



MICHIGAN
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
P.O. Box 30014
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909-7514

Minutes of the House Standing Committee
on
Tourism and Outdoor Recreation

Thursday, October 1, 2015

4:30 p.m.

Amway Grand Plaza Hotel
Heritage Hill Room
187 Monroe Ave. NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

The House Standing Committee on Tourism and Outdoor Recreation was called to order by Representative Bruce Rendon, Chair.

The Clerk called the roll; members present were **Representatives Rendon, Goike, Forlini, Cole, and Brinks. (5/8)**

Members absent and excused were **Representatives Pettalia, Smiley, and Gay-Dagnogo. (3/8)**

The Clerk announced that a quorum was present.

The Chair invited Representative Roger Victory from the Eighty-eighth House District to join and sit with the committee.

The Chair laid before the committee various presentations on tourism in the City of Grand Rapids.

Christian Gaines, Executive Director of ArtPrize, who introduced Ben Poosawtsee, the Development Manager for ArtPrize, testified and answered questions.

Sarah Triplett, Director of Public Policy for Creative Many Michigan, testified. A copy of her handout is attached.

Haris Aibasic, Ph.D., Legislative Affairs Director for the City of Grand Rapids; Jay Steffen, Assistant Planning Director for the City of Grand Rapids; and Eric DeLong, Managing Director in the Design and Development Services Division for the City of Grand Rapids, testified and responded to questions. Copies of their handouts are attached.

The Chair laid before the committee the minutes of September 9, 2015 as printed.

Representative Goike moved to adopt the minutes of September 9, 2015 as printed. There being no objection the motion prevailed by unanimous consent of the members present; the minutes were adopted as printed.

The Chair continued presentations on tourism.

Allie Bush, Director of Government Affairs for the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce, testified and answered questions.

Jack Peaphon, Marketing Coordinator for CityFlatsHotel, testified and took questions.

Janet Korn, Senior Vice-President for Experience Grand Rapids, testified and answered questions.

Michael LaFaive, Director of the Morey Fiscal Policy Initiative for the Mackinac Center for Public Policy, testified.

Matt Chapman with Grand Rapids WhiteWater Project was available for questions, but did not speak.

Representative Brinks moved to excuse Representatives Pettalia, Smiley and Gay-Dagnogo from today's committee meeting. There being no objection the motion prevailed by unanimous consent of the members present; the members were excused.

There being no other business before the committee; **Representative Forlini moved to adjourn the meeting.**

The motion prevailed, the time being 5: 45 p.m.

The Chair declared the Committee adjourned.

Bruce Rendon, Chair
House Standing Committee on Tourism and Outdoor Recreation

Joy Brewer, Committee Clerk

Date approved by the committee