

TO: TROY CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: MAUREEN McGINNIS, Mayor Pro Tem

DATE: OCTOBER 17, 2012

RE: MICHIGAN MUNICIPAL LEAGUE ANNUAL MEETING

As a follow up to my attendance at the 2012 Michigan Municipal League Annual Meeting on Mackinac Island from October 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 5<sup>th</sup>, I wanted to provide the following highlights to the entire council to share some of the information and resources I received as an attendee at the meeting. As most of you are already aware, the Michigan Municipal League website is a wealth of information and for those that are interested, there is an in-depth recap of the annual meeting available now on the site ([www.mml.org](http://www.mml.org)). In addition, I would be more than happy to provide additional information to any council member or city staff member that is looking for more details about the meeting activities and discussions.

THE HIGHLIGHTS:

- 1.) Linden Mayor David Lossing was unanimously selected as the 2012-13 President of the Michigan Municipal League Board of Trustees. Utica Mayor Jacqueline Noonan was selected as 2012-13 board Vice President.
- 2.) The majority of programming was scheduled for Thursday, October 4<sup>th</sup> and began with a general session in the Theatre room at 8:00 a.m. The general session highlighted four topics that would be further explored in break-out sessions later in the morning. Topics included "Leading Local, Thinking Global", "Community Design and Sustainability", "Creative State MI: The Arts and Creativity as a Strategy for Michigan Communities", and "Civic Engagement".
- 3.) The "Civic Engagement" topic piqued my interest most and I attended this breakout session from 10:45 a.m. until noon. The two speakers were fantastic and very inspiring as they shared their individual experiences about attracting and retaining young people and creating positive buzz in their communities (Chattanooga, Detroit, Muskegon). The key-note speaker, Josh McManus, of Little Things Labs, provided a case study of several projects he has been involved in relative to attracting and retaining talent and additional information can be found in his PowerPoint presentation:  
[http://www.mml.org/events/annual\\_convention/cv12/ppts/mcmanus.pdf](http://www.mml.org/events/annual_convention/cv12/ppts/mcmanus.pdf)
- 4.) As a member of the Elected Officials Academy Board, I participated in one of our quarterly board meetings beginning at 12:15 p.m. on October 4<sup>th</sup>. The Elected Officials Academy is primarily responsible for enhancing the education and training of local elected officials and carrying out this specific goal of the MML by providing a wide range

of education opportunities to MML member communities. The Academy's Mission Statement clearly identifies the purpose of the Academy and the Board that oversees the program:

The League's Elected Officials Academy is a voluntary continuing Education program established to encourage and recognize the efforts of local elected officials to become effective leaders.

During our board meeting, we addressed the criteria for reaching a Level 4 qualification, receiving credit for participating in a Town/Gown certification program, current training programs available and future training topics that would be beneficial to our membership.

5.) Several breakout sessions were available for attendees in the afternoon, including "State and Federal Affairs Update", "New Drug Update and How Local Officials Can Help", "Creative MI", and the "MI-Place Partnership Initiative". After a networking break, the entire conference reconvened together to listen to lively debates on many of the upcoming ballot issues.

6.) Thursday night, everyone gathered for the Annual Awards Banquet and speeches from the incoming and outgoing League Presidents. Elected Officials Academy awards were handed out to individuals achieving successful completion of Levels One through Three and the first two Level Four awards were given. This category was recently established for those that have exceeded all of the requirements previously set for Level Three with many additional requirements needed to achieve this new "Ambassador" status.

7.) Friday morning, it was announced that the City of Grandville is the 2012 Community Excellence Award Winner. Grandville was selected in a vote by municipal leaders from throughout the state during the convention on Mackinac Island. You can watch videos for each region's finalist here: <http://vimeo.com/channels/2012cea>

8.) The Legislative Governance meeting was also held Friday morning and additional post-conference sessions were available for those who signed up to stay on Friday afternoon.

The conference truly had something for everyone and it provided many great opportunities to learn, network and spread good news about things that are happening in the City of Troy. I am thankful for the opportunity to attend on behalf of the City! Please feel free to contact me if anyone has additional questions.