

Marion-Polk Food Share
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
May 25, 2017

Board Members Attending: Frances Alvarado, Warren Bednarz, John Burt, Mike Garrison, Jim Green, Julie Huckestein, Courtney Knox Busch, Bernadette Mele, Walter Smith, Brenda Tuomi, Esther Puentes, Cheryl Wells, Dick Yates, Eileen Zielinski

Staff Members Attending: Eileen DiCicco, Ian Dixon-McDonald, Mel Fuller, Rick Gaupo, Julie Hambuchen, Robbin Kerner, Holly Larson, Allen Pfeiffer, Auzeen Rasaie, Abisha Stone

Call to Order

Cheryl Wells called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

Announcement

Cheryl Wells announced **Bernadette Mele** is “reluctantly retiring” from the Food Share board. She is moving to Tucson and this may be her last official meeting. Bernadette expressed her heartfelt appreciation for the Food Share and its Board and their contributions to the community.

Guest Introductions

Rick Gaupo introduced staff.

Consent Agenda

Cheryl Wells presented the following consent agenda items:

- Board Meeting Minutes, April 20, 2017
- Financial Statements ending April 30, 2017

Warren Bednarz motioned to approve all consent agenda items. **Bernadette Mele** seconded, and the motion was unanimously moved.

Finance Update

Jim Green reported the Food Share is doing well. Operating revenue is \$40,000 over budget and Operating expense is \$63,000 less than budget.

Julie Hambuchen mentioned some of the strategies that contributed to increased revenues including moving direct mail to an outside agency; a successful sustainer match campaign funded by the Brenden Family Foundation; and more individual contact with people with capacity to make larger gifts.

Rick Gaupo explained the Finance Committee process of revising the budget quarterly with the committee deciding whether the update is a board consent or discussion item. **Jim Green** said this process saves us time and keeps us forward looking; proactive rather than reactive.

In next year's budget (FY18), the largest line item change will be in salaries as the Management and Finance teams work toward a goal of having Food Share salaries in the 65th percentile for our region. We are using a "bottom up, farthest out" approach for realigning salaries. The proposed budget will add \$165,000 in raises and additional staff.

Warren Bednarz asked the committees to maintain an attractive ratio of overhead to program costs. **Rick Gaupo** said FY17 will have about 10 cents per dollar going to overhead.

Development Update

Courtney Knox Busch invited board members to the Saturday, July 15, Farm to Table Dinner and Auction at The Oregon Garden. **Warren Bednarz** suggested considering a Friday date for the future to accommodate weekend plans. **Jim Green** said the best measure of whether Friday or Saturday is good will be ticket sales.

Julie Hambuchen shared the following development highlights:

- New truck purchase support from Oregon Community Foundation, Spirit Mountain Community Fund, Bonaventure and Walmart Foundation will allow us to get two new trucks.
- Gretchen Scheutte and Midland Foundation have pledged \$40,000 per year for next 3 years for Youth Farm.
- Matching campaign opportunities include Century Link, June 5-16 through Network for Good portal (we have precommitted gifts of \$96,000. Seeking \$4,000 more.); and, Colson Family Foundation \$75,000 summer match, currently under way. Brenden Family Foundation has committed to another sustainer match.

- Invited board members to attend Donor Appreciation Luncheon, June 8; Meals on Wheels Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, June 19. Development is planning board social in August.
- Frances Alvarado was thanked for accepting an award on behalf of the Food Share from Sen. Jeff Merkley.

Food Report

Abisha Stone presented the monthly food report.

Governance Committee Report

Cheryl Wells presented the slates of Board officers, committee chairs, and board members, which were developed following discussions with individual board members. A vote will take place in September.

Board Officer Elections (Term starts Sept. 1, 2017): chair, Alex Beamer; vice-chair, Cheryl Wells; secretary, Courtney Knox Busch; treasurer, Jim Green.

Re-Election of Board Members (Term starts Sept. 1, 2017) – Eileen Zielinski, 1 year; Cheryl Wells, Courtney Knox Busch, Dick Yates, Frances Alvarado, Mike Garrison, all 3-year terms.

Committee Chair appointments: Executive Committee, Alex Beamer; Finance Committee, Jim Green; Governance Committee, Cheryl Wells; and new Community Impact Committee, Courtney Knox Busch.

Strategic Planning

Courtney, Alex, Cheryl are on the board's Strategic Planning committee. **Rick Gaupo** said the Strategic Plan is being developed to frame work that the Food Share does over the next 5 to 10 years. The document he shared introduced three planning focus areas: People receiving services, community, and systems. Each included outcome statements regarding food for today and resiliency for the future.

Discussion included what the Food Share's role should be if budget cuts impacting low-income individuals is executed. Board members expressed concern about the impacts on the people we serve that will result in more need for services. Board members recognize we cannot do this alone; we must work with others from many sectors, not just food.

Eileen Zielinski asked whether the Food Share should take on the role of convener of nonprofits? **Jim Green** said he didn't know if we should be the convener or not, but said no one else is doing it. **Julie Huckestein** shared from her own experience that convening takes a lot of time and effort. **Frances Alvarado** and **Esther Puentes** both said nonprofit decision makers (CEOs) need to be the ones at the table to move things along.

John Burt, who's an Oregon Hunger Task Force member, said Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon is pulling together information to address changes to immigration and food security programs and should be kept in mind as a possible partner.

Rick Gaupo said he appreciates the board saying the Food Share should dream bigger.

Adjournment

Cheryl Wells adjourned the meeting at 9:30 a.m.



Courtney Knox Busch
Board Secretary