

Sandy Mush Community Center

Minutes

May 18, 2021

Attending: Frank Barbara, Kevin Campbell, Gary Crossey, Al Davis, Christopher Jayne, Bruce Larson, John Loyd, Amy Sue Moore, Ilsa Myers, Frank Ramirez, Keith Wells. *Eleven people attended.*

The meeting was called to order by President Christopher Jayne at 6:05 pm. He thanked Kevin Campbell and all those who worked on the renovated Center road sign. He noted that a recommendation will be made to the Buncombe County Commissioners to award SMCC \$20,000 for the 2022 Strategic Partnership Grant. Final action on the recommendation is expected in June.

Brief introductions of those attending were made.

MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

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

Financial Reports. The April financial reports were prepared by bookkeeper Christine Magnarella Ray of Do Good Books, LLC with input from and oversight by Treasurer Bruce Larson, and distributed by email. **The financial reports were approved as submitted.**

Bruce noted that it was a quiet month financially. There was a \$689 surplus for the month.

At this point Christopher provided an update on the 2021 Strategic Partnership Grant as it related to the work on the site plan. He noted that landscape architect Mary Weber will be returning to work on the site plan tomorrow, revising the initial drawings in light of input received from various teams. A vote on the site plan might take place at the June Community Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Projector Presentation. Gary Crossey presented. The development of the Communications Team has provided an opportunity to move forward in a number of directions. In particular, the Center now has access to Google Workspace for Nonprofits. This provides a variety of tools for nonprofits, including organizational email addresses, at no cost. Support is available 24/7. It will be necessary to develop a list of user accounts for the addresses and Bruce and Kevin will do it.

Gary also noted that the Center is now signed up for Mailchimp to assist with email communications. Mailchimp provides good information on regarding the effectiveness of communications. He will need access to the contacts of sandymushcommunity@gmail.com to complete that process. Bruce will provide that access. Gary also noted that 61 people have signed up for the Newsletter using the form on the website (www.sandymushcommunitycenter.org).

Finally, Gary noted that the Center might want to consider adopting a booking system for the center. The annual cost would be in the range of \$200 to \$300 per year. He is willing to contribute the first year.

ORAL REPORTS AND STATUS UPDATES

Update on Board Retreat. Bruce reported. Greg Walker Wilson (GWW) will be the facilitator of the Retreat, which will be held in the gym at the Center. A survey sent out to current Board members showed that there was only one date at which all of them could attend—Saturday, July 10th. The Retreat will be held from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. The purpose of the Retreat is to help SMCC “identify a common vision for the community and build consensus on the key priorities for the organization in the coming 3 years. This will give greater clarity on which programs it will prioritize and how to best use” the Center.

Prior to the Retreat, GWW will send out a survey to current board members, past board members (beginning 2016), and current team leads. This information will be used to design the Retreat.

Rental Team Volunteer Requests. Kevin reported. He noted that he has communicated with 4-H, and they don’t want to schedule building use of a regular basis.

Kevin would like to pass the torch for the Rental Team to someone else. He indicated that a lot of the work that is done is carried out by email. Please talk to him if you are interested.

Communications Team Update. Kevin reported. He noted that most of the material had already been covered by Gary’s presentation. Kevin indicated that Amy Sue Moore has been doing a great job on Facebook.

Capital Improvements Team Door Replacement. Kevin reported. He observed that the four exterior doors to the Center are in bad condition. This is especially true of the doors on the east side of the building, which provide entry to the ground floor of the building—in the worst condition--and the gym. Earlier during the day, Kevin met with Frank Barbara and Bruce to discuss replacing the doors with Scott Ramsey of Asheville Window and Door to get an idea of how much it might cost to replace them. Among other things, the doors would be ADA compliant, which the existing doors are not. As a rough estimate, it was thought that the price would be in the range of \$4,400 to \$5,000 per door.

Lengthy discussion ensued, with many factors considered. In the end, **it was moved, seconded, and approved to contract with Asheville Window and Door to replace the two east doors.** It was understood that the amount would not exceed \$12,000. The funding for the doors will come from the 2021 Strategic Partnership Grant from Buncombe County. An important element of that grant was to provide for building accessibility. Frank will communicate with Scott Ramsey to obtain a firm quote.

WRITTEN REPORTS AND STATUS UPDATES

The following reports were received:

- Internet Report—Mark Diaz

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Frank noted that the Food Pantry has been drawing 82-83 families every other week. On average there are 3.75 people per family.

John Loyd said that the Spring Fling was in good shape but some help with selling hats and t-shirts would be appreciated.

John also noticed that the windowsills on the Center need replacement. On another matter, he expressed concern about loose bricks. He suggested that the Steering Team take this up with Buncombe County. In response, Christopher wondered, how the Center will obtain future funds to maintain the building in the event that Strategic Partnership grants are more difficult to come by?

Ilsa Myers, in light of the upcoming Spring Fling, what the mask policy would be for the event. Christopher noted that state guidelines will be followed.

Noting the time, Ilsa observed that we haven't been realistic about our time of adjournment.

There being no more announcements or comment, the meeting was adjourned by Christopher at 7:56 pm.