

Community Unlimited Board Minutes – January 18, 2010

Present: Mandi MacDonald, Gene Mack, Bridget Putnam, Marv Carman, Julie Braman, Malinda Olmsted, Megan McKown, Emily Dibert, Faith Robertson, Julie Dibert, and Connie Kennedy (recorder)

Changes to agenda: added visioning and volunteer recruitment to Old Business

Consent reports : minutes and financial report accepted as presented.

Old Business:

1. Fundraising calendar – The Community Dinner on Saturday, January 30th is the first event. We should set tentative dates. What we are really trying to do is get people to understand why we need their support. Marv is regularly asked to explain why we still need funding. We set the next dinner date – March 27th at our building – probably same time as the Jan 30th meeting. Connie asked for input on her draft of a handout explaining why we need money beyond the 21st CCLC grant.
2. Julie reported that as of today we have raised \$3108 for the After School Pack program. Marv will help with this program.
3. Budget – Gene Mack moved and Julie Braman seconded a motion to accept the proposed 2009-10 budget. After some explanation of what expenses are paid out of the indirect 21st CCLC grant money, the motion passed.
4. Visioning - Connie presented a summary of the value statements that were brainstormed at the Annual Meeting. Refining this list will be an on-going process before having a final version. Please think about additions and ways to summarize this list and email or call Connie with suggestions.
5. Volunteers – we need to track our volunteer hours, which includes anyone who attends board meetings, helps with fundraisers/programs, or staff who go beyond their contracted hours. A form & process will be prepared.
6. Board member recruitment – we brainstormed a list of people that we are going to approach to join our board of directors. We need to increase the number we have, especially from Sherwood Township.

New Business:

1. Fundraiser dinner on January 30th – Scott Ladd, with help from Cindy Fox, will prepare food for 275 in the First Congregational United Church of Christ kitchen. Volunteers should park in the Harding's parking lot. Julie circulated a volunteer sign-up sheet. After school program participants are working on decorations, and Youth Board members will help. We will display our many newspaper articles, as well as have our video presentation running.

Reports – Officers:

President – Mandi reported that we now have insurance for outside groups to use the building. The Girl Scouts have requested meeting here. Richdonna Frede (Baylis) has requested that she be able to rent office space with some access to the big meeting room for parent meetings that she will hold. She works for the former Child Care Resources, a state funded agency. Julie is asking Richdonna some questions about frequency of the parent meetings and about the amount that the agency has for rental. There was general support for this proposal. The suggestion was that we will need to install locks on some doors. This group aligns with our mission.

Project Director – Julie announced that she has been working on the fundraiser and participating in YPQA training and evaluation. She has started discussions about summer programming.

Grants Manager – Connie submitted a grant proposal to Branch County United Way for \$12,000; UWGBC will be notifying us of a recovery of some or all of the \$950 grant reduction because of their successful 2009 campaign; we will submit a grant for a mantis gardening tool; the VITA site will open Feb 1st; Val, Julie and I are going to meet to discuss a federal physical education grant, and; Julie and Connie met with 2 representatives from Bronson's after school program regarding a possible collaboration for another 21st grant.

Reports – Standing Committees –

1. BLAST – all levels are going strong with cool activities for our kids. Julie is looking at data to see how we are doing increasing regular attendance – she has looked at the elementary level so far and it looks quite good.
2. Youth Board – going strong with Senior Bingo
3. Marketing – is shifting their focus to more community relations with visits to area governments and other groups.
4. BUCS – has new officers. Hopefully they will be sending a representative soon.
5. After-School Pack Program – our donations to date are \$3018, with one donation coming from Georgia. Many donors are indicating that they will contribute yearly to this program. We have a great response so far! Marv will help with this donor program.