



— FANNIN COUNTY —  
**family connection™**

**Minutes**  
**ANNUAL MEETING**  
**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**  
**Friday, April 19, 2024**

**ATTENDANCE – Quorum Present**

Members Present: Jim Brumbelow, Robert Gleadall, Brian Higgins, Chris Martinez, Tom Niswander, Mark Snoddy, Karen Walton

Members Absent: Ryan Beadnell, Theresa (TC) Dillard, Sherry Echelberger, A.D. Frazier, Jane Kimzey, Gordon Riddoch, Bonnie Villeneuve, Candace Youngberg

Staff Present: Sherry Morris

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chair Robert Gleadall called the meeting to order at 8:35 am. He asked us to remember and reach out to Bonnie who fell and will be needing dental surgery.

**2. CONSENT AGENDA (grouped and approved through one action)**

Minutes from March meeting – Motion to waive made by Jim Brumbelow, seconded by Mark Snoddy  
Motion passed unanimously.

**3. FEED FANNIN**

Status Report – Tom Niswander Tom reported that Feed Fannin continues to be pleased with our working relationship and with the Family Connection operation, in general. They continue to be our biggest donor.

**4. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. Finance – Tom Niswander**

- a. Monthly Financial Report - Tom reported that our finances are very strong. There are no issues or concerns. Our net income is higher than is shown on the financial report.
- b. Budget Cycle – Planning Schedule – Our fiscal year begins July 1. The financial committee will be meeting in May and June and will present a budget to be voted on by the board at the June meeting.
- c. Conflict of Interest Statements – Mark Snoddy moved to accept our existing policy with Jim seconding. This passed unanimously. Each board member needs to complete a disclosure form by May. This needs to be updated yearly by all board members.

**B. Fundraising –**

- a. Soap Box Derby – May 4, 2024 – Status – Brian Higgins & Sherry Morris
  1. Number of Cars & Drivers – Brian has a list of the current drivers and cars. We have 7 new cars.
  2. Sponsorship Update – Sponsorship donations look good, but we can always use more.
  3. Advertising Summary – Radio ads have started. They are asking for donors and drivers and will be at the event from 11 am -1 pm. There is signage on 3 billboards

that have been donated by Mike Galinsky. In the past, have gotten a good response from our newspaper ads and Facebook. Board members were asked to share the derby videos to their Facebook friends.

4. Volunteer Recruitment-
  - Justin from the BRBA is checking into a food truck that can offer hot dogs and hamburgers. Board member Ryan will donate potato chips and other food, as needed.
  - Bubba Gibbs has gotten students (about 12) to volunteer that day
  - Still need volunteers to help move cars to the middle school on Friday, May 3. Also needed on Friday is help with checking in cars. Mark volunteered to help.
  - Troy will MC but would like a second person to help that day.
  - Tara has been contacted at the high school and will help get volunteers to fill in as needed.
  - Sherry will reach out to the pantry volunteers. Chris will reach out to Faith Presbyterian.
  - Chris will check with BRBA to see if they are willing to help with a concession station.
  - Our monetary goal is \$6000. We have a matching donor. The proceeds will go to the Children's Fund at Fannin schools.

### **C. Strategy Team Reports**

- a. Family Care (Kinship) - Sherry
  1. Support Group – Bonnie will be resuming this once she feels better. The ladies who have been coming greatly appreciate the support and interaction of the group. One lady stated that this is the only “alone respite” she gets all month. They have even asked for a second meeting a month to do crafts and have really enjoyed the outings.
  2. Project Coordinator Vacancy & Hiring schedule - John as Project Coordinator has resigned and we will be posting his job soon. We will first be opening the position to local residents. There is a lot of interest in the job.
- b. Holiday Tour of Homes – Chris

Chris met with Sherry.

  - We are still in need of three homes for this event. The board members were asked to think about friends in the area who could donate the use of their homes.
  - Jane has offered to collect the gifts for the hostess baskets that are handed out to the homeowners. Chris read a description from Jane of what type of gifts are needed.
  - Chris reached out to Michael to see if he would help with the design again this year.
  - A discussion occurred concerning the date change from the first Sunday in December to the second being December 8. The first Sunday falls on Thanksgiving weekend. It was agreed to hold it December 8.
- c. Mental Health – Sherry

Sherry said the book study has been going very well. About 6 people are attending and have one more meeting April 30. The group has explored how trauma affects people through their lives.

### **5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT - Sherry**

- a. Associate Director Announcement – Jacqueline McKee has been offered the job. There were 42 applicants. She will be starting May 28. Jacqueline brings experience and a youthful energy to the job and we are thrilled she will be joining us.

### **6. OTHER**

- a. Past Due Lunches – A discussion occurred around students unable to pay their school bills at the end of the school year. Robert made a motion for Family Connection to front up to \$5000 to pay unpaid debts for seniors at Fannin High School to assure their graduation. Mark seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. Sherry reminded the board that the Journey to Action meeting is May 7 and we need representation. The meeting will last 9:30 am to 2:30 pm. Board members were asked to sign up online.
- c. The Marine Corps League will be sponsoring a weapons defensive course for ladies in May. Part of the course will be taught in a classroom with the opportunity of getting one-on-one instruction at a

shooting range. Brian reminded everyone of a de-escalation class that will be offered to the board in the future.

- d. Please note the Serenberry event has been cancelled this year.
- e. **The next board meeting has been changed to MAY 24.**

Motion to adjourn was made by Jim Brumbelow, seconded and passed. Meeting was adjourned by Robert, the Vice Chair at 9:55 am.