

EASTER GROUP MEETING MINUTES
Friday, October 30, 2015

1. **ROLL CALL, CALL TO ORDER** - Present: Julia Smith, Julie and Loyd Platson, Ted Laufenberg, Kathryn Snelling, Sandra Hammett, and Mary Wegner
2. **ADDITIONS TO AGENDA, APPROVAL OF AGENDA** - *Ted moved and Loyd seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed.*
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF October 2, 2015** - *Kathryn and Ted moved and Loyd seconded to approve the 10/2/15 minutes. Motion passed.*
4. **PUBLIC, GUEST INTRODUCTIONS** – Reverend Sandra Hammett is a new Easter Group member. She is the pastor at the United Methodist Church, and we introduced ourselves to her. Welcome Sandra!

5. REPORTS

A. PRESIDENT

Julia and Julie met with the Jesuit Volunteer Coordinator when she was in Sitka. We are not yet ready to host a Jesuit Volunteer; however, they were able to give her some referrals of other people to talk to who might be interested in having a Jesuit Volunteer.

Julia also shared a report on the Coalition on Housing and Homelessness conference she attended on our behalf in Anchorage. Some of the main highlights are as follows:

- a. The main keynote speaker was Lloyd Pendleton from a homeless task force in Utah. Julia has Lloyd's PowerPoint presentation and would be willing to share it with the Easter Group members if interested. Lloyd spoke about the value of having champions who understand our goal and push involvement to end homelessness. The action could be statewide or local. Lloyd also shared the financial benefit of serving the homeless.
- b. Other speakers at the 3-day conference included: Senator Lisa Murkowski, Governor Bill Walker, Anchorage Mayor Ethan Berkowitz, Bill Block from HUD, and Samuel Jones who uses Facebook to connect homeless Alaska Native individuals with contacts back home.
- c. Julia reported that she also got a lot out of the various conference sessions she attended.

B. VICE PRESIDENT – Julie reported that blankets and sleeping bags are starting to come, and to date they had collected about 15 of them. Sandra added that the United Methodist Church is also helping with the blanket and coat drive for the homeless.

C. SECRETARY – Mary reported that Mim McConnell has updated the Easter Group website, and invited members to report if anything needs changing. Mary will ask Mim if it is possible to add a link to donate on our website.

D. TREASURER – Ted reported that Dorrie continues to do a very thorough job of bookkeeping (see attached Banking Summary for 3rd Quarter). We currently have \$10,283.73 in our account. Since our last meeting we paid some funds to support Julia's participation in the Anchorage conference, and had some expenses supporting an individual who was homeless and in need of a place to stay and food for about a week; the individual was able to stay at the Hostel.

Ted reported on some research he has been doing into potential revenue streams:

- a. **United Way of SE:** Receiving funds from this organization will cost us \$250 a year and requires Articles of Incorporation, as well as detailed financial audits every 6-months. Members agreed with Ted's recommendation to not pursue this revenue stream.
- b. **Pick, Click, Give:** There is an annual fee of \$250 and they take 7% of every donation. Members agreed to not move forward with this at this time; however, we will add it to our agenda in January to re-visit. The application period opens in March.
- c. **United Way of Anchorage:** We have been receiving funds from this organization and it only requires that we send them quarterly financial statements. Being connected with this organization allows us to be listed in the 211 system, which is a requirement for HUD grants. Members agreed with Ted's recommendation to continue working with this organization.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. **Project Homeless Connect (PHC) Resource Event** – To be held on Wednesday, 11/10 from 12-1 pm at the Salvation Army. People helping with the event should plan to arrive about 11:30 am. Dave, Julie, Sandra, and Mary are planning to be at the event.

- a. Dave sent a message through Julia that Public Assistance will be there; however, medical assistance was not available.
- b. Loyd reported that, thanks to Dorrie's previous collection efforts, Mountain Miss had already ordered socks for us to give out in anticipation that we would need them for the January event. They may be here by the PHC Resource event, but most likely not. ***Mary moved and Julie seconded to allocate up to \$100 for the purchase of socks. Motion passed.***

Mountain Mist also donated 3 pair of brand new 2x and 3x water resistant pants. Loyd presented a statement of cost, and Ted will write a donation receipt. The pants will be given to the Salvation Army to be dispersed as needed.

- c. Mary shared through email a draft of the Salvation Army voucher, which will be for \$15 dollars, expire on 12/31/15, and will have 50 printed to give out.
- d. We discussed the fact that we did not have a publicity person for this event, and we will need to cultivate this person in the future.

B. January Project Homeless Connect Planning – We decided to dedicate our next meeting to this.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. **Thanksgiving and Christmas Community Dinners** – Julie shared information that the holiday dinner planning committee is looking for donations at a suggested rate of \$200. ***Kathryn moved and Julie seconded to donate \$200 for the community holiday dinners. Motion passed.***

8. SET DATE/AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

Friday, 12/11/15 @ noon @ St. Peter's See House – Agenda: January PHC event

9. **ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting was adjourned.