

**Sandy Mush Community Center
Community Meeting
Agenda**

Tuesday, February 20, 2024

Call to order - Ilsa Myers, President (6:00 pm)

Minutes and Financial Reports (10 minutes)

Minutes – Betsy Weinschel, Secretary (5 Minutes)

Financial Reports - Bruce Larson, Treasurer (5 Minutes)

New Business (25 minutes)

Strategic Planning Team – Gary Crossey (15 minutes)

Food Lion Feeds Grant Proposal – Bruce Larson for Peggy Baldwin (10 minutes)

Oral Reports and Status Updates (20 minutes)

WNC Communities Coffee Hour Presentation – Cheryl Frisbee (5 minutes)

Communication Team – Gary Crossey (5 minutes)

Spring Fling Planning Meeting – Frank Ramirez (10 minutes)

Written Reports (10 minutes)

Youth Team – Brooke Shilling

Food Pantry – Bruce Larson

Community Announcements and Open Discussion (10 minutes)

Adjournment – Ilsa Myers, President (7:15 pm)

Youth group

Our attendance is growing! To help manage our growing group here are some things we are working on:

Team formation is underway. This will help us manage our group internally, raise funds for the future, and keep our kids safe.

We have updated our safety policy. Our annual safety meeting had great attendance and engagement. Please see our draft welcome letter.

We plan to visit the Sandy Mush fire department in April to discuss water safety, career opportunities, community building.

Science fair planned for display at Spring Fling. Sarah Wood will visit to give a physics lesson. There will be an opportunity to participate in reviews before Spring Fling, please let Brooke know if you are interested in participating. We will use tv and cart from grant money, thank you to Bruce for getting this set up for us!

Food Pantry Report

February 2024

The Food Pantry distributes food on the second Friday of the month. In 2024 it has distributed food twice: January 12th and February 9th. With the February Food Pantry, seven years of service to the Sandy Mush community was completed.

- The January Food Pantry served 60 households comprising 168 individuals.
- The February Food Pantry served 83 households comprising 248 individuals.

Most of the food distributed at the Food Pantry is purchased from MANNA (canned goods, meats, vegetables, for the most part) or donated by Full Sun Farm (produce). We are grateful to MANNA and Full Sun Farm for their generosity and support.

Purchased foods are paid for with the financial contributions of Payne's Chapel, Chestnut Grove Baptist Church, individual donors who contribute specifically to the Food Pantry, and from grants, for example, from Food Lion Feeds. Bruce Larson recently spoke with two representatives of First Bank in relation to a potential contribution from their Power of Good grants program, and they anticipate letting us know about the grant in the latter part of March. As a reminder, Golden Leaf awarded SMCC \$26,324 in August 2023 for renovation of the Coal Room/Boiler Room area for Food Pantry use.

The next food distribution will be March 8th. Later that day, the Food Pantry Team will meet to discuss the operations of the Food Pantry and likely developments during the year.

Bruce Larson for the Food Pantry Team