

# Sandy Mush Community Center

## Minutes

*April 15, 2019*

**Attending:** Peggy Baldwin, Frank Barbara, Jean Barbara, Kathleen Campbell, Kevin Campbell, Vanessa Campbell, Mark Diaz, Erin Duckett, Kurt Eckel, Lynda Emashowski, LuEllen Epstein, Dave Everett, Kim Everett, Christopher Jayne, Bruce Larson, John Loyd, Madison Maclaren, Deni Surret, Barbara Wells, Betsy Weinschel, Keith Wells, Miranda Wyatt. *Twenty-two people attended the meeting.*

The meeting was called to order by President Christopher Jayne at 7:02 pm.

### **MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORTS**

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

**Financial Reports.** The March Financial Reports were prepared by Treasurer Erin Duckett and distributed by email. During March, Total Income was \$1,566, and Total Expense was \$28,874 resulting in a Net Income of (\$27,308), that is, a deficit of \$27,308. As of March 31st, Available Funds were \$17,101. **The Financial Reports were approved as submitted.**

Erin noted that she would take care of the renewal of the Center's Solicitation License, which is needed to solicit funds from outside parties. In addition she noted that the monthly Internet bills have been paid through the end of the year. The Buncombe County Strategic Partnership Grant ends in June.

Frank Barbara asked how volunteer hours would be kept track of going forward. Erin indicated that she did not know how this would be handled.

Christopher noted that this would be Erin's last meeting as the Treasurer of SMCC. He thanked her for her service. Erin was recognized by a round of applause.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Christopher reordered the Agenda so visitors Madison Maclaren and Miranda Wyatt could speak first.

**YMCA Swim Lessons.** Miranda and Madison spoke. Miranda, who is the Senior Program Director of the Asheville YMCA, talked about the importance of water safety, especially for children, as well as Madison's commitment to provide funds for children to learn to swim at the YMCA. Madison spoke as a long-time caring resident of Sandy

Mush. She is offering to let her area home for three-day periods at a one-third discount and contribute money to provide swimming lessons to enhance water safety.

**Adult Education at SMCC.** Peggy Baldwin reported. She discussed the general parameters of an inquiry from the Buncombe County Literacy Council regarding whether the Center would be interested in working with them to train SMCC volunteers to tutor at the Center. (This inquiry is developed at length on pages 2-4 of the April Agenda bundle.) The Literacy Council serves: (i) any student over 16 not currently enrolled in high school or college courses; (ii) students with or without a diploma/HSE; and (iii) students with or without a diagnosed learning disability/difference.

Following discussion Peggy indicated that she would contact Martha Ball to help identify the interest of people willing to volunteer for the program. **A motion to put out the word inquiring about interest in the program was moved, seconded, and approved.**

## ORAL REPORTS AND STATUS UPDATES

**Food Pantry.** Jean Barbara reported. In March, 55 households representing 168 individuals were served, with volunteers providing 98 hours of service. April numbers were similar.

The new layout in the ground-floor kitchen are worked well. Canopies to be used during the Pantry are and eight weights to hold them down were acquired; sand is needed.

Jean drew attention to the large pothole in the parking lot. Christopher indicated that addressing this is tricky, because of ownership issues. Jean also noted that there is water pooling outside at the west end of the ground-floor hallway near the right of way. Kurt Eckel observed that this is a grading issue.

**Event Dates.** John Loyd reported. Events for this year are:

- 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

**The event dates were moved, seconded, and approved.** John went on to note that there may be a family event in February 2020.

**Spring Fling/4H.** No report was given. In relation to the Spring Fling, Jean noted that Frank Ramirez would like to pot plants, making them look nice for display.

**Rental Team.** Kevin Campbell reported. The Team transition has been smooth. There have been a few bookings—Barbara and Keith Wells have been helping out.

Kevin wondered if we wanted to embed a Google Calendar into the SMCC website. Christopher suggested we take a deeper look at this use of Google Calendar. Kevin indicated that he would communicate about this with Martha Ball and Gary Crossey.

**Building Team.** Kurt reported. Information has come back from architect George Stowe. He has established occupancies for all rooms of the Center, most notably 500 for the gym. He has also developed a Life Safety Plan for the building. Egress doors don't need to be addressed, but unvented propane gas heaters do. Handrails are problematic.

A building permit is included with the Life Safety Plan, with the top floor included. This would help us with future discussions about the building. Once we have the permit, we can move forward with third-floor work so long as there is no change in building configuration or usage classification.

Vanessa Campbell asked about handicap accessibility. It was noted that this doesn't have to be addressed unless we change usage. Vanessa went on to ask if George Stowe will be taking the Life Safety Plan to the County on behalf of the Center? Yes. Finally, Vanessa asked if the \$2,500 payment to George Stowe for his services was firm? It is an estimate.

**Other Building Team Matters.** Frank Barbara reported. The renovation of the ground-floor kitchen is nearly complete. The kitchen floor will be installed next week.

In addition, new lighting has been installed in the ground-floor kitchen, the Library, and the Gym. (Further detail is provided on pages 5-6 of the April Agenda bundle.)

Finally, a leak has been discovered—a water line problem perhaps—and it has been hard to figure out.

Christopher noted that the Buncombe County Strategic Partnership Grant is over budget. Contributing to this was that expenditure estimates were used rather than hard numbers, such as would have resulted from a quotation, and actual expenditures were greater than the estimates. Substantial discussion ensued. Mark Diaz suggested that a project status update be provided, with regard to activities done and work remaining to be done, with an estimate of additional expenditures needed and sources of financing.

Bruce thanked Frank and Kevin for the many hours of work in bringing the kitchen project to near completion, work with they performed in excellence.

## **WRITTEN REPORTS AND STATUS UPDATES**

The following reports were received:

- Adult Education at SMCC—Peggy Baldwin.
- SMCC Event Dates—John Loyd.

- Spring Fling—Ruth Gavin.
- Building Team Report—Frank Barbara.
- Internet Report—Mark Diaz. There was one minor outage during the month. User devices were 356; 17 new users and 339 returning. The busiest day for the month was Monday, April 1st, when there were 32 connections from 24 user devices.
- Youth Report—Peggy Baldwin
- Veterans Project—Terri Wells.

#### COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

No announcements or comments were made.

The meeting was adjourned by Christopher at 8:42 pm.