

Easter Group – *Rebirth of Hope*

EIN: 80-0647738

MINUTES

Thursday, October 25, 2012, 12:15pm – 1:15pm

Lutheran Church

1. CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL

Present: Dorrie Farrell, Lorraine Lil, Reverend Sandra Rudd, Jack Ozment, Evadne Wright, Julia Smith, Marie Murray, Mim McConnell, Kathryn Snelling, and Mary Wegner

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 10/5/12 Minutes

Julia pointed out that some of the previous minutes indicate that the date for the Homeless Summit/Mini PHC event will be November 12th instead of November 19th. The actual date of the 19th was realized after the October 5th meeting, so at the time of the previous meetings the 12th would have been the correct date for the minutes; however, from this point forward the minutes will reflect the actual date of the Homeless Summit/Mini PHC event to be Monday, November 19th.

Jack moved and Julia seconded to approve the minutes with the clarification noted about the change in dates from November 12th to November 19th. Motion passed.

4. GUESTS & PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR – Kathy O’Gara

Blessings in a Backpack Update: Kathy reported that she has raised the goal of \$4,000 for this year’s Blessings in a Backpack program, and she again thanked the Easter Group for our donation. Grocery costs have gone up slightly, and thus she will need to raise additional funds in order to meet the goal of providing weekend food to 50 students at Keet Gooshi Heen Elementary School who are classified as low income. Additionally, she has a need to secure other items, such as transport tubs and fresh fruit, which are not available from the donations made directly to the Blessings in a Backpack program. Consequently, Kathy asked the Easter Group to receive grant funds that she secures and reports on, so there can be additional support to the program in Sitka.

Julia moved and Dorrie seconded that the Easter Group will work with Kathy to secure grants that support the Blessings in a Backpack program. Motion unanimously passed.

5. PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Homeless Shelter/ESG Partnership: Mim reported that she filed a timely Letter of Intent for the SFY2014 Basic Homeless Assistance Program (BHAP)/Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding opportunity with an estimated grant amount to be \$225,000. The Easter Group’s Letter of Intent was for the ESG part of the program, and Evadne reported that the Salvation Army filed a timely Letter of Intent for the BHAP part of the program. The outstanding issue is which agency will be part of this process to provide services. In addition to Sitka Counseling and the Salvation Army, Dorrie suggested we look into SEARHC as a possibility. Mim encouraged each of us to do some outreach to find partners to work with on this project.

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501(c)(3) Status: We have received an acceptance letter from the IRS stating that the Easter Group is officially a non-profit organization, which allows us to apply for grants to support our mission!

6. VICE-PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Homeless Summit/Mini PHC Event: Dorrie provided an update regarding her work to date on this event. We reviewed the panels and panelists, and examined the layout for both the Homeless Summit and the Mini PHC event.

Unitarian Presentation: Dorrie reported that she responded to a request to present at the Unitarian Fellowship. They reported that they would like to be part of the on-going Easter Group communication, and reported that they were very interested in our projects and mission.

News Article about Juneau Event: Dorrie brought in a newspaper article about some of the work they are doing in Juneau in coordination with a workforce development organization.

7. **TREASURER’S REPORT** – Jack reported that we have \$8,722.92 in our account.

8. PROJECT REPORTS

- a. **Homeless Summit/Fall Mini PHC Event:** In addition to the information previously shared by Dorrie, Mary shared a draft of what the voucher will look like, and we discussed the process for documenting the vouchers at the Salvation Army and the White Elephant. Dorrie asked that as many people as possible assist with the shift from the Homeless Summit set-up to the Mini PHC event set-up, which will occur between 12:30-1:30 pm. Additionally, Dorrie encouraged people to bring homemade treats or fruit to share to place on the table with the coffee.
- b. **Jericho Road Update:** Jack reported that the judge hearing the case from a previous Jericho Road tenant gave the former tenants the right to stay in the house for 30 days; however, it is unknown if any of the former tenants moved back in, as the house appears uninhabited.
- c. **Sitka Hostel as a Homeless Shelter:** Evadne reported that the Sitka Hostel is again an option for a person without a home as long as s/he can pay the daily fee out of his/her own funds, and does not need assistance in order to do so. Additionally, the people staying there can petition the Sitka Hostel Board for an extended stay through February.

9. NEW PROJECTS and TASKS

- a. **ESG Homeless Facility Project** – See PRESIDENT’S REPORT above
- b. **Homeless Persons Memorial Day, December 21st:** Julia offered to take the lead on this event, and Mim will work with the City to secure a Resolution. We discussed the need to bring flashlights instead of using candles for our candlelight ceremony.

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- c. **January PHC Event Planning:** The January PHC event will be held on January 29th, and we are looking for someone or a team of people to lead this effort. We will wait until our November 19th Mini PHC event is over before we begin to plan for this event.

Julia shared that she was recently in Nome, and she brought back a flyer (attached) to show what the Nome community is doing for their PHC event in case it can help to inspire us to evolve our PHC event. Julia also shared that she was in Kenai recently and helped the Love.inc organization paint doors as part of their Ubuntu Project. (Note: Ubuntu is an ancient African word that means “humanity to others”.)

10. ADDITIONAL EASTER GROUP BUSINESS and COMMENTS/REPORTS - None

11. SET NEXT MEETING DATE(S) AND AGENDA ITEMS

- a. The Homeless Summit/Mini PHC Leaders will meet on Monday, 11/12 @ 4 pm @ Highliner
- b. The next Easter Group meeting will be on Monday, 11/26 from 12:15-1:15 pm @ United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall (303 Kimsham St.)

12. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 pm

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The Nome Resources Fair

“Sharing what Nome has to offer!”



What: Find out what services are available to you right here in Nome. Service providers from around Nome are coming together *for one day and in one location* to serve you!
When: Wednesday, October 10th from 10:00am to 6:00pm
Where: The Mini Convention Center



At the Nome Resource Fair you can...

Door Prizes!

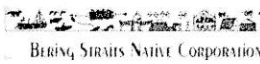
- Draft your Will for free!
- Sign up for a library card!
 - Photo ID and proof of residency required. Examples include:
 - Driver's License and Utility Bill
 - State ID and Voter ID Card
- Ask questions about property taxes, city forms, early voting, etc...
- Get free legal advice in civil cases for those who qualify.*
 Examples of legal issues include, but are not limited to...
 - Landlord/tenant questions
 - Social security denial questions
 - Child support questions
 - Divorce cases that include child custody and domestic violence issues...
- Apply for housing and weatherization assistance!*
- Get a free seasonal flu shot!
- Get information on upcoming college courses & FAFSA!
- Apply for Local Scholarships!
- Apply for and NSHC patient benefit services!*
- Sign up for Parenting Classes!
- Get a free State ID (while supplies last 1:30 -4:30pm)!*
- Sign up for the Alaska Labor Exchange System (ALEXsys)!
- Make appointments or apply for other assistance programs in Nome!*

More services to come...

*Please Remember - When applying for services, helpful documents to bring with you include, but are not limited to:

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Utility Bill | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Immunization Record | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Driver's License or State ID |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fuel Bill | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social Security Card | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tribal Enrollment Verification |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BIA Card | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tax Return | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Voter ID Card |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Passport | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transcripts | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Day Care Receipt |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pay Stub | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Birth Certificate | |

DOOR PRIZES INCLUDE:
 1 Round Trip Bering Air Ticket
 1 Round Trip Era Ticket
 Gift baskets
 Misc. Cups/water bottles
 T-shirts
 More to come!



To volunteer at this event, please contact Andrea Konik at 443-5259 or akonik@nmecc.org.