting the anniversary and Member Como is awaiting additional information

Member Korte reviewed the spreadsheet of ideas and current status:

First Priorities:

1. Grosse Pointe Magazine Editor, Lauren McGregor, has been contacted and there will be a feature on our anniversary. There is a narrative that will be shared with all media outlets for consistent messaging.
2. City Clerk will be provided the logo that can be sent to local businesses in order to cross promote the anniversary. At a recent Avenue in the Woods meeting, members were informed that they would be receiving the logo. All department heads have been provided the logo to use as appropriate.
3. Website has been created and is active.
4. All department heads have received the logo to use as appropriate.
5. Tile samples have been requested from a vendor.
6. Duplicate of #5.
7. 75th Anniversary Party on July 25: plans are underway: ceremony, entertainment, food, photographer. Planning on 600 attendees (same as Fall Fest).
8. 75th Birthday Celebration on December 11: time capsule, projected videos, cake
9. An upcoming Happenings e-blast will solicit ideas to include in the time capsule.
10. Member Como is working with the Ford Estate.
11. Public Safety is creating anniversary challenge coins and badges with their own budget. These will be presented at July 25th or December 11 events based on when they are received. Council members will also get an anniversary badge.

Second Priorities:

12. Blank banners for schools to sign/decorate, walk in Santa Parade, place in time capsule: still in development phase.

Third Priorities:

13. Photo Contest (similar to #18): remove
14. Hosting "75" Fitness Challenge: Citizens' Recreation Commission to manage if willing.
15. 7.5K Walk/Bike/Run: tie into Labor Day bridge walk; Cruisin' Through the Woods; Family Fun Ride, etc.
16. Create t-shirt and/or Christmas ornament: drop the ornament; do get free t-shirts for Cruisin' Through the Woods bike ride. Extra shirts will be available to sell. GPW Foundation will get remaining t-shirts to sell.
17. Creation of interactive display at City Hall: put current time capsule on display.
18. Historical photos: turn over to Historical Commission.
19. "I Love GPW Because" resident video/recorded messages: labor/cost intensive – who can manage this? Contact local school clubs who have this type of experience? Granger will make contact with appropriate people. Consider outsourcing it with a professional? Duration should be 30-45 minutes.
20. Create large "75" floral display: remove
21. Create "Spirit of GPW" permanent art installation:

22. Give away 75 saplings/bucket trees at Fall Fest: Mayor prefers a price to ensure they are planted vs. free. Turn over to the Tree Commission.

Under New Business, no one wished to be heard.

Under Public Comment, the following individuals were heard:

- Ian Seaman, 19751 E. King Ct. – Experienced cinematographer. Stated that the library has cinematography equipment for rent. He also voiced a concern of private schools getting public funds.
- Tambre Tedesco, 1665 Ford Ct. – Stated that Grosse Pointe North has television production classes and that the Grosse Pointe War Memorial may also have available equipment.

Member Korte will reach out to Kermit Potter for more information regarding video recording equipment.

Motion by Granger, seconded by Gafa, that the Committee immediately certify tonight's meeting minutes.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Brown, Bryant, Como, Gafa, Granger, Koester, Korte, Motschall
No: None
Absent: McConaghy

Motion by Granger, seconded by Koester, that the meeting of the GPW 75th Anniversary Committee be adjourned at 8:21 p.m. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul P. Antolin
City Clerk

Arthur W. Bryant
Mayor