

March 3, 2017

Attending: Peggy Baldwin, John Loyd, Frank Barbara, Jean Barbara, Bob Campbell, Kathleen Campbell, Donna Diaz, Mark Diaz, Chris Jayne, Cathy Phillips, Glenn Ratcliff, Betsey Weinschel, Barbara Wells, Keith Wells, Lisa Wells, Terri Wells, Gary Crossey, Martha Gates, Bruce Larson, Robin Reeves, Erin Duckett, Brandy Botts, Steve Duckett

The meeting is called to order.

Secretary Report: Minutes are reviewed via email and at the meeting. The minutes are approved.

Treasurer Report: Cathy Phillips reviews the Treasurer Report. The Year to Date is being tracked and compared to the yearly budget. The Treasurer Report is approved.

Building Report: Frank Barbara reports that the library work is completed except for the windows in each room. The yoga room painting and repairs have been completed. Quilt Gallery is hung upstairs in the gym. The third classroom repair has been completed and the painting is partially completed. Frank built carts for the chairs and the tables. The hallways have been cleared by Red Oak, Ron Gorby, and Frank Barbara.

Current jobs to be completed:

The flagpole needs to be painted.

Water needs to be made accessible to the gardens.

More volunteers are needed for the building team.

Food Pantry: Ron Gorby submitted an update (see below) and Peggy Baldwin reviewed at the meeting. David Snelson will donate cartons of eggs to the pantry.

Here's the latest news on how things are progressing:

- * I have been notified by Luke at MANNA that our "free" commercial stand up freezer is at MANNA. After some testing, Luke will notify me when it is ready for pickup/delivery.
- * The food pantry storage closet is looking good. A big thank you goes out to **Frank** for helping pest proof and decluttering the space. If you smell something funny in the storage closet, no fears, it is the floor paint that I used to keep the dust down. It should subside in time.
- * Dodson Pest Control has completed their initial service on the downstairs level of the SMCC. Looking forward, per the annual contract, they will service the downstairs once every two months.
- * The second food order has been picked up from MANNA. Among the many items in the pantry storage closet, we currently have 295 Lbs of frozen proteins to give away. The kicker....it only cost \$53.10 for all that protein!!
- * I purchased two digital thermometers for the food pantry. Each thermometer records the high

and low temperatures reached. You will see the daily temperature log posted on the side of the downstairs kitchen commercial refrigerator.

* MANNA will bring a truck to deliver ice cream on March 10th from 1:45 to 2:30, during the first food bank.

* **Marketing of the food pantry has been going well.**

- A huge thanks goes out to **Lu Ellen** for all the time spent on Leicester Highway posting flyers.

- I handed out 35 flyers at the last Leicester Community Center food distribution day. Folks were excited about having another opportunity to get some more food during the month. I spoke with at least three families from the Sandy Mush area and asked them to pass on the word to their friends and neighbors. Additionally, we also announced the opening of the food pantry to the Wednesday Leicester Community Welcome Table folks.

- I recently spoke at Leicester Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization's meeting and passed on the information regarding the food pantry. I have corresponded with social worker at Leicester Elementary, she is willing to help spread the word and get our marketing flyer in the school's "backpack" food program. She confirmed that there was a very large percentage of kids on the free/reduced lunch program.

- **Marie Whitener** and I spent some time with Jesse Flores at his tomato farm on Sandy Mush Creek Road last week, not only will he help spread the word with the Hispanic community, he will also donate some produce to the food pantry!

- A big thanks to **Terri** for giving the food pantry "front page, lead story" in the upcoming community newsletter.

- Another big thanks to **Gary Crossey** (IrishGuy Design), his web expertise is being used to create the Sandy Mush Community Center Webpage.

Library Team: John Loyd reports on the library. John encourages that the upstairs main level and food pantry area be opened for everyone to see the improvements. There is a little library outside that Will Stanhope made for the community to take a book and leave a book. There have been many book donations and more are welcomed. The library needs chairs for small children. There was a donation from Odyssey School and a parent at the school including bookshelves, a table and two chairs.

