Marion-Polk Food Share

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

February 22, 2018

**Board Members Attending:** Frances Alvarado,Alex Beamer,John Burt,Jim Green,Courtney Knox Busch,Brenda Tuomi, Bahaa Wanly,Eileen Zielinski

**Staff Members Attending:** Kendra Alexander,Rob Demchak,Eileen DiCicco, Ian Dixon-McDonald*,* Aalicea Dominguez*,* Kimberly Fanshier,Rick Gaupo*,* Josh Gwin,Julie Hambuchen, Corrina Hawkins,Robbin Kerner,Auzeen Rasaie, Lexi Stickel

**Call to Order**

**Alex Beamer** called the meeting to order at 8:25 a.m.

**Guest Introductions**

**VP of Operations Ian Dixon-McDonald** introduced Elizabeth Hollandsworth, a student from Cascade High School; and Rocky Nyland, a representative from the Aumsville Community Food Bank.

**Consent Agenda**

* Board Meeting Minutes, Jan. 25, 2018
* Financial Statements ending Jan. 31, 2018

**ACTION: John Burt** moved and **Eileen Zielinski** seconded adoption of the consent agenda items. The vote was unanimous.

**Mission Moment**

**Ian Dixon-McDonald** invited Rocky Nylund of Aumsville Community Food Bank to talk about the ways her food bank is filling needs in her community in creative ways.

Rocky and Eric Nylund, pastors of the Aumsville Pentecostal Church of God, have operated the pantry for about one year. Rocky says the Food Share has been an amazing partner and gives us much credit for the success of their program. After seeing our flagship pantry operation at Grand Ronde, the pair quickly adopted the shopping style format and took it further. They dropped food limits believing that people will only take what they need. So far, this has proven to be true. The program started with eight families and currently serves more than 110 families weekly. The pantry also sponsors a community garden, a monthly community meal and seed to supper classes. They provided back to school supplies, became members of the local service integration team, offer a weekend backpack program for children, participated in the homeless count this year, and put in a shower facility for use by their clients. We have dreams to do much more, Rocky said. The community has really gotten behind us.

Rick Gaupo agreed with Rocky’s assessment that people are hungry for way more than food. He called us supporting partners in their good work.

**Finance Update**

**Finance Committee Chair Jim Green** said the Food Share’s finances are healthy. The more than one-half million-dollar surplus is largely due to development staff efforts. He said we are approaching the slower (fundraising) time of year, but said Julie will keep us above water.

Rick Gaupo said the January financial statement places us $90,000 ahead of budget. Rick said he wants to discuss our forecasting methodology with the Finance Committee to determine whether changes should be made. The way we now budget tends to show a deficit that in reality is not realized.

**Strategic Planning**

**Rick Gaupo, Julie Hambuchen and Ian Dixon-McDonald** presented a draft strategic direction document. They received the hoped for nod from board members that the document outlines the direction in which we plan to move in coming years.

Out of the strategic direction will come a strategic plan (5-year) and annual plans, the first of which will be FY19. These documents will provide the internal map for our work and external marketing themes.

The document presented a summary of who we are, our strategic direction, and our core strategies. It also included detailed explanations of each summary section.

Core strategies include:

Access

1. Strong distribution network
2. Community health partnerships
3. Federal and state support programs (maximize enrollment and use)
4. Individual resiliency
5. Community food systems (convening and joining)

Community

1. Community led solutions

Poverty and Equity

1. Public policy
2. Cross-sector collaboration
3. Diversity, equity and inclusion

Courtney Knox Bush asked what the staff needed from the board to move forward. Rick asked board members to decide what strategies interest them most. Courtney suggested aligning the board and its committees to the strategic plan to move strategies forward. Rick said he would like to see that alignment at the staff level as well. Both agreed, “It’s a big lift.”

**Adjournment**

Alex Beamer adjourned the meeting at 9:35 a.m.

Next board meeting is March 22, 2018; 8-9:30 a.m.

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Courtney Knox Busch

Board Secretary