

Marion-Polk Food Share
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
September 27, 2018

Board Members Attending: Alex Beamer, Warren Bednarz, Courtney Knox Busch, John Burt, Sarah DeSantis, Mike Garrison, Jim Green, Julie Huckestein, Linda Norris, Walter Smith, Brenda Tuomi, Bahaa Wanly, Cheryl Wells

Staff Members Attending: Kendra Alexander, Kendra Boren, Eileen DiCicco, Sayla Elsbree-Kraft, Ian Dixon-McDonald, Rick Gaupo, Jim E. Green, Julie Hambuchen, Corrina Hawkins, Cheryl Young

Call to Order

Alex Beamer called the meeting to order at 8:17 a.m.

Guest Introductions

Rick Gaupo introduced Sayla Elsbree-Kraft, our new food resource coordinator; and new board members Linda Norris, former Salem city manager, and Sarah DeSantis, SACA executive director.

Financial Update

Finance Director **Jim E. Green** reported our financials are strong. Rick Gaupo noted the results are a matter of timing and some staff savings. He said we are on plan, not exceedingly above plan.

Warren Bednarz noted the Finance Committee has looked at the financials thoroughly and is working on an investment policy and our retirement plan.

Consent Agenda

- Board Meeting Minutes, July 12, 2018
- August Financial Statement

ACTION: **Jim Green** moved and **Warren Bednarz** seconded adoption of the consent agenda items. The vote was unanimous.

Passing of the Gavel

Alex Beamer passed the gavel of board president to **Cheryl Wells**. Rick expressed appreciation for Alex's leadership and thoughtful questions. Cheryl also thanked Alex for the wonderful job he has done running his business and the Food Share board.

Warren Bednarz volunteered to serve as secretary. **Courtney Knox Busch** is serving as vice chair. **Jim Green** continues as treasurer.

Mission Moment

Brenda Tuomi is resigning from the Food Share board. She will be traveling with her husband. She said she appreciated the opportunity to serve, appreciates the Food Share, and is going to miss being on the board. Cheryl Wells invited her to contact Governance Committee Chair Mike Garrison if she feels compelled to run again. This was Brenda's last meeting.

Tutorial of Board Portal

Kendra Boren presented a tutorial to the board for accessing the Board Portal at www.marionpolkfoodshare.org. The portal includes several sections, including board membership & activities, bylaws & board policies, strategic plan, organizational info, agenda, minutes, packets, legal & financial info, and committee descriptions – exec., budget, governance.

Members needing assistance with their login or other information should contact Kendra. **Mike Garrison** said the website provides a good overview of what the Food Share does in the community and how we do it. It's a good resource for prospective board members.

Kendra noted that board bios are on the website and invited members to review them. Contact her if updates are desired.

Development Update

VP of Development Julie Hambuchen thanked board members who attended the September donor lunch and made personal phone call invitations. She said the Food Share had more people than ever before attend and credited this personal touch for making the difference.

Branding: Julie noted we have begun a branding evaluation process. We are working with couple of marketing agencies to assess our branding both visual and expressed in words. Review of our name and logo will be part of the process. **Courtney** attended the recent staff meeting that opened up the evaluation and said, "It was awesome to be in room with so many passionate people." She commented that discussion facilitator Logan Martin has a clear, direct, good view of brand. The initial overview was exhilarating.

New Donors: Finance Director Jim E. Green noted that we added 1,200 donors in past year. Julie explained it is the result of a change in our direct mail acquisition strategy. We have outsourced direct mail and acquisition mailings so that we can focus staff time on relationship building.

Chefs' Nite Out: Board members were invited to attend the Oct. 14, 2018 Chefs' Nite Out. Board members were encouraged to express thanks and appreciation to the vendors who donate food, beverages and staff time. Cheryl suggested board members who cannot attend themselves buy tickets to treat someone else to the event.

Discussion: Woodburn Food Bank

Rick Gaupo opened the discussion about the Food Share's participation in the future of the AWARE food pantry in Woodburn. This food pantry is one of the Food Share's top three

pantries. The Food Share was contacted by AWARE board members after the pantry's longtime staff member resigned in August. Through evolving conversations, the Food Share was asked to help AWARE find a staff replacement, manage that person and manage the food bank. Central to these discussions are the following Food Share long-term goals:

1. Strong pantry serving the Woodburn community.
2. Community food resource center as a hub for the Woodburn community and surrounding area.
3. Community engagement, community-led commitment to hunger-free Woodburn.

VP of Programs Ian Dixon-McDonald said AWARE service is vital to Woodburn. This pantry distributes about .5 million pounds of food annually and is the only pantry of its size that is independently run.

Actions to date: The Food Share has hired a temporary coordinator to run the pantry five days a week. The Food Share will manage AWARE for one year under a service contract with the AWARE board of directors. The service contract is expected to be executed in October.

Next steps: Between now and December Food Share staff will try to get the lay of land. Assess the volunteer base and finances. Raise funds for the program under the AWARE banner. Add Food Share strength to support and strengthen AWARE. Staff will come back to board in January with a detailed plan.

Mike Garrison said the board has been trying to get Woodburn representative on the Food Share board for years. Mike and **Frances Alvarado** are interviewing **Gustavo Gutierrez-Gomez**, who is Woodburn Community Relations Manager to assess his interest.

Rick summarized: Our mission is to serve hungry families. We're stepping into the gap. The reason we can even do this is because of Ian's and Julie's work and an amazingly strong staff. Our work in Woodburn will come at a cost to other initiatives.

Adjournment

Cheryl Wells adjourned the meeting at 9:35 a.m.

Next board meeting is Oct. 25, 2018; 8-9:30 a.m.



Warren Bednarz
Board Secretary

