

Sandy Mush Community Center

Minutes

June 1, 2018

Attending: Peggy Baldwin, Frank Barbara, Jean Barbara, Bob Campbell, Kathleen Campbell, Vanessa Campbell, Donna Diaz, Mark Diaz, Erin Duckett, Kurt Eckel, Dave Everett, John Gavin, Ruth Gavin, Chris Jayne, Bruce Larson, John Loyd, Betsy Weinschel, Barbara Wells, Keith Wells

The meeting was called to order by President Keith Wells at 7:07 pm.

MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

Minutes. The May Minutes were prepared by Secretary Bruce Larson and distributed by email. **The Minutes were approved as submitted.**

Financial Reports. The May Financial Reports were prepared by Treasurer Erin Duckett and distributed by email. She provided a summary of recent Food Pantry contributions and noted that the playground was paid for. **The Financial Reports were approved as submitted.**

NEW BUSINESS

Security Cameras. Keith reported. A couple of windows were shot out in the gym and this is a good time to look at security cameras for the building. The Building Team, working with Mark Diaz of the Internet Team, will look into the properties and prices of various security cameras and bring that information to the Board. Kurt Eckel will follow up with a local church to learn of their experience with such cameras. Peggy Baldwin noted that security cameras sound like a great fit for the Center's Buncombe County Wish List, currently being developed by Terri Wells.

Dave Everett asked about the efficacy of security cameras, i.e., does such information hold up in court? Chris Jayne noted that simply having a photo of someone can be an effective way of changing behavior. Dave indicated that he would like there to be an increased law enforcement presence in the area. Keith offered to discuss this with the Sheriff's office.

Youth Software. Peggy reported. She read a proposal to purchase educational software containing more than 300 games on a subscription basis at \$6.99/month or \$84/year. Such software would likely increase the use of the Internet at the Center. **It was moved, seconded, and approved to purchase a one-year subscription for educational software as proposed.**

July Fourth. John Loyd reported. This annual event is approaching. Given the increased attendance at recent event, plans are being made for 175, up from 125. This will increase the cost of the event some, although as there will be no music this year—in the past people have been more interested in visiting than listening to music—and this will help to temper the cost increase. Peggy asked if there is money available for the event and Erin noted that \$375 was available from relevant funds.

Arrangements for the event were related. Help will be needed setting up, taking down, cooking, and as runners during the event. Dave asked about fireworks, which led to discussion about fireworks in the area.

Development Team Recommendations. Vanessa Campbell reported. The inaugural meeting of the Team took place a few weeks ago and came up with Recommendations previously distributed. Vanessa went through the recommendations.

- **Supporting Families.** A goal of increasing contributions from \$3,000 in 2018 to \$6,000 in 2019 was determined. Toward that end, it is recommended: to provide tables with information about the program at upcoming events; move the Supporting Families contribution requests from end-of-year to January through March; and asking BOD members to play a role in approaching families to participate in the program.
- **Product Sales and Credit Card.** The ability to accept credit card purchases would increase sales at relatively low cost. Two providers have been identified, PayPal and Square, with the Team leaning toward Square at the present time. Both providers charge a percentage of sales and a transaction charge, with no fixed monthly fee.
- **December Dance.** The basic question is, “Who wants to do it?” Some of the elements of the Dance are: the meal (John and Peggy willing to lead), raffle (Peggy willing to lead), Band and Sound (John willing to lead), tickets, business sponsorships, and dance teams. No doubt there are other elements of the event to be described and led. Dave suggested that the event be fully defined and then ask for volunteers to lead various aspect of it. Chris indicated the need to put together a team to put on the event; he would be glad to be on that team. The Development Team will send the Board via email a more detailed breakdown of the leadership jobs for the benefit to organize the team at the July Board meeting.

One way of identifying volunteers is to send an email. Another is to call for volunteers at the July fourth event. Betsy suggested that Facebook and the SMCC website be used to ask for volunteers.

ORAL REPORTS AND STATUS UPDATES

Building. Frank Barbara reported. He made four quick points:

- The physical mailbox at the Center has been purchased and installed.

- Area electricians are very busy, and it has been difficult to get them to come to the Center to take a look at its needs and give recommendations.
- The community member who was interested in investigating a business use of third-floor space at the Center was expecting it to be available relatively soon and is no longer considering using it. In discussion, it was commented that this reduces the urgency for determining what uses are permitted by the building lease of the Center.
- Please let him know if there is anything that needs to be done.

Food Pantry. Kathleen Campbell reported. The May Food Pantry served 52 households and 148 people overall. In relation to this, it was noted that Manna has double freezer available for the Center. This would be placed in the ground floor kitchen area, thus allowing the chest freezer to go out of service and the upright freezer to be relocated to the gym floor kitchen. Some electrical work may be needed for the double freezer and Frank will look into what needs to be done and get a cost estimate.

Earlier in the meeting, Kathleen distributed a handout on the July 4th Food Drive for the SMCC Food Pantry. More information and updates can be found at www.sandymushcommunitycenter.org or by contacting sandymushfoodpantry@gmail.com.

Rental Reorganization. Peggy reported. Rental activity has increased substantially in recent years and Barbara Wells will now work with her to manage rentals. The website will list both of their names and numbers for rental contact. Peggy will keep the online Google Calendar and Barbara a paper calendar with updates they provide to one another. Barbara will focus on the community family rentals for birthdays, reunions, showers, etc. Peggy will stay as the main contact for Red Oak and share the other rental calls with Barbara. Peggy and Barbara plan to work together and with other community volunteers to arrange opening and closing the Center for rentals.

Spring Fling. Ruth Gavin reported. Participants in the Fling had a good time and the event went very well. Although there was an effort to bring vendors to the Fling, none of them participated.

WRITTEN REPORTS AND STATUS UPDATES

Six reports were previously submitted:

- Development Team Recommendations – Vanessa
- Playground – Terri
- Spring Fling – Terri
- Youth Team – Peggy
- Board of Directors Retreat – Bruce
- Internet – Mark

Peggy asked about the status of the poll on the BOD meeting date. Bruce said that this is a topic that will be placed on the Agenda for the upcoming June 11th Board of Directors Retreat. The poll showed BOD members were most able to attend on two days of the week—Monday and Friday—that there was only one day—Friday—at which the President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary could all attend.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Parking. Kurt noted that the large attendance at the Spring Fling created parking problems, as vehicles often took up more space than needed. Would it be possible to create lined parking spaces for large events? It was noted that most of the parking area belonged to the church and that it would need to be involved in any decision regarding lines. In relation to the parking issue, Chris said that the grassy area between the building and the playground has been used for parking in the past, and that he would look into it as a place to park.

Library Open Signs. John noted that Betsy has purchase some Library Open signs for the Center. Betsy indicated that this may increase Library use. Jean Barbara commented that another way of calling attention to building activities would be to use something like a “sandwich board.”

Internet Options. Mark noted that Skyrunner Internet is going to establish a tower on Willow Creek which will increase the availability and quality of Internet service in the area. Although this likely will not affect what the Center uses for its Internet service, this will expand opportunities in the local community.

Possible 5K. Erin relayed a text she received during the meeting about the possibility of developing a 5K Fun Walk and Run for Sandy Mush. This possibility is in a very early stage.

Food Pantry. Jean noted that Food Pantry deliveries of second food boxes will begin in June. In addition, the Food Pantry in August will take place on the 3rd Friday of the month [August 17th] rather than the first Friday due to family obligations.

The meeting was adjourned by Keith at 8:30 pm.