

Minutes of The
Fannin County Connections
Executive Board Meeting

Friday May 16, 202

Members Present: Sherry Echelberger, Robert Gleadall, Jacqueline Brown, Kim Berger, Katie Kirk, Jane Kimsey, Deb Cantrell, Karen Walton, Brian Higgins, Jim Brumbelow, Tom Niswander, Sha Frazier, Suzanne Ponton, Kimberley Gutierrez, Bonnie Villeneuve, Gordon Riddoch

Staff Members Present: Jacqueline McKee, Victoria Walker, Mandi Hyde

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 and a check was presented to the Fannin Children's Fund Program for \$10,000. This was half of the money made on the Soap Box Derby.

1. **Consent agenda-** Motion to accept Minutes of the April 18,2025 FCFC Board Meeting and the Operations Summary of the Food Pantry was made, seconded, and approved by voice vote.
2. **Feed Fannin-** Tom Niswander reported that the Feed Fannin was doing well. There continues to be concerns about funding levels from Federal Government. The Chattanooga Food bank continues to provide food. We will deal with issues when they arise. Jane Kimsey reported they have a new roof on the tool shed at the field.
3. **Fundraising-A. The Soap Box Derby** was a major success it raised \$22,000 split with the school program. A wrap up meeting was held and several new ideas for next year were proposed. Date will be May 2,2026.
B. Chateau Meichtry- A fund raiser is planned for August 29, 5:30-8::30 at this winery. There will be food trucks, Silent Auction and line dancing. The theme will be Honky Tonk Heros. General admission is \$ 50.00 single and \$80.00 per couple
C. Christmas Tour of Homes Victoria reported that plans are coming together. There are 5 homes committed and 2 more possible. Date is first Sunday in December (Dec. 7, 2025)
4. **Committee Reports- A. Finance** Tom presented the monthly Profit Loss Report. (Copy provided) We continue to be ahead of the proposed budget. Overall, we are in good shape. The finance team is working on the FY 2026 budget; the proposed budget will be presented at next board meeting for review and recommendations.
B. Family Care Support Group- Bonnie is very proud and excited for her support group. They continue to grow in numbers and personal relationships. For the summer she hopes to have a picnic on Lake Nottly but needs lifeguards. They are planning on a bowling outing and attending the rodeo in August. She has a need for transportation.

5. Marketing Update- Victoria reported that the newsletter will be printed and available by the end of May. The Annual Report will be an accumulation of data, stories and updated information from the past year.

6. Directors Report-Jacqueline gave an update on the recent Chattanooga Food Bank Conference. She was a featured speaker about the operation of the Fannin County Food Pantry. Kayla and Tom both attended also. There were 200 food organizations present.

B. Walmart and Ingles donations-Walmart has increased their donations. They now give seasonal items. Ingles is considering giving food to the pantry.

C. The Knights of Columbus fundraiser at The Ledger was a big success. The amount raised was approximately \$2,000 but the exact amount has not been determined yet.

D. Car Series is a program for people living in their cars. FCFC has car shades available. A class was offered on improving your car for better living space.

E. Collaborative Requirements- A copy of the Georgia Collaborative Requirements was presented. In order to receive the \$56,000 from the state to support the program, the rules must be read and followed. A representative from the state will meet and discuss the requirements with the board.

7. Open forum- Victoria announced that she is engaged and is expecting a child.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:10

Minutes Approved on _____

Submitted by Gordon Riddoch