

Marion-Polk Food Share
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
September 28, 2017

Board Members Attending: Frances Alvarado, Alex Beamer, Warren Bednarz, John Burt, Mike Garrison, Jim Green, Courtney Knox Busch, Esther Puentes, Eileen Zielinski

Staff Members Attending: Eileen DiCicco, Aalicea Dominguez, Ian Dixon-McDonald, Rick Gaupo, Julie Hambuchen, Corrina Hawkins, Robbin Kerner, Auzeen Rasaie, Abisha Stone, Taylor West

Call to Order

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

Guest Introductions

Ian Dixon-McDonald introduced Taylor West, RARE Americorps Service Member.

Consent Agenda & Finance Update FY17-18

Alex Beamer combined the consent agenda and Finance Update portions of the meeting.

Jim Green said the Food Share is doing well financially; we're ahead of last year. He said that the revised FY18 budget in the board packet was reviewed by Finance Committee, which recommends adoption.

He also announced that Holly Larson is leaving the Food Share to pursue her consulting business. She will be working with the Food Share as a consultant through January to complete the audits, 990, etc.

ACTION: Warren Bednarz moved and **John Burt** seconded adoption of the following items. The vote was unanimous.

- FY 17-18 Budget
- Board Meeting Minutes, July 13, 2017
- Financial Statements ending July 31, 2017
- Approval of revised 17-18 budget
- Pantry approval – Idanha/Detroit Food Pantry, partner serving underserved area for past 5 years, will become a 1A pantry to strengthen their service to this community.
- Resolution for adding check signer (Ian Dixon-McDonald) – Reason: VP of Operations Abisha Stone is departing. Oct. 4, 2017 is her last day.

Board Member Vote

Mike Garrison presented the following Governance Committee recommended slates:

- Re-election of Board members
 - Eileen Zielinski (1-year term)
 - Cheryl Wells (3-year term)
 - Courtney Knox Busch (3-year term)
 - Mike Garrison (3-year term)
 - Frances Alvarado (3-year term)

ACTION: Jim G. moved, **Warren B.**, seconded approval of slate, and the motion was unanimously approved.

- Election of Officers – Alex Beamer, chair; Cheryl Wells, vice chair; Courtney Knox Busch, secretary; Jim Green, treasurer.

ACTION: Warren B. moved, **Eileen Z.** seconded approval of slate, and the motion was unanimously approved.

- New board member election – Bahaa Wanly, COO Salem Health, whose focus is on community health. **Rick Gaupo** pointed out that this is a key partnership we wish to strengthen – national trend of food banks aligning with health initiatives.

ACTION: Warren B. moved, **Eileen Z.** seconded approval of Bahaa Wanly as new board member, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Development Update

VP of Development Julie Hambuchen presented an update on Food Share Development activities.

- Thanked board members who attended appreciation luncheons.
- Noted good growth in Farm to Table event performance, and change of venue next year – Willamette Heritage.
- Direct mail strategy – following decline in direct mail performance, the Food Share hired Grizzard Communications. As a result, we have seen a 47% increase in new donors due to more aggressive acquisition efforts and a 43% increase in revenue from direct mail. Jim G. asked for cost of service; Julie to supply.
- Next board meeting there will be thank you notes for board to take home and help fill out. Details to come.
- Chefs' Nite Out on Oct. 8 welcomes 8 new restaurants/wineries. Ticket sales are slightly behind last year at this time, but only by 20 tickets. Article on Steve Morton in Statesman Journal today to advance CNO. The result of story idea pitched by our awesome new marketing manager, Kendra Boren.

Food Share FY17 Results

Rick G. asked members to read the spiral-bound FY17 results report that was handed out today. He also noted that the August food report was in the board packet.

Strategic Planning

Rick Gaupo and Ian Dixon-McDonald introduced a Discussion of Strategic Direction: Increase Service to Underserved/High-Need Populations

VP of Programs Ian Dixon-McDonald said discussions around this strategic initiative were spurred among staff following participation in the recent Closing the Hunger Gap conference that convened food banks and other organizations to look at racial inequity in food access work. Staff is seeking board direction on Food Share internal and external policies and involvement in advocacy efforts around this topic.

Frances Alvarado, Esther Puentes, Eileen Zielinski all expressed that subtle, systemic racism exists in our community, and is felt especially among Latinos and Pacific Islanders. How do we engage these families; teach them to help themselves; help them to feel like they belong? — By giving them a place at the table and by partnering with others who are serving these populations.

How can the Food Share help? Esther suggested being involved in the discussions about Health for All Kids initiative that goes into effect in January, providing health insurance for children who are undocumented. The Food Share can help spread the word about this program through our network of partners.

John Burt said we could follow and potentially support the advocacy activities of organizations such as Partners for a Hunger Free Oregon, OFB and Causa of Oregon. Advocacy topics include education/job readiness, housing, health and food access; all of which are Feeding America platforms, Rick added.

Courtney said she would like to see the board articulate the issues we want to advance so as staff and board members we can act on behalf of the Food Share. More discussion to come.

Adjournment

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

Courtney Knox Busch
Board Secretary