Action: John Loyd makes a motion that the older books with some value be sold by the library committee and the monies earmarked for the library. The motion is seconded and passed. Chris Jayne recommends that they not be sold if the money is not considered worthwhile.

Fourth of July Event: John Loyd will coordinate the 4th of July event this year. Plans are underway with some cooks recruited. A report will be available at the next Board meeting.

Scholarship Team Update: Terri Wells reports for the team. They suggest that the best use for any funds for now is to try and get internet access at the center for the students for this year and then revisit scholarships for next year.

Story Time Group – Peggy Baldwin reports that there are 7 to 10 children who attend the Monday play group, 10 to 12 noon. The community has donated many supplies and toys. LuEllen Epstein, Terri Wells, Betsey Weinschel and Peggy Baldwin are the main volunteers. Each week there is a special activity, story, and free play time. Chris Hield and Norma Bradley have or will provide special projects for the children. Betsey leads music each month.

Action: Terri Wells makes a motion that \$100 for the playgroup be set aside for supplies. The motion is approved.

Buncombe County Building Grant - We will be notified in June, 2017 with release of funds July, 2017. Presentations may be scheduled in the next few weeks.

Newsletter – The newsletter was placed in everyone’s mailbox this week. Terri has extra copies.

Contents Insurance –

Action: Terri will send the specific quote for contents insurance with information about any deductible. Motion is made that as long as the Board members approve the final details, the insurance will be purchased.

Electrical/Rugs – Michael Snelson has started the electrical work inside adding plugs and repairing some switches. He will add the outside lights soon.

Action: Cathy Phillips moves that we go forward with the expense on the plugs needed for the food pantry.

Rugs were more expensive than approved so Terri will research the new price and report back.

Quilt Gallery – The Quilt Gallery is hanging on the main level with 8 quilts. Frank Barbara and Dave Everett hung the quilts and they can easily be replaced with others in the future.

April 22, 11 to 3 is the Open House for Earth Day. 4-H will provide meals and raise funds for their organization. Mountain Lady Farm Project will also provide crafts and desserts and have their craft table for a fundraiser. The schedule of activities will be available at the next meeting.

Internet – Mark Diaz will install most of the wiring for the internet at the center. The Technical Team will have details for the Board soon. Equipment is expected to be about \$1,000. AT&T will cover the cost of getting the wiring from the road to the center. Rep. Brian Turner is looking at funds at the state level to help fund the service on an ongoing basis. Commissioner Brownie Newman is looking into funding to help us get up and running with the service and equipment.

New Board Members – Terri Wells reminds everyone about the need to attend two meetings to be a voting member for the third meeting and on. We will be adding Board members and changing some Board members in November.

Cathy Phillips will be stepping down as Treasurer by May. Several people are considering the job.

FBEMC and Medicare Information Sessions – Sam Hutchins would like to come and talk about the French Broad Electric Programs that are available to the community. Terri suggests that we have an eve meeting with this information presented By Sam Hutchins.

Medicare – Council On Aging has offered to present a class or consultations to the community on Medicare Information Session. Terri will check and see if he might be available for food pantry time or the April 22 Open House or both.

Facebook/Website – Gary Crossey makes a report presenting the website and Facebook pages to the Board and community. The Technical Team has worked on both Facebook and the website. Martha Gates will manage the Facebook page and Terri Wells and Gary will manage the website.

The Social Media and Website Goals accomplished or in process by the team are:

Domain established

Hosting setup

Email accounts created

Facebook pages claimed for editing and oversight; all Facebook pages will be merged to the Sandy Mush Community Center page

Get listed on Google maps

Continue to build the website

Create user accounts to access the website

Training session on WordPress for anyone posting to the site

The hosting and domain registration are covered for this year. The domain is \$10 annually and the hosting is \$80-\$90 annually. Both will renew February, 2018.

Meeting is adjourned.