

rebirth of hope
Easter Group

MINUTES
Monday, July 8, 2013

1. CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL

Present: Mim McConnell, Dorrie Farrell, Jack and Judy Ozment, Dave Nuetzel, Kathy O’Gara, Ted Laufenberg, and Mary Wegner

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Judy moved and Dave seconded to approve the minutes from the June 10, 2013 meeting as stated. Motion passed.

3. GUESTS & PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR - None

4. PRESIDENT’S REPORT - Mim reported that she, Dorrie, and Mary participated in a teleconference with Kris Duncan from AHFC to debrief our Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) application. The discussion about the conversation will occur later in the meeting.

5. VICE-PRESIDENT’S REPORT – Dorrie reported that all of her information will be shared later in the meeting under Project Reports.

6. TREASURER’S REPORT: Jack reported that we have \$12,545.63 in our account. Jack also talked about the content for the Form 990N, and Mim will follow-up to get the form submitted.

7. PROJECT REPORTS:

- a. **Project Homeless Connect (PHC):** Planning for this will begin in September.
- b. **Homeless Summit:** Jack secured HCH on Monday, October 7th for our Homeless Summit. We have the building from 8 am to 4 pm. Planning for this event will begin mid-August.
- c. **Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG):** Mim and Dorrie read over their notes from the conversation with Kris Duncan. First and foremost, we applied for the wrong pot of funds – we need to do the Homeless Assistance Program (HAP) part of the funds. As an organization, we need to think about a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with possibly SAIL, STA, and SA. Gastineau Human Services in Juneau successfully integrates SA and other local agencies in their HAP application, and Mary will contact them to see what we can learn from their successes. Overall, the narrative was strong but we had a number of issues with our budget.

Some points to include in our Operational Plan:

- We need to create our policies and procedures
- We need to formally adopt the Alaska Homeless Plan and begin to implement it
- Kris gave us some possible foundations to explore to enhance our leveraging of other funds
- Coordinate with other agencies

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We will hold a separate meeting with key players from our SHIFT ESG grant proposal, and go over in more detail how we want to move forward. Mim will send out a Doodle pool for a September meeting date.

- d. **Blessings in a Backpack:** Kathy O’Gara shared a fiscal report from FY13. A total of \$7,958.57 was donated from the public for food, and \$2,000 from the White Elephant for supplies to support the program and fresh fruit. The White Elephant grant runs March to March, so funds remain for fresh fruit in the coming year. Kathy estimates that she will need to raise about \$1,500 for next year’s program. The parent organization is upping the amount per student from \$90 (Sitka approved allocation amount) to \$100 per child for the year. Kathy has found that buying 2-3 times per year from Costco works best. We also talked about the impact of the program on student attendance and achievement. The program will expand to Baranof next year and will stay at 50 students. Kathy is working with the counselors at the two elementary schools to identify the students. Mary will check into the availability of using the District Office Board Room for storage and packing. Thanks were expressed to Kathy for her vision and work!
- e. **Home Sharing Ad Hoc Committee:** Not discussed at this meeting
- f. **Clearinghouse Chart:** We clarified that the intent was to have a one-page form to better organize the information on the website. Dorrie and Mary will work on this project.
- g. **School Supply Drive:** Dorrie reported that she and Evade talked with Jeanine Brooks, Baranof and Keet Gooshi Heen Counselor, about what is needed for students, and Dorrie shared a list of actual items needed. The numbers for Sitka elementary schools would be about 25 students. The backpacks will cost \$100 plus the supplies, which might be able to be purchased from Costco.
- h. **Melville Charitable Trust:** Dorrie reported that she contacted the Melville organization and found out that we are not eligible because we do not live in the correct state. Dorrie will follow up on some of the other foundation avenues shared by Kris Duncan during our ESG debrief.

8. NEW PROJECTS and TASKS

- a. **Check Writing Policy/Bylaw:** Ted gave us an update on the Jericho Road account. The funds are used to support the homeless in general, as well as support for the Jericho Road house if that is needed. On average the St. Peter’s congregation donates about \$100-\$150 per month, which tends to work out fairly well most of the time. Right now the account has about \$350.

We discussed the recommendation from our meeting last month about having the recipient sign a confidentiality agreement so we can better coordinate services. Ted estimated that only about 60% of the people whom he interacts with would even look at a form like that, and even fewer would sign it, as many people are reluctant to even give Ted his/her name. The Hostel is working out well these days, as long as there is no indication of inebriation.

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If the Easter Group does want to give money on a more regular basis, then a report back to the Easter Group about the numbers served would make sense, and this would also help us document need for grants.

- b. **Update Goals:** Mim shared a draft of what could be updated on our Goals and Operational Plan document. Mary will update the document.

9. ADDITIONAL EASTER GROUP BUSINESS and COMMENTS/REPORTS - Judy invited the Easter Group to meet with the Presiding Bishop for the Episcopal Church of the USA who is coming to town on July 23rd. Contact Judy if anyone is available and interested.

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

- a. Homeless Summit: Monday, October 7, 2013 – building is reserved from 8 am – 4 pm
- b. Mim will send out a Doodle poll for our August meeting date

11. ADJOURNMENT – We adjourned the meet at 2:00 pm.