

## Minutes of the Sandy Mush Community Center

August 4, 2017

**Attending:** Frank Barbara, Jean Barbara, Fayette Brown, Laurie Brown, Bob Campbell, Kathleen Campbell, Vanessa Campbell, Mark Diaz, Erin Duckett, Dave Everett, Chris Jayne, John Loyd, Bruce Larson, Betsy Weinschel, Barbara Wells, Keith Wells, Terri Wells

The meeting was called to order by Keith Wells.

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes are prepared by Bruce Larson and reviewed via email.

**Action:** The July Minutes were approved as submitted by unanimous vote.

**Treasurer's Report:** The financial report was reviewed by Erin Duckett.

**Action:** The Treasurer's report was accepted as submitted by unanimous vote.

Two questions unrelated to the Report were raised. (1) Would it be useful for the Center to track volunteer hours? (2) Can we get one or more credit cards for the Center?

Regarding (1), it was noted that volunteer hours for the Food Bank are being tracked, indeed volunteer hours for all volunteer efforts are tracked. Also, unrelated to volunteer hours, some in-kind contributions are being tracked. Tracked volunteer hours can provide evidence of the good stewardship of funds provided to the Center, especially as its activities become more extensive. This reporting, though, would be something beyond existing financial reporting.

Regarding (2), extensive discussion of credit cards, led to the following:

**Motion:** Obtain one credit card for the Center.

**Action:** The Motion was unanimously approved.

Erin will seek a card.

**Food Pantry Report:** Jean Barbara reported. The July 14th Food Pantry served 52 families comprising 144 individuals. On the day of the Pantry, 75 volunteer hours were provided by 20 people. Throughout the month, 70 additional volunteer hours were provided.

Jean noted that the Pantry continues to be reviewed and tweaked each month. Different avenues for obtaining high-demand foods are being explored. One avenue, food vouchers, is being looked into by Lynda Emashowski and Jean Larson.

**Building Report:** Frank Barbara reported. Work is being done on the window sash cords and an outside bulletin board is to be made. It is also about time to develop a plan for garbage disposal and recycling. Kathleen Campbell will talk to the Volunteer Fire Department to see how they deal with garbage.

Frank raised two additional issues that led to actions: (1) obtaining a dumpster to remove outside waste and (2) removing the skeet ammunition from downstairs.

Discussion of (1) led to the following:

**Motion:** Obtain the use of a dumpster, estimated at 20 cubic yards, to move outdoor waste.

**Action:** The Motion was unanimously approved.

Dave Everett will call Waste Management regarding the dumpster.

Discussion of (2) led to the following:

**Motion:** Give skeet materials to Craig Worley to be used with 4-H youth.

**Action:** The Motion was unanimously approved.

## Old Business

**Buncombe County Community Development Grant.** Terri Wells reported. A grant will be written to purchase an outdoor grill from Sam's Club that runs about \$600. A cover is provided with the grill.

Terri also noted that Lisa Wells sent in her resignation, this day, from the SMCC Board of Trustees.

**Buncombe County Building Grant Project.** Dave Everett reported. Dave noted the \$27,000 was approved by the county: \$7,000 for the internet project and \$20,000 for building improvements. He noted that a plan is needed for spending the \$20,000. It is now thought that two mini-splits are to be purchased, one for the Library and one for the Yoga Room. Sam Hutchins of French Broad EMC estimates that the mini-split unit price is \$2,800.

Mark Diaz, with Terri, shared information on the internet project. High-speed cable (ATT) will be brought to the building at no cost to SMCC, but there will be a significant monthly service fee. The system will include a wired network and a WiFi network. The ATT software will provide information on system users. Two hard-wired computers will be available in the Library. It is estimated that it will take about two months before everything is up and running.

## Status updates

**Recreation Team.** Chris Jayne reported that one of the picnic tables was received but it was the wrong one. The table will be returned.

**Youth Programming.** Betsy Weinschel reported for the Youth Team. 32 families have requested to be on the youth email list and 9 families participate in the Monday programming for children ranging from 2 to 9 years of age. Please encourage families with preschool or home school children to sign up for the email list and participate. Perhaps information about youth programming could be distributed during the Food Pantry?

Monday activities, from 10 to noon, are varied, including free play, story, music, Spanish activities, arts and crafts, and games.

Movies had been offered once a month but drew few. They have been stopped for the time being.

**Library.** John Loyd reported, noting that Peggy Eckel had joined the Library Team. John mentioned that Eblen Charities might be a source of support for educational materials and drew attention to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, which provides Buncombe County children ages birth to five with the opportunity to get a free book each month. The Literacy Council of Buncombe County has registration information.

**Reunion.** Terri reported. She noted that Margaret Ellen Duckett is working hard to compile a list of folks who attended school in Big Sandy Mush. The event will take place on October 14th.

### **New Business**

**Youth Community Service.** Jean noted that she had received requests from parents to volunteer at the Food Pantry in support of school service requirements. This led to the following:

**Motion:** The Sandy Mush Community Service is supportive of service opportunities for youth.

**Action:** The Motion was unanimously approved.

**Square Dance Lessons.** Terri noted that Howard Bridges and Pam Harrington have offered to provide free lessons. The lessons would likely take place on Tuesday evenings.

**Housekeeping Items.** Jean requested that garbage cans and towel dispensers for the building be purchased as needed.

**Motion:** Purchase the items requested by Jean.

**Action:** The Motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned by Keith Wells.