



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes August 16, 2021 5:00-7:00 pm; via Zoom call

Board Members Present: Paul Lenzmeier, Leanne Matchen, Stephen Nash, Don Phillips, Stephen Spears, Anna VonRueden, Sue Woodward

Board Members Absent: JJ Slag, Sean Haag, Jennifer Stone, Chris Warner

Staff and Guests Present: Amanda Golly, Cheryl Jensen, Mark McNamer, Julie Orlando

The meeting was called to order at 5:06 pm by Stephen Spears.

Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Paul Lenzmeier, seconded by Don Phillips, and passed unanimously to approve the agenda, and passed unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes

Motion to approve the June 28, 2021 meeting minutes was made by Don Phillips, seconded by Paul Lenzmeier, and passed unanimously.

MACC Presentation

Amanda Golly, VP of MACC, gave a presentation on services provided by a partnership with MACC. MACC's specialty is Human Resources.

Finance Report

Cheryl Jensen and Don Phillips reviewed the June 2021 and July 2021 financials, showing revenue and donations are down. The fact that the budget was for a normal year and not a Covid year has had an impact. HOPE 4 Youth is in a good position with a large operating reserve. Discussions have begun on where we stand with our two mortgages, their rates and where we are in the payment structure.

Program Report

Mark McNamer reviewed the June 2021 and July 2021 Program Reports. He reported that June had consistent numbers at the Drop-In Center visits and HOPE Homes youth. Fifty percent of the youth are receiving one-on-one support. Visits from youth under 18 are increasing. Visits from youth with children continues to grow and supports have been added for these youth. Programs has seen significant growth in quarter two.

Mark reported that July was busy with visits at the highest of the year. It was a challenging month for staff, clients and residents of HOPE Place. Discussions have begun about security and training for staff and volunteers. New staff is expected to be added to help with the increasing numbers and workload.

Advancement & Development Report

Julie Orlando reviewed the Advancement Scorecard for June 2021 and July 2021. There are still new donors and new volunteers being added this summer. In the last couple of months, the social media impressions have been high due to a post about the empty food shelf and a new resident story post.

The Heartland Tire Golf Tournament will take place Monday, August 23. The event is organized by Dave Mitchell. There are 138 golfers signed up for the event. The proceeds from the golf tournament underwrite the mortgage at HOPE Place. The Darkest Night 4K will take place on Friday, September 17th at Bunker Hills Golf Course in Coon Rapids. Postcards dropped into mailboxes Monday. The Hunt 4 HOPE will be the following Friday at Wild Wings of Oneka in Hugo. This is organized by a community group and the proceeds go to HOPE 4 Youth. Steve Nash encouraged the board to help by participating in and promoting the upcoming events.

A new partnership has been made with Arrow Giving Foundation based locally. They are passionate about HOPE 4 Youth, and they want to become more involved. They are supporting us for the next year with \$11,000 in sponsorships for events, donating to the car fund, and they are holding a clothing and food drive.

The new Homeless Liaison through Anoka Hennepin schools has been in contact with Julie. There are funds available from American Rescue Plan. Julie has requested \$35,000. She should know in a day or two if we will receive these funds. The funds would go to housing, car repairs and weekly parenting classes for our youth through FamilyWise.

Interim Executive Director Report

Cheryl Jensen reported that she and Julie Orlando met with Representative Zach Stephenson at the Drop-In Center. There is one time money available in the state and he would like to work with HOPE 4 Youth to use some of the funds. This will involve looking at our buildings to see if there is something we can do to be more accessible to our youth. Rep. Stephenson has Julie's contact information and will be reaching out.

Cheryl Jensen stated that Julie Fliflet has transitioned out of her role in Finance. Erin O'Brien is the controller for the new firm that was hired. Erin will be working in finance 15-20 hours a week. The staff and a half hours will hit the budget next month. The two week overlap unexpectedly continued for six weeks. The 990 was approved and submitted by the Finance Committee. The 990 for the three-month period has been started and expected to be ready for the next board meeting.

Cheryl also shared about some ongoing discussions about Volunteer Mentors. Covid has impacted the number of volunteers. The Drop-In Center has trouble filling one volunteer per shift which is down from the usual three prior to Covid. Talks have begun about the current volunteer model being sustainable. Time commitment may be a barrier to some volunteers. Creative recruitment strategies have been put in place.

New Business

Stephen Spears spoke about slowly moving back to in person meetings. Hybrid meetings may start before the end of the year

Adjourn to Closed Session

Motion to adjourn was made by Steve Nash, seconded by Paul Lenzmeier, and approved unanimously.

The meeting ended and moved to closed session at 6:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brooke Limanen
Development Associate