

GRAND HAVEN COMMUNITY CENTER

A/K/A Central Park Place Minutes

February 23, 2026

Present: James Porenta, Dawn Wolfe, Doug VanOss, Meghan Allison

Absent: Martha Alexander

Others Present: Mayor Bob Monetza, Ashley Latsch – City Manager, Rachel Doty – Grand Haven Children’s Museum

1. **Meeting called to order:** Chair, Jim Porenta, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
2. **Children’s Museum Presentation:** Rachel Doty from the Grand Haven Children’s Museum presented plans to develop a children’s museum in Grand Haven, using space within and around Central Park Place. The proposed museum would include a portion of the ground-floor space and most of the lower-level space. Additional details about the proposal were shared with the Board. After the presentation and discussion, Board members remained concerned about ground-floor space use, as it could affect the ballroom’s use and attractiveness for weddings and corporate events. Concerns were also raised about the use of the Almond room’s storage and gallery space, given the group's efforts to increase art partnerships. Discussion also covered alternative layouts and the Museum’s proforma.

Staff will continue to work with the Children’s Museum on a potential arrangement, update the Board as discussions progress, and prepare a lease agreement that will be presented to City Council at an unknown future date.

3. **Committee Reports**

MARKETING – No update.

ARTS – No update.

ORGANIZATIONS – No update.

COMMUNITY- No update.

FINANCE- VanOss provided a monthly financial report for January 2026.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: March 23, 2026