**Fannin County Family Connection**

**Board Minutes**

**March 17, 2022**

ATTENDANCE

Present: Jim Brumbelow, Theresa Dillard, Sherry Echelberger, Robert Gleadall, Michael Kilpatrick, Jane Kimzey, Chris Martinez, Tom Niswander, Gordon Riddoch, Jim Yacavone.

Absent: Mauren Escott, Renee Lunney, Anna Speesen, Cindy Trimble, Candace

Youngberg

Staff present: Sherry Morris, Kristi Lindstrom

CALL TO ORDER & APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Jim Yacavone.

Motion made by Jim Brumbelow and seconded by Robert Gleadall to waive the reading and approve Minutes from February meeting. Unanimously approved.

SPECIAL GUEST & SERVICE RECOGNITION—Jim Yacavone

Jim thanked Cathy Cox-Brakefield for her service as Chairman of FCFC over the past four years. Under her leadership, FCFC has risen from a low point to a very successful level. She was presented a framed certificate and then the presentation moved outside. A tree has been planted on the grounds of FCFC to honor Cathy’s service, along with an engraved marble monument with her name and dates served. Cathy expressed her sincere appreciation and thanked all of those who served with her. Special thanks to those who arranged these gifts and recognition ceremony.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – Finance: Tom Niswander

1. Reviewed the Balance and the Profit & Loss (P & L) sheets dated February 28, 2022 (documents attached). Tom reported there are no surprises with donations continuing and our balance being in good shape. The Brokerage account has been established and process is in place to receive securities donations when given to FCFC. There was a discussion on having those working with this brokerage account bonded.
2. GaFCP FY23 Funding—The state funding is currently at $48,000 but there is consideration being given to $50,000 and maybe $52,500. We will not know for a while the final total amount. Motion made by Tom and Seconded by Sherry E to accept funding offer from Ga Family Connection Partnership which will be at least $48,000 and at maximum $52,500. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Capital Projects Update – Generator, Conference Room A/V Upgrade—Tom gave status overview of Generator project (see attachment). Motion made by Robert G. and seconded by Chris M. to approve capital expenditure up to and including $10,000 as FCFC’s contribution to the total capital cost; and to authorize the FCFC team to negotiate appropriate facility use, cost sharing and liability agreements with all relevant parties. Motion carried unanimously with no further discussion. Other project update is the audio/video system in Conference Room. In an effort to increase participation in Collaborative meetings, the current A/V system needs to be updated. One possible system to utilize is The “Owl Meets” system. Sherry is aware of other Family Connection facilities utilizing and reports the system cost is $3,000 to 5,000, with no monthly fees, and a 30 day return policy. A demonstration for the board is trying to be arranged. Special thanks to Tom, the finance committee, the generator team and the sound team for their continued work finances and our capital projects.

COMMITTEE REPORTS -- Strategy Team: Anna Speesen & Sherry Morris

1. Mental Health—In Anna’s absence Sherry gave update on mental health awareness. Articles in newspaper are continuing and there is discussion about starting a support group or a NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) chapter in Fannin. Next mental health strategy team meeting is June 7, at 1:00 p.m. (See Attachment of info.)
2. Poverty Awareness—Next meeting of poverty task force is March 22 at 1:00. Currently group is working on creating a logo and Mission statement, developing training on how to approach clients, developing client screening tool, and coordinating outreach events. The Poverty Simulation on March 16 was a success (special thanks to Sherry and staff for coordinating this event). There were over 40 participants and over 30 role players. Kristi is working with high school A/V dept to create a promotional video to be used prior to next time PS is conducted (special thanks to Kristi FOR ALL that she does to promote FCFC). The current plan is to hold PS every other year and a Reality Day for high school juniors and seniors on the off years.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – Committees & Task Forces

Jim would like for Board to have a dinner meeting to review the findings of the task forces (this meeting is in addition to the regular monthly board meeting). At the meeting each task force will present a bulleted presentation of their findings followed by discussion of entire board. The group generally thought a Thursday evening would be best. The projected meeting date is during April. More info to follow.

Feed Fannin Report: Jim Yacavone

FCFC and FF relationship continuing to grow with both. The First Fruits group is forming a non-profit. There are plans in the making to have a “food summit” with all parties meeting food requests in Fannin County. The purpose is to discuss how all organizations can work together to meet the needs of the county while recruiting more volunteers. Jim will keep the FCFC Board updated on progress.

Directors Report: Sherry Morris

1. Sherry reviewed handouts of monthly statistics. She pointed out that the value of donations is now included. Food Lion continues to lead retail stores in donations. Discussion held on inviting Food Lion representatives to a meeting to recognize them personally. Feed Fannin continues to be largest financial donor overall.
2. Upcoming events—see agenda for dates and information. Annual plan presentation is Monday, March 21, 1t 9:00 a.m. with Jim and TC attending in person and Tom attending virtually.

Adjournment

Jim Yacavone adjourned the meeting at 3:10. Motion to go into executive session made, seconded and unanimously approved.

Minutes submitted by Theresa TC Dillard

Next Board meeting – March 21, at 2:00 p.m.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Secretary

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

March 17, 3:15 p.m.

Members in attendance for regular board meeting moved into Executive Session to discuss staff issue.

Finance Chair, Tom Niswander, presented resolution to give three staff members a gas stipend until gas prices stabilize. Discussion on amount being withheld that will reduce the actual amount received. Discussion also on board being able to vote to stop stipend at any time with a vote.

Discussion to amend the current resolution to be $150 per month for Director (Sherry) and $75 per month for two staff members (Mandi and Greg).

Copies of both resolutions attached.

Motion made by Jim Brumbelow and seconded by Robert G. to approved amended resolution. Unanimously approved.

Executive Session adjourned.