

Sandy Mush Community Center

Minutes

April 6, 2018

Attending: Peggy Baldwin, Frank Barbara, Bob Campbell, Kathleen Campbell, Vanessa Campbell, Mark Diaz, Erin Duckett, Kurt Eckel, Dave Everett, John Gavin, Ruth Gavin, Christopher Jayne, Bruce Larson, John Loyd, Glenn Ratcliff, Barbara Wells, Keith Wells, Terri Wells

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

MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

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

Financial Reports. The March Financial Reports were prepared by Treasurer Erin Duckett and distributed by email. Erin noted that for March Total Income was \$1,746 and Total Expenses were \$49,720; Net Income was (\$47,974), that is, a deficit of \$47,974. **The Financial Reports were approved as submitted.**

NEW BUSINESS

Director Election. Having been nominated for a position on the SMCC Board of Directors in March, Ruth Gavin was elected to the Board of Directors.

Programming Proposal. Peggy Baldwin reported and Kathleen Campbell elaborated. Kathleen proposed, with Bob Campbell, that

the gym be available for adult pickle ball during the hours that the Community Center is open for the internet. The pickle ball players would be responsible for setting up and taking down the equipment. The exceptions would be during Monday's play group and any other time that the space is needed for rentals or other activities. The open internet times are Monday afternoon, Tues from 10 to 6 and Wednesday evenings.

The proposal was approved.

ORAL REPORTS AND STATUS UPDATES

Building. Frank Barbara reported. Four topics were discussed:

- Propane heater service. Service once a year is included as part of our contract.

- Carbon monoxide detectors. Battery-operated detectors are appropriate for the lower level of the building and plug-in detectors will be used on the main level.
- Mini-split WiFi controls. Are in use an operating well.
- Cleaning contractor. Four candidates were identified, two of whom provided quotes. After discussion, it was determined that the two parties providing quotes be interviewed and familiarized with the building and the job requirements. The hiring decision would then be made by the Board by email vote.

Food Pantry. Kathleen reported. During March the Pantry served 46 households encompassing 139 people. 95 volunteer hours supported this work. March food expenses for Manna were \$116.33.

Playground. Terri Wells reported for the Recreation Team. Five points were noted:

- The building permit has been obtained and Ron Dyuck is serving as the contractor of record.
- Liability and property damage insurance for the playground have been secured, as of April 11, at approximately \$200 for each.
- Chris Jaynes has volunteered to lead the site preparation for playground drainage next week.
- Playground equipment is scheduled to ship the week of April 11 and will be received by installer Roger Davis of Playground Services, who will inspect and inventory the equipment, then load and transport it in box containers to be kept secure on site. Installation is planned to begin around April 18th.

Internet Project/High School Equivalency. Mark Diaz and Terri reported. Monthly billing, which is still being worked on, is \$711 (\$86 for WiFi and \$625 for Managed Internet Service). We currently have a credit of more than \$800 with AT&T. On April 24th Terri will be making a presentation to the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners for grant funding. The Commissioners would like to hear from more Internet users at their meetings, especially as they have chosen to provide Internet funding on a trial basis. Attendance at one of their Tuesday meetings is encouraged.

Mark noted that there have been no recent Internet outages and that on the busiest day we have used only 30% of our capacity. That day was a Food Pantry day.

Regarding the High School Equivalency group, Terri said that 8 students are participating, and that work is underway to organize a study group on Thursdays.

Spring Fling: “Growing Our Future.” Terri reported. The Fling is now scheduled for May 19th. A flyer has been created and LuEllen Epstein is posting them. 4-H and Mountain Lady Farm Project are set for their respective activities. Community craft demonstrations will be provided by Kevin Duckett and Grey Wells, and others are being pursued. Community organizations are signing up for information tables, e.g., Buncombe County Farm Bureau, the Leicester Community Center, and the SMCC Food

Pantry. Please share your suggestions about other organizations. It is hoped that the grand opening for the playground will be announced on this day.

Dave Everett noted that the Spring Fling is a great opportunity to sell hats! Out of an original 50 hats, only 34 remain.

Volunteer Event. John Loyd reported. The current plan is for there to be a catered dinner on September 22nd. Steve Robinson has indicated that he will cater the event at cost, with food to include barbecue, beans, slaw, and rolls.

Mother's Day and Father's Day Activities. Peggy reported. The Center will partner with the Mountain Lady Project on egg dying and gifts for Mother's Day, and Father's Day gifts. The Mother's Day activity will take place on May 12th.

WRITTEN REPORTS AND STATUS UPDATES

Rental, Youth, and Walmart Grant. Peggy reported. Please see her report at the end of the Minutes. Regarding the report, Erin and Peggy discussed the rental forms and Erin reports she is ending those to Peggy via email when they are returned.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Dave asked about the status of a relationship of the SMCC playground with Buncombe County Recreation, a possibility that was mentioned at the March Board meeting. Apparently there is no plan for there to be such a relationship at this time. Dave noted that we need to keep our options open to creating a more formal and intensive relationship with Buncombe County given the increased population growth that is sure to happen in the area due to the widening of New Leicester Highway taking place.

Vanessa Campbell asked about work on the third-floor of the SMCC. Any such work will depend upon Buncombe County grants under consideration.

John asked about trash pickup, as the area could use it. Dave indicated his frustration with the trash situation, indicating that this might be time for an experiment. It was agreed to schedule a trash pickup on the first Saturday of May—the 5th—starting at 9 am. There is no doubt that trash is a problem and that it needs to be discussed with everyone, kids included.

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

Rental Report, April, 2018

April 1 Reunion
 April 21 Birthday
 June 2 Wedding
 June 9 Birthday
 June 10 Shower
 October 13 Wedding
 October 27 Anniversary

At present, I am asking Sunday rentals if they are comfortable with people slipping through for the internet use in the library to try and keep internet hours on a regular basis. This may not be too popular for something like a wedding but can possibly be handled on a case by case basis.

Youth Report, April, 2018

The Monday morning Playgroup has increased from an average attendance of 7 to 9 children to 15 to 17 children with the addition of four new families. The age range is now infant to 10 years.

Diane Thomas has joined the Youth Team and she and John help at playgroup as well as bring their grandchildren to participate.

The Youth Team will move forward sponsoring a Thursday afternoon open playtime from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursday afternoons from June 21 to August 2 for the summer school break. This will be in addition to the Monday Playgroup. We will plan some special activities during this time to include some sports skills and arts and crafts for children who are interested. A schedule will be available by Spring Fling.

We need volunteers for Thursday to help keep the center open for these dates; anyone available one or more weeks who would like to teach basic baseball, basketball or soccer skills and drills; anyone interested in sharing an arts and craft or science activity on Monday morning or Thursday afternoon.

Please contact Betsey or Peggy.

Walmart Grant Update

In April, I will write a Walmart grant for \$1,000 for the food pantry as reflected in the approved 2018 budget (\$750 budgeted).

A possible literacy grant is in discussion between youth team and high school equivalency team to be presented to the Board in the future. At this time, no other team has come forward with a request for a Walmart grant.