

Core Meeting Minutes, Thursday, June 21, 2007

Present: Micheline Sommers, Jim Blundo, Jerry Maynard, Eunice Dempster, Helen Lindsay, Brian Hansen, Jill Hollowell, Ellen Kieta, Robert Gaylor, Renee Mullissar, Eugenia Bajorek, Barbara Barnes, Shelley Sweier, Lisa Estes, Melissa Damaschke, Mary Kopchick, Nicole Rossi, Sharon Collins, Lucy Strand, Kanette Worlds, Carl Einkorn, Nancy Stocking.

Micheline Sommers (Chair) opened the meeting with a welcome and a thank you to meeting host the Rochester Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Introductions and important event announcements of each member present followed.

Committee Reports - Sharon Collins (Membership Chair) is currently updating our membership list and has been calling organizations that have not been attending to remind them of CORE. Micheline gave an events update since Jim Kennedy was absent. She reminded everyone to keep adding their events to the CORE website. Kelly Bennett gave a publicity update. She is trying to have each of the local papers write a feature article on CORE. Micheline mentioned that one new member present had seen our announcement in the Oakland Press. Nancy Mooneyham was not present to give a programs update. In her absence, Micheline noted the next meeting date and time.

Micheline then introduced speaker Sheri Heiney, Executive Director of the Rochester Regional Chamber of Commerce. Sheri spoke briefly about the chamber of commerce before speaking on the Economic Outlook of the state. Points of interest: the national unemployment rate is 4.5%, State of Michigan unemployment rate is 7.1%. However, the Oakland County unemployment rate is 5.6% while Rochester Hills' rate is only 3.1%. Sheri said the state is seeing job growth in the healthcare industry and that real estate sales in the Rochester, Rochester Hills, and Oakland Township area have increased. Sheri also mentioned that the chamber has partnered with the City of Rochester Hills to conduct a business survey. The results are expected in August.

Members were then free to ask Ms. Heiney questions. Questions were raised regarding the Legacy Project, the Kringle Market and the Rochester Community Schools.

Micheline closed the meeting by thanking our speaker.

Next Meeting: Thursday, August 16, 2007 at Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve.