

Sandy Mush Community Center

Board of Directors

Agenda

Monday, April 15, 2019

Call to Order – President (7:00 pm)

Minutes and Financial Reports: 10 minutes

- Minutes – Bruce (5 minutes)
- Financial Reports – Erin (5 minutes)

New Business: 10 minutes

- Adult Education at SMCC – Peggy (10 minutes)

Oral Reports and Status Updates: 30 minutes

- Food Pantry – Jean (5 minutes)
- Event Dates – John (5 minutes)
- Spring Fling/4H – Ruth (5 minutes)
- Rental Team – Kevin (5 minutes)
- Building Team – Frank (10 minutes)

Written Reports and Status Updates: 5 minutes

- Internet Report – Mark
- Youth Report – Peggy
- Veterans Project - Terri

Community Announcements and Public Comment:

- YMCA Swim Lessons – Miranda from YMCA (10 minutes)

Adjournment – President (8:05 pm)

Adult Education at SMCC

As you know, we have been working with Buncombe County Literacy Council for some time to enroll families in the Dolly Parton Imagination Library program. Out of that work, the Literacy Council inquired whether we would be interested in working with them to train SMCC volunteers to tutor at SMCC. They feel they are not serving the more rural areas of the county effectively. The full info is at the end of this report but I have tried to pare it down for discussion.

- This program would serve any student over 16 not currently enrolled in high school or college courses. These would not be the current HSE program students who are enrolled with AB Tech but might include community members who want to improve their reading skills to enroll in the HSE program.
- Once trained, the volunteers will be able to work with adults who have very few “decoding” skills and those who read but wish to improve their reading skills and comprehension i.e. those who have functional reading skills through memorization but difficulty learning new words due to lack of decoding skills.
- Volunteers are trained by the Literacy Council for 15 hours. A list of teaching resources provided is below. A \$25 donation per volunteer is requested to cover the materials but is not required. The volunteer will then meet with an assigned student for at least one year in two, one hour sessions a week.
- The Literacy Council has to do the testing and intake for students interested. They are willing to come to SMCC for both volunteer training and the intake of students if we have a group of at least 3 to 5 volunteers or 5 students at a time.

Questions to consider:

Do we want to take on this program at this time?

Do we have volunteers interested in being trained?

Do we believe students over 16 years will be willing to come to SMCC for reading improvement?

The Full Information from Buncombe County Literacy (special accommodations for SMCC are in red)

This is the instructional system we use for both programs: [Wilson Reading System](#). We provide the following materials to all tutors in both programs as long as they are doing Adult Ed tutoring:

- Student Reader (1 at a time, 12 total in series)
- Magnet Board
- Magnetic Tiles
- Sound Cards
- Word Cards
- Syllable Cards
- Instructor Manual
- Supplemental readers, games, and other activities

ADULT EDUCATION

Students we serve:

- Any student over 16 not currently enrolled in high school or college courses
- Students with or without a diploma/HSE (most don't have one)
- Students with or without a diagnosed learning disability/difference (most do have one, usually undiagnosed)

Intake/testing process:

- A prospective student calls the Adult Education director to set up an initial appointment. The intake usually takes two days, not necessarily consecutive, to complete.
- In the first appointment, about an hour long, we discuss individual goals and complete some informal reading and writing assessments to find a rough grade level equivalent.
- In the second appointment, up to an hour to and a half long, the student completes either a CASAS or TABE test.
 - These are multiple choice tests that assess the student's "work and life skills." Students take a pre-test at the beginning of the year and a post-test at the end to gauge their progress. Tutors can proctor the tests, but directors have to grade them and report all scores to the state for funding purposes. This testing can give us helpful info, and we do want students to improve their scores, but testing is mostly a hoop we have to jump through in order to maintain funding for our Adult Ed program. The 1-on-1 tutoring we do is always the primary focus.
- After intake, the director looks for the best tutor match for that student (in terms of the tutor's experience, schedule, and personality). As soon as a tutor is available, lessons begin.
- I trust you more than me to make the best matches between your tutors and students. Or you and your tutors could decide as a group who gets which student.

Since I'd need to perform all the student intakes, we'd have to modify that process a little bit for Sandy Mush. How about this:

- If you're able to recruit approximately 5-8 tutors for training, and you're able to recruit 1 student per tutor, I could do the intake for all 5-8 students over the course of a couple days (for example, I could come for one long day and one afternoon/evening, or some other block of time that works for everyone).
- Once the first batch of tutors are trained and matched with students, I wouldn't need to come back until you have a second batch of tutors and students (at that time, I could do a new tutor training and a new set of assessments).

Curriculum and lessons:

- Tutors are trained to use the Wilson Reading System, which incorporates [Orton-Gillingham methodology](#). These materials are specifically designed to help students who might have a learning difference such as dyslexia or a processing disorder.
- Lessons are tailored to the student's specific level and needs – anything from building basic literacy skills up to HSE test prep.
- Tutors and students meet twice a week, for one hour per session, for atleast a year.

SMCC Event Dates:

May 4 -Spring Fling

July 4 - Annual 4th covered dish and cook out

August 10 - Volunteer dinner - catered by Steve Robinson

October 5 - Sandy Mush Homecoming

November 16 - Annual dance and chili dinner

Spring Fling

Saturday May 4 11-3pm at the center. Meal from 11:30-1:30

This is a family event and a fundraiser for:

Sandy Mush 4-HI(serving hamburger/hot dog meal)

Mountain Lady Farm Project (selling desserts and drinks)

and the SMCC (selling t-shirts etc).

The event will be much the same as the past years with a plant exchange and craft demonstrations. It is free with the focus on the fundraising efforts of the two youth groups.

If you know of anyone that would like to have a table here, demonstrating crafts or sharing information, please let me know.

Here is who/what we have so far:

Mountain Lady Farm Project-crafts, selling desserts and drinks

Sandy Mush 4-H: crafts and selling lunch

SMCC (Martha): selling t-shirts etc.

Frank Ramirez: Plant Exchange

Greg and Amy Brookshire: selling Leicester books and bird feeders, craft

Johnny Scroggs: selling gourds and wares

Kevin Duckett: leather crafts

Dort Lee: quilting crafts

Barbara: Sand Art craft

Dolly Parton Imagination Library: information

Council on Aging (Erin): information

The library will also be open (Ilsa, Lu Ellen, Will, John, operating in shifts) with Betsey offering knitting help and the computers will be open with educational

info/games etc. for children as well as others.

Potentials that have been contacted:

Leicester Garden and Grocery: soil amendments and craft, information

Farm Bureau: combine simulator

Soil and Water: soil and water mobile classroom

Marlow Gates: brooms

Sandy Mush youth group (Peggy): craft and information

Thank you and please let me know if you have any questions or suggestions and to the others that are involved in planning, let me know if I left anything out! and also please forward to anyone else that would like to be included. THANKS!

Ruth

Building Team Report

The first floor cafeteria is moving along and we hope to be completed in the next few weeks. Over the last month much has been accomplished. Kevin and I have removed the remaining walls and counter, added a closet for the hot water heater, trimmed the room and patched the ceilings and walls. I have had Steve Grigg electric come last week and he added multiple outlets around the room, additional lighting and added the necessary circuits in stair foyer for the food pantry freezer and refrigerator. Painting has been started and should be completed tomorrow. Jason Conklin will be here on Sunday to complete the necessary plumbing which includes re-plumbing the upstairs office sink, hot water heater and adding new water lines to the new sink location in the cafeteria

As I had mentioned at the last meeting, I would remove four light fixtures from the 3rd floor and use them in the cafeteria. Unfortunately they were different being that the hung lower off chains. The solution was to use the library fixtures in the cafeteria, which matched the existing cafeteria fixtures and add the 3rd floor fixtures in the library. This solution made the lighting in the library much better and Betsy is thrilled.

We are approximately 2 weeks out on the floor. After the floor is installed Kevin and I will be able to finish the kitchen portion of the renovation, adding two 36' base cabinets, sink and counter top. The final step will be to add 1/4 round trim to the base trim around the room. The simple kitchen design by Carol Fay will be ADA compliant and will give us the ability to use the original stainless steel counter which I believe we will be able to retrofit casters for easy movement when necessary.

Once we see where our budget is we will still need to address the window treatments which I believe with some research by Jean we have a very

reasonably priced solution, additional needed pantry storage and the closet designated for the 4h.

A few other items were done since last meeting. We have added the remaining commercial light bulbs in the gym, added a commercial bulb over the ping pong table and installed doors to protect the internet equipment in the closet. As I'm sure folks have noticed the trees in the front of the building have been removed also. Thanks you Christopher for bringing down your chipper.

Please let me know if anyone has any questions and I welcome anyone to stop by and check out the cafeteria.

Thanks,
Frank

SMCC Internet Report 15 Apr BOD Meeting

Period: 4 March – 2 April

OUTAGES: One minor outage noted

WiFi All SSIDs – Total number of user devices 356. 25 percent decrease.

17 New 339 Returning

Total Data 98.23Gb 82.93Gb received 15.29Gb sent

SSID Use:

Sandy Mush Community Center is 67 percent of all devices – 247 device connections

SMCC Wifi is 14 percent - 51 device connections

Access Point Monitor:

Total Device Connections on both AP's 499; 476 Returning; 23 New

Percentage of Device Connections: AP1 50%; AP2 50%

Total Data: AP-1 26.14Gb AP-2 72.08Gb

Busiest Day – 1 April Total connections 32 from 24 user devices.

April, 2019 Youth Report

Upcoming Youth Activities at SMCC:

- Monday Playgroup each week through summer except for Memorial Day, 10:30 to 12:30
- Mountain Lady Farm Project Craft Days: April 20th, May 11th, June 8th
- Spring Fling with 4-H and Mountain Lady Farm Project – SMCC Youth will also have a craft and planting table
- Thursday Open Play, 10:30 to 12:30, from June except for July 4th – sports skills, crafts and free play

Monday Playgroup is still averaging 15 children and 16 to 20 children when school is on break. We had some slow weeks in February/March due to illness. Parents continue to help with the operation of the program by signing up to take turns helping with the flow of the day and to present special activities. We could use one to three additional SMCC volunteers for one day a month and/or for days that Diane Thomas or I will be away. Diane is a faithful and enthusiastic volunteer for the Youth Team!

We have more children who are school age participating in programs at SMCC. With the help of the older children, we reorganized the youth room to include a “Big Kids’ Corner” with games and special crafts. We changed some of the guidelines for play at SMCC to reflect the larger group and wider age range of children.

We seem to have an average of 2 to 3 new families each month lately so we hope these guidelines will help them settle in and know the limits.

SMCC Guidelines for Play

Please remain with your children at all times since we are not licensed for childcare at the center.

Volunteers and other parents can help families with multiple children if asked.

Play on the gym floor should remain on the gym floor not the mezzanine/hallway or stage.

Please stay out of the stairwell areas as they are mostly used for storage and emergency exit. Some play options for the gym are balls, jump rope, hula hoops, structured games like kickball, whiffle ball, pickle ball.

Games with many children running like tag and hide and seek are best played outside in the field between the building and the playground. That is also a good area for soccer, baseball, badminton.

The loop in front of the building and especially the area in front of the fire department often have a lot of traffic and even emergency vehicles. Please be sure to supervise children playing in the loop or the lower yard with the picnic tables.

Older children please be mindful of small children at all times. Help them when asked.

Please help clean-up after play activities in the youth room and the gym.

There are special activities in the youth room for ages toddler through 12 years and even older.

During SMCC events, there is no play in the gym.

While in the library, please be sure to follow the rules posted and stay with your children in case they need help. The library volunteer will be happy to answer questions.

Veterans' Project: We are creating a paper prototype for our Veterans' project display that we plan to have on the wall prior to the May Spring Fling and we plan to leave it up at least through the July 4 event so that community members may see it and provide us any additions or edits prior to our permanent display, which will most likely be an engraving on walnut harvested from Sandy Mush. Once we get this prototype displayed, please encourage community members to come and view it and provide us any corrections. This has been a large undertaking with approximately 250 known residents serving. Most likely there are additions and corrections, and this is where community input is needed before we create the permanent display. Submitted by Terri on behalf of Veterans Project.