

**CHAUTAUQUA MULTI-USE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE, INC.**

P.O. Box 724  
Dunkirk, NY 14048

**October 8, 2008 BOARD MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Bob Davis, Karen Davis, Ned Divine, Jim Enser, Don Horton, Ellen Luczkowiak, John Olsavsky, Evelyn Sievert, Lisa Speziale, Mark Twichell,

**ABSENT:** Daryl Bautigam, Gary Damico, Justin Jakubowicz, Mark Maytum, Stephanie Pulvino, Janey Wagner

**GUEST:** Janelle Danehy, Maggie McEntee and Sam Tuzzeo - SUNY Fredonia SIFE Students; Valerie Pawlak

President Don Horton called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:** Ned Divine made a motion to accept the minutes as read, seconded by John Olsavsky, carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** The treasurer's report was given by John Olsavsky. The beginning balance on hand as of September 10, 2008, was \$5,993.34. There were no cash receipts. Cash disbursements of \$96 for advertising, \$2,000 for the fundraising study fee, and \$1,140.62 for fundraising study expenses were made. Cash disbursements totaled \$3,236.62. The ending balance on hand as of October 8, 2008, is \$2,756.72. Karen Davis made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as stated, seconded by Ned Divine, carried.

**FREDONIA STATE SIFE STUDENTS:** The three students in attendance introduced themselves to the Board. Josh Greco was unable to attend. The SIFE students are: Janelle Danehy, Josh Greco, Maggie McEntee and Sam Tuzzeo. The students discussed their ideas with Don Horton last Friday. Since they are all athletes, this project is of interest to them. They would like to research the potential partnership ideas. They would like to thoroughly look into a partnership with SUNY Fredonia. They would like to specifically see if there would be enough interest from SUNY Fredonia students and staff to support our project. They would like to conduct interviews with coaches, athletes and possibly the college president. They would like to survey the athletes and others. They are working on a preliminary survey and will e-mail it to the Board members prior to sending it out. The students will do a presentation at the December 10, 2008, meeting. The students mentioned a sports facility in Gates, NY (near Rochester), that has been highly successful. The name of the facility is Total Sports Experience (TSE).

Jim Enser asked if they could find out how much the Cortland sports facility is used by the Cortland College students. Don mentioned that if they cannot get the information from the college, they can probably get it from the facility.

**ANALYSIS OF FUNDRAISING REPORT AND DECISIONS ABOUT NEXT STEPS:** Each of the Board members present gave their open and honest opinion of the results of the fundraising report and what our next step should be. It was unanimously agreed by all members that we should go forward with our project. As Jim Enser has stated from the beginning: "We need to stay the course." The Board members did state that we need to carefully look at our partnership options.

Don Horton stated that he had received words of encouragement from John Earshen. Don also read an e-mail from Daryl Brautigam which stated that we should not give up now.

Jim Enser suggested that we write a press release with what we are doing, and he gave some suggestions as to what it should include. Discussion followed.

Jim Enser made a motion that we remain active and work diligently to achieve our goals, seconded by Lisa Speziale, carried.

Ned Divine made a resolution that "We, the Board of Chautauqua Multi-Use Organizing Committee, Inc., hereby resolve to adopt this report, its findings and recommendations for subsequent consideration." Seconded by Bob Davis, carried.

Various partnership ideas were mentioned. Discussion followed.

Jim Enser stated that we need to look at this objectively not subjectively.

John Olsavsky suggested we send out letters of invitation to see how interested potential partners might be. This way we can find out the level of interest they have.

Jim Enser said the letter should include supporting statements from people who are pushing us in this direction. This would include statements from John Earshen, Mark Maytum and others who are telling us what they want us to do.

Don Horton mentioned that Mark Maytum has expressed interest in the partnership, and has discussed this with the president of Jamestown Community College; therefore, we should not send a letter of invite to him.

Don spoke with JoAnn Niebel who is on the Fredonia State Council. She volunteered her services to talk with Dr. Hefner about the project; therefore, we should not send a letter of invite to him. She declined becoming an Advisory Board member. We would give the documents to JoAnn to discuss with Dr. Hefner and schedule an initial meeting to talk with him.

