

10/17/11 GABA Board Meeting Minutes

Present: Ronda Hall, Jan Earl Woods, Sue Hefner, Barb Hogarth, Tim Simpson, Kathy Stanton

Absent Board Members: Kay Conklin

Meeting called to order at 6:32 pm

Minutes: Board meeting minutes dated 9/18/11 approved.

Correspondence: One copy of the Allegan County News

Fennville Chamber sent notice to introduce the new Public Relations Coordinator, Annie Swier. She will create articles that showcase the Greater Fennville area, business activities, and general updates that promote Fennville. They ask that you send press releases and event details to her at info@greaterfennvillechamber.com

Notice from Hospice at Home of the South Haven Chamber's Business After Hours event on Thursday, Oct. 20.

Notice from the South Haven Chamber of its "Ignite MI" seminar with the topics of "entrepreneurship for the 21st Century" and "Michigan's Entrepreneurship Scorecard". Seminar to be held Friday, Nov 4 from 7:45 to 1:30 pm. A discussion ensued as to whether a board member should attend, however, board members' schedules may not allow for attendance.

Membership: 103 letters and membership applications were sent out. Thank you, Jan, for printing, labels, and envelopes. Thank you, Barb, for printing, stuffing, and posting. To date, we have received 7 returning, and 3 new memberships (2 of whom have been members in the past, but not this *past* year). Barb had emailed the "sent to" list to the board, and, at the meeting, asked for other contact suggestions.

Nominations: To date, we have had minimal response. Kathy Stanton has accepted the nomination for trustee. 2 other trustee nominees have not yet responded, and everyone else has declined. Barb has declined nomination for VP, but may accept as secretary. Jan will make some phone calls to try to elicit some nominees.

Township/Fire Dept.: No report.

Marketing/Website: Kathy is working on getting Fall pictures on the site. Will take down the pancake breakfast announcement and put up Circle of Lights notice. She also asked for suggestions for other announcements that should be placed. Glenn Square clean up date should be posted. As new members come in, Kathy will be posting their information. Barb asked about making future brochures/rack cards into downloadable PDF's on the website. Ronda said she thinks that can be done.

Treasury: Available General Funds: \$300.60. Available Glenn Square Funds: \$2521.65.
Sue is working on the budget.

Glenn Square: The October social was cancelled due to lack of sponsor. Discussion ensued as to changing the format of the socials. Perhaps, instead of having an individual business sponsor the event, it should just be a general GABA event. Members are contacted to bring some food item, and, perhaps, participants bring their own beverage, etc. If posters are made, should just be general....second Thursday of every month, or summer months, or whatever we decide. Holding it some months, then

cancelling others creates confusion for those who wish to attend. The park committee needs to meet to discuss the future handling of the socials.

The "Rules of Usage" form is complete, but does not yet have the GABA logo attached. Ronda and Kathy will work on that. The "Rules" have still not been posted in the park. We have, however, received a completed form from Circle of Lights with an initialed addendum that all lights and decorations will be removed by 3/1/12. The lights that were on the trees from years past have been removed.

Question as to whether the sprinklers have been shut off, but Kay was not in attendance. When the new trees come in, it would be best to just water individually, so Barb will email Kay to find out what the status of the sprinkler system is.

Bob Levine will be planting Ronda and Kathy's donated trees to replace the diseased trees that were removed. He will work that into his regular schedule, so no specific date for tree planting was given.

There will be a park cleanup day this coming Saturday. Rain date on Sunday.

The porta potty will be padlocked after Circle of Lights. The last maintenance that is done should be winterization. It blew over in the last wind storm, so we may have to relocate permanently or build a shelter around it.

No report on the proposed structure. At the last meeting, Kay was asked if she could bring the proposed plans to the annual dinner. Her color plan is missing, so she was going to ask the architect for another.

The board asked that the park committee meet to discuss socials, plans, etc.

Annual Dinner: Thursday, Nov. 3 at Earl's Farm Market. 6:30 appetizers. 7:00 dinner. \$14.00 per person. RSVP by Oct. 27. To date, we have rec'd 7 reservations.

Silent Observer Lunch: Jan will check on the date. In the past 24 hours, there have been 4 break ins along the Blue Star and 118th.

Post Office: As of the 19th, we will have a Village Post Office located at Gerstner Hardware.

New Business: Tim suggested that we refocus GABA, and change to quarterly meetings instead of monthly. Perhaps we would get more member participation if the time commitment were less. We have the website presence and the brochures, and that should be our focus. Maintenance of these two marketing tools probably does not require a monthly commitment at this point. The board agreed. This change will require a change to the bylaws, so Barb will write up a proposal to be voted on by the general membership at the annual dinner.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm. Next GABA meeting: ?

GABA Board:

President: Ronda Hall (Stantall Studio)

Vice President: Jan Earl Woods (Earl's Farm Market)

Treasurer: Sue Hefner (At Last)

Secretary: Barb Hogarth (Blue Star Studio of Wood and Glass)

Trustees: Tim Simpson (Tim Simpson Carpentry)

Kay Conklin (Conklin Real Estate)

IMPORTANT DATES:

Glenn Square Clean up: 9:00 am Saturday, October 22. Rain date, Sunday, October 23

GABA Annual Dinner: Thursday, November 3, 6:30 pm at Earl's Farm Market. RSVP by 10/27.

South Haven Chamber Business After Hours: Thursday, Oct. 20, 5-7 pm at Hospice at Home
South Haven Chamber's Ignite MI Seminar: Friday, Nov. 4, 7:45-1:30 pm at Lake MI College.