

Michigan Council, HI-USA
Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 16, 2007
Law Offices of Bill Evans
MINUTES

Call to order: 6:50 pm; Sue presiding.

Present: Sally Janacek, John Prusak, Martha Spear, Sue Trudeau, Mike Willihnganz; Host: Bill Evans; Absent: Deb Bell, Kathleen Conklin, Bob Holley, and Joan Smykowski.

Approval of Minutes: November and December 2006 minutes approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report – Sue

Sue distributed Financial Reports for December 2006, including donor letter, and a Profit and Loss Statement. With the closure of the building, our costs are down and we received \$13,200 in donations in December and January, so HI-MI is (temporarily) flush with a total of \$83,675 in our accounts. However, we will need to seek sources of additional revenue as 2007 progresses. It was noted that only one Board member has made a cash donation; Jill reminded us at the retreat that this is an expectation of all Board members.

Status of CD at Credit Union—our CD is coming due and we will need to make a decision next month. We also have more than \$60,000 in our checking account, drawing little interest. Sue has discovered a 6 month CD drawing 5% interest at TCF Bank. Martha moved and Mike seconded that **Sue move \$25,000 from checking into this 6 month CD.** The motion passed unanimously.

Update from Bill Evans

Bill shared a draft of the "pitch" he will make for the development of a Detroit hostel. The Committee hopes to approach WSU re: the Kirby Bldg or, through Detroit Conservancy, seek a riverfront location. They have the needed political and financial backing and are gathering background information: the wheels are turning. Sally is our liaison to this committee.

Bill also reported on the HI-MI building. He has met with several realtors and is awaiting several additional walk-throughs and analyses. If the realtor analyses are positive, we will list with a commercial broker. The building sale is complicated by a weak market and a less-than-cooperative 'partner' in Ron Meyer. We affirmed that we will make a good faith effort to find a buyer; our last resort will be to find a person seeking a tax write-off.

Retreat Results Work Session

Sue shared a spreadsheet with deadlines and details gleaned from the December Board Retreat minutes. **We all are expected to have read and understood the complete Strategic Plan 2007 - 2010**, sent earlier via email. **Each Committee (Finance, Marketing & ODOM) is asked to bring more complete plans – that is, priorities, responsibilities, deadlines, and direct costs -- to the February Board Meeting.** These plans will become our goals for the new fiscal year, March 2007.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee – Sally and Bob, assisted by Sue. Jill suggested that the committee needs a volunteer from outside of the Board; **Sue will contact**. Sally has another name if Sue's volunteer does not pan out.

ODOM – Martha, Sue. We need more WT101 presentation opportunities to meet/succeed our outreach numbers. **Martha will work with Joan and Committee members on this.** Martha, along with Norwood, Bob and Sue, trained two new WT101 Presenters on January 9, 2007.

Marketing – John, Mike and assisted by Norwood. We agreed that we need business cards with our names & contact information. **Sue will contact Joan about costing out business cards.** Bill Evans shared his card from HI-USA; can we use also use this prototype? **Sally will bring HI-MI member demographic information to our February meeting.**

Election of Officers issue – Sue. With a new Board in place, should we elect new officers now or at the end of March, our new fiscal year? Martha moved, John seconded, that we retain our current officers until the end of March. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

Building contents – Bob. Martha reported on behalf of Bob. Bob contacted U-M Archivist, Len Coombs of the Bentley Historical Library, who has agreed to come to our office and select significant papers to be placed in a special collection in the Library. Sally moved, Mike seconded, that we allow the U-M archivist access to HI-MI papers for the purposed of creating this historical collection. Questions for the archivist: is there a point of no return for one-of-a-kind documents – that is, can we make a copy before they are taken to U-M? For future reference, what documents should we retain and, perhaps more importantly, which papers may we discard? It was agreed that we might host an “historical open house” after the archivist's visit, to allow members to take home any remaining momentos. The motion passed unanimously. **Bob will call Mr. Coombs and also pursue furniture resale contacts.**

New Business

Even as we go “digital”, HI-MI continues to generate hard copy items; where should we store our papers? **Sue will ask Jill for advice.**

Establish location for 2007 Board meetings. It was agreed to “try out” the Novi Public Library for our next Board meeting and, if satisfactory, hold all future Board meetings there. We voiced appreciation to Bill for the use of his office during this transition.

Next Meeting: Tues., Feb.13 at the Novi Public Library (45245 W. 10 Mile Rd; see <http://novi.lib.mi.us/aboutlib/hours.htm>). **Sue will reserve a room.**

Adjourned 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Martha Spear, Secretary.