

Sandy Mush Community Center

Minutes

July 18, 2023

Attending: Lisa Beth Ackerman, Peggy Baldwin, Greg Brookshire, Gary Crossey, Steve Duckett, Joice Elam, Cheryl Frisbee, Diana Gates, Lorrie Jayne, Bruce Larson, John Loyd, Ilsa Myers, Frank Ramirez, Kent Seber, Brooke Shilling, Amy McMahan Surrett, Betsy Weinschel, Keith Wells. Eighteen people attended.

The meeting was called to order by President Amy McMahan Surrett at 6:05 pm.

Memorial Marker. Greg Brookshire spoke about a project of the Sandy Mush 4-H Club, which involves a memorial marker for a slave cemetery in the community. The memorial will be dedicated at the cemetery, which is on private land, later this year. Since there will be few opportunities to view the memorial once it is dedicated, he asked if it might be placed on the grounds of SMCC until that time so it might be seen. **It was moved, seconded, and approved to place the memorial on the SMCC grounds until it is moved to its ultimate location.**

The precise location of the memorial on SMCC's grounds will be determined after the meeting.

MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

Minutes: The minutes for June 20, 2023 were prepared by Secretary Bruce Larson. The Minutes were moved, seconded, and approved as submitted.

Financial Reports: The financial reports for June 2023 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 moved, seconded, and approved as submitted.

MID-YEAR DISCUSSION

Everyone in attendance participated in providing input for two questions: (1) What is working well at SMCC? (2) What should we do in the rest of the year (and beyond)? Flip charts were used to gather the responses of all concerned, which will then be used as a basis for further discussion and action.

NEW BUSINESS

SMCC Logo. Betsy Weinschel spoke. She noted that the current logo on the website seems corporate and does not speak to her. Instead, she would like to see something more representative of the Sandy Mush community. Discussion ensued. As a result, it was **moved, seconded, and approved to refer the logo issue to the Communication Team and bring options back in two months.**

ORAL REPORTS AND STATUS UPDATES

Eco Foresters Workshop and Water Fountain. Frank Ramirez reported. He noted that Eco Foresters will be coming to SMCC on Tuesday, July 25th to work on the invasive plants between SMCC and Big Sandy UMC. The event is expected to take place from 8:45 am to 1:00 pm and all are welcome to participate or observe. A lunch will be served—it was **moved, seconded, and approved that SMCC will sponsor the lunch.** John Loyd said that funds for the lunch can come from the Events budget.

Frank also spoke about the inoperable porcelain water fountains in the hallway on the gym-level of the building. One possibility for them would be to cover them with a material than makes it clear that they are not to be used. **It was moved, seconded, and approved to explore the cost of placing a small plaque over the porcelain water fountains in the hallway.**

Update on the Communication Team and Its Activities. Gary Crossey reported. He distributed two handouts, one discussing various elements of the Communication Team (blue sheet)—volunteers, meeting times, and items to consider—and another providing a July update and information on the Newsletter mailer. **The material regarding the Communication Team on the blue sheet was moved, seconded, and approved.** The meetings of the Team will take place in the Community Room from 4:45 to 5:45 pm on the third Tuesday of the month, i.e., immediately before the Community Meeting.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

It was noted that pickleball on Wednesday afternoons has begun. All are welcome.

Lisa Beth Ackerman noted that there will be no Senior Lunch in August.

The Come to Leicester Studio Tour is coming to SMCC on August 19th (Saturday) and 20th (Sunday). Big Sandy UMC will be providing food for purchase on Saturday from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm in the Community Room.

The meeting was adjourned by President Surrett at 7:50 pm.