Don said he knows that we want to put together a Partnership Exploration Committee, but we need to set a timeline of six months. In six months time, we need "to fish or cut bait." The two above mentioned potential partners should not get letters because of personal contacts with them.

Ned Divine asked if we are ready to have that meeting. John Olsavsky said we need to establish a Partnership Exploration Committee. He said the committee would decide what the structure of that meeting would look like, develop the main talking points, and make sure everybody is on the same page. We need certain people on that committee. Mark Maytum and JoAnn Niebel should be on that committee.

John Olsavsky made a motion that we establish a four-to-five person Partnership Exploration Committee (PEC) to take charge of Phase One - Track One: Talks with Potential Partners, seconded by Ned Divine, carried.

The following people were named to the Partnership Exploration Committee:

Mark Maytum - Advisory Board Member  
JoAnn Niebel - Community Member  
Don Horton - President  
Jim Enser - General Board Member  
John Olsavsky - Treasurer  
Ned Divine - Vice President  
Ellen Luczkowiak - Advisory Board Member

The PEC will explore this and report back at the November meeting.

**BUSINESS PLAN CHANGES:** Don Horton gave the Business Plan to Irene Dobies from the Small Business Development Corporation. She reviewed the Plan. John Olsavsky, Ned Divine, and Ellen Luczkowiak reviewed her comments, but did not have time to have a meeting concerning her comments. John plans to reactivate and review the Finance Committee. Irene made a comment that it is important to write a narrative of how the numbers were gotten and that specific user groups should be included in the Business Plan. Don was impressed that it was just a short list of recommendations. The Finance Committee was commended.

**DETAILS OF NEW SITE POSSIBILITY:** Don received a call from Hank Bokman who has property at 377 E. Main Street, Fredonia, for sale. It consists of a house, horse barn and ten acres of land. The property abuts Fredonia High School. There is a shallow lake that could be used as an ice rink. There are also ten acres of grapes owned by Rotunda's relatives that is right next to it. The current asking price is \$485,000. Hank Bokman would like the house and horse barn to stay. This might be a possible place for an equestrian center.

Ellen Luczkowiak suggested that we add Aspire to the potential partnerships. The State pays them money to take disabled kids to various places for physical fitness. There are many grants available for this type of facility.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Don passed around an advertisement that we paid for which was in the Observer recently for the Chamber of Commerce dinner. We received very good coverage from the Observer and the media for the public meeting.

Ned made a comment that he is really proud of how the Board continues to work together and support each other.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Jim asked if there has been any further correspondence with John Earshen about the study. Don will be making a phone call to John Earshen tomorrow concerning the results of tonight's Board meeting. Don is in communication with him periodically.

John Olsavsky stated that most organizations that do a capital campaign are successful. John made a motion that we institute an annual funding campaign, seconded by Evie Sievert, carried. The consensus among the Board members was that we should wait. We really do not need further money at

this time. Jim Enser made a motion that we table this idea until later, seconded by Evie Sievert, carried.

**MEMBERSHIP ISSUES:** Valerie Pawlak asked to be considered as a Special Events members with no voting rights. She spoke about her background and desire to be of help to the organization.

Jessica Colvenback, Al Gens, Dick Pachol and Mike Witcher have resigned from the Board for various reasons.

Justin Jakubowicz has asked to be moved to the Advisory Board due to time constraints.

The Board suggested that we leave Stephanie Polvino on the Board as a Special Events member.

Greg Lorenzo was added as an Advisory Board member.

Don will be on WDOE Viewpoint on Wednesday, October 15 from 9 to 9:30 a.m.

Motion was made by John to adjourn at 9 p.m., seconded by Lisa Speziale, carried.

The next monthly meeting will be on Wednesday, November 12, 2008, at 7 p.m. at JCC.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen L. Davis  
CMUSF Secretary

Check us out on the Web at [www.cmusf.com](http://www.cmusf.com).