

rebirth of hope
Easter Group

MINUTES

Monday, June 10, 2013

1. CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL

Present: Mim McConnell, Dorrie Farrell, Ellen Daly, Dave Nuetzel, Jack and Judy Ozment, Evadne Wright, and Mary Wegner

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dorrie moved and Judy seconded to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion passed.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jack moved and Dave seconded to approve the 5-17-13 Minutes as presented. Motion passed.

4. GUESTS & PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR: N/A

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Mim shared a thank you note from Pacific High School for our donation to their breakfast program
- There is a letter from Ann Oliva, Director of the Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs, in the meeting packet. Mim encouraged us to read pages 3-4, as it has good information about applying for future ESG grants.
- Mim shared notes from the Strike Force Meeting in honor of Tammy Trevino's visit to Sitka. At the meeting she and Dorrie found out that the Community Facility (CF) program is something that could work for a homeless shelter. The CF program allows low interest loans with plenty of funding for rural locations.
- Mim established a StatCounter account for our website
- Our new email address is eastergroupsitka@gmail.com
- The national Blessings in a Backpack program sent a thank you for the donation to the local program, which was a pass-through grant from the White Elephant grant proposal

6. VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Dorrie gave an update on her work with Linda Strong, who attended our last meeting and asked for assistance.

7. TREASURER'S REPORT: We have \$12,465.63 in our checkbook at this point in time. Jack gave a donation to the Jericho Road fund, and we received a small donation for Blessings in a Backpack. Jack is still working on our Form 990N.

8. PROJECT REPORTS

- Project Homeless Connect (PHC):** No work at this time
- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG):** We did not get our ESG proposal funded, and we will have an audio conference on Wednesday, June 26th with Kris Duncan from AHFC to learn more about how to improve our proposal next time.

- o **Backpack Sleeping Bag:** Jack and Judy shared a flyer about a product that designed for the homeless population that provides a sleeping bag in a backpack that is waterproof and rated to 0 degrees. Dorrie thought this would be critical if we get a Homeless Shelter. We discussed ordering one to see it first hand and check on the waterproofness of the product. Jack and Dorrie will check with the Rotary to see if there is a discount.
- c. **Home Sharing Ad Hoc Committee Report:** Dave shared sample applications from other organizations, of which there are many. It would require some vetting of the applications. We discussed having this be part of the Homeless Summit, and also discussed some of the issues around liability.
- d. **Homeless Summit:** Jack will check to see what dates might be available in late October.
- e. **Clearinghouse Chart:** Dorrie shared a copy of the current draft that she and Dave have been working on. They established four categories - Top Tier: Emergency, Housing, Food, and Clothing. Second Tier: Behavioral and Mental Health, Medical, Youth Services, and Education. We went through the local organizations that would be included on the chart, and discussed how to work with the various non-profits to communicate this new format so information can be consistently shared to make use more functional.
- f. **School Supply Drive:** Evadne reported that she has a flyer from another program that has a \$7 backpack and generic starter kits for various age ranges as a cost of \$3-4 per.
- g. **Melville Charitable Trust:** No work at this time.

9. NEW PROJECTS and TASKS

- a. **Check Writing Policy:** We discussed what we want to do about funding needs that arise between meetings regarding immediate needs. Some of the suggestions were:
 - o Look at what the White Elephant established as parameters
 - o Have recipients sign a release of information, as one measure to insure that individuals are serious about needing resource and we can know that there is better coordination between services
 - o Clearly identify our source of funding and establish a policy
 - o Make sure that people have first gone to the Salvation Army
 - o Requiring an element of accountability

We decided to have a committee look at this issue and come up with some possible procedures and policies. Jack agreed to look into this issue further.
- b. **Review Goals:** At our next meeting we will update our goals

10. ADDITIONAL EASTER GROUP BUSINESS and COMMENTS/REPORTS - Salvation Army ran some current stats of their soup lunch program, and from April 2012-March 2013 they served 6,316.

11. SET NEXT MEETING DATE(S) AND AGENDA ITEMS: Monday, July 8 from 12-2 pm at the District Office Board Meeting Room:

- a. Blessings in a Backpack
- b. Update Goals

12. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned about 1:30 pm