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**Marion-Polk Food Share**

**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, February 23, 2017

**Board Members Attending**: Alex Beamer, Cheryl Wells, Jim Green, Courtney Knox Busch, Dick Yates, Bernadette Mele, Warren Bednarz, John Burt, George Happ, Brenda Tuomi, Frances Alvarado, Eileen Zielinski, Walter Smith

**Staff Members Attending:** Rick Gaupo, Abisha Dunivin, Ian Dixon-McDonald, Julie Hambuchen, Rebecca Long, Rob Crenshaw, Corrina Hawkins, Holly Larson

Call to Order:

**Alex Beamer** called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

Guest Introductions:

**Rick Gaupo** welcomed board member-elect **Walter Smith,** and **Julie Hambuchen** introduced new Donor and Data Services Manager **Rob Crenshaw**, stepping into a position created a year ago. This position allows for Director of Stewardship **Corrina Hawkins** to oversee interactions with major donors. **Rob** joins the Food Share with a background in nonprofit development, most recently with Oregon Food Bank.

**Governance Committee Update:**

**Cheryl Wells** presented **Walter Smith**’s application to the Food Share Board of Directors. Committee member **John Burt** expounded on **Walter**’s background as a vice-president of NORPAC, a major donor to the Food Share of locally grown, high quality products. **John** added that the committee recommends board membership due to **Walter**’s interest in the Food Share and serving the community, as well as his business position in partnership with the Food Share’s mission.

**John Burt** motioned that the Board approve board membership for **Walter Smith** for a two-year term to even board member term expiration dates, **Warren Bednarz** seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

**Cheryl Wells** next introduced a resolution to form the Community Impact Committee, a board committee which will provide perspective and recommendations on how the Food Share’s programs and services are fulfilling its mission in the community. The committee’s work will include considering new program opportunities in addition to measuring the impact of current ones. A rough draft of a committee charter was presented; it would be fleshed out in committee.

**Warren Bednarz** motioned that the Board pass the resolution to form the Community Impact Committee. **George Happ** seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

**Consent Agenda:**

**Alex Beamer** presented the following consent agenda items:

1. Board meeting minutes, December 1, 2016
2. MPFS financial statements ending January 31, 2017

**George Happ** motioned to approve all consent agenda items, **Eileen Zielinski** seconded, and the motion was unanimously moved.

**Budget & Finance Update:**

**Jim Green** shared that the Food Share is $160,000 ahead of the revised budget, $400,000 ahead of last year at this time. Revenues are up and expenses are down, resulting in the Food Share’s healthy financial position. The Budget & Finance Committee recommends acceptance of January’s revised budget without further discussion needed. (The revised budget was not presented for a board vote due to the replacement of the January board meeting with an outing to the Oregon Food Bank Network Quarterly Meeting January 26.)

**Jim Green** motioned to approve the January 2017 proposed revised budget; **Cheryl Wells** seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

**2016-17 Fiscal Year-to-Date Semi-Annual Food Report:**

**Abisha Dunivin** presentedthe Food Report which conveys how well the Food Share is meeting client needs and helps to address the question of whether the Food Share’s goals fit the need. The Board expressed appreciation for this report and made suggestions for small changes to increase understandability of the Food Share’s efficacy in food resourcing and distribution.

**Development Update:**

**Julie Hambuchen** echoed the good news that donation revenue is over projection. **Julie** shared that the Brenden Family Foundation sustainer match has generated growth of $44,000 in new & increased sustainer pledges. In grant news, Julie related that DEQ is supporting retail food recovery, Salem Health is supporting the Food Share’s veggie voucher program, and the Collins Foundation is supporting the Youth Farm with a grant of $85,000 over three years. In addition, OFB is providing $25,000 toward a barcoding system to increase ease and accuracy of inventory tracking. The Community Services and Housing Commission recommended that the Food Share be awarded $170,000 for food purchase and staffing support. Final approval will come from Salem City Council.

**Julie** concluded by revealing the spike in donor numbers. Switching to a mailing house has resulted in the highest number of donors in Food Share history.

**Around the Network:**

**Rick Gaupo** shared with the Board trends from around the Oregon Food Bank Network of regional food banks. Two trends to note were:

1. Across the network, regional food banks are seeing a slight decrease in the number of food pantries. It’s not a massive closure of food pantries, but just a few here and there. Pantries primarily close because of loss of key volunteer leadership. This is an issue to watch as food pantries serve as the primary food distribution model used by regional food banks.
2. Related to the above, more regional food banks are moving towards some of their work including direct service, whether that’s running their own pantries, operating mobile food pantries, or similar programs.

**Strategic Planning:**

**Rick Gaupo** shared with the Board where the organization was in the strategic planning process. Currently, the work is defining the key strategic areas of focus for Food Share. More information will be coming to the Board in the next few months.

**Adjournment:**

**Alex Beamer** adjourned the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

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Courtney Knox Busch

Board Secretary