**Fannin County Family Connection**

**Board Minutes**

**March 16, 2023 -- 8:30 a.m.**

ATTENDANCE

Present: Jim Brumbelow, Theresa (TC) Dillard, Sherry Echelberger, Miichael Kilpatrick, Jane Kimzey, Chris Martinez, Tom Niswander, Gordon Riddoch, Jim Yacavone

Absent: Robert Gleadall, Anna Speesen, Candice Youngberg.

Staff present: Kristy Lindstrom

CALL TO ORDER, APPROVAL OF MINUTES, VOTING ON NEW MEMBERS by current members

The meeting was called to order by Jim Yacavone

Motion made by Jim Brumbelow to accept minutes of February meeting. Seconded by Chris Martinez. Unanimously accepted.

Slate of New Members reviewed by current members and motion made by Jim to accept and seconded by TC Dillard. Each new member voted for individually and each one accepted unanimously. See attached list of new members.

OFFICIAL BOARD BUSINESS

1. New board members joined the meeting and were introduced and welcomed by the Chairperson.
2. ANNUAL MEETING – Jim Brumbelow moved to accept slate of officers for upcoming year by acclamation and all agreed. See attachment of officers.
3. Review of Conflict of Interest Policy. Chris Martinez made motion to accept policy and seconded by Sherry Echelberger Unanimously approved. Before next meeting in April all members are asked to complete Conflict of Interest Form and place on file with Executive Director. Reviewed Document Retention and Whistler Blower Policies. No action taken. Copies of all policies attached.
4. Committee Assignments reviewed. Jim Yacavone made motion to accept committee assignments and Chris Martinez seconded. New members will be assigned and voted on next month.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Finance – Tom Niswander –
   1. Reviewed P & L and Balance Sheets (see attachments). Donations higher than expected and expenses less than budgeted. Tom stated we are 2/3 through budget and we are in good shape.
   2. Grant Status--Impac100 & GaFCP – Money will be used to purchase transport van for Kinship Care Program.
   3. Investment Status—Savings account is earning money. Goal is to have four to six months of operating expense available at all times.
   4. Availability—Treasurer is available for any new board members who would like a one-on-one review of finances. See Tom to schedule meeting(s).
2. Fundraising –Kristy Lindstrom and Michael Kilpatrick
   1. Christmas Tour of Homes—Date is Dec. 3 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. There are three homes currently committed to participating. Give any potential homeowner names to Kristy.
   2. New Marketing Strategies discussed with more specific details to come as we get closer to date of event.
   3. Timeline—Starting now is not too early. Will need silent auction items and these can be brought in anytime. With two co-chairs they will map out time line and share with group.
   4. Invitation to join—New board members interested in serving on fund raising committee please see Kristy or Michael with questions.
3. Strategy Teams—Kristy Lindstrom
   1. Mental Health Awareness – Articles concluded in December but will have a FB page for adults – Your Mental Health Matters. Committee’s new primary focus will be on youth mental health and will be partnering with the high school on new initiatives (such as peer to peer).
   2. Poverty Awareness—Continuing to review direction of this group.
   3. Kinship Care—New transport van will provide support to senior citizens caring for younger children as this population is growing daily in FC.
4. Communications & PR—Kristy Lindstrom
   1. PR continues via robust website, [www.fcfc1.org](http://www.fcfc1.org); Facebook and Instagram; Quarterly Newsletter; and, Public Service Announcements on WPPL Mountain Country Radio and Rebel Radio
   2. Banner Ads ran in News Observer last year.
   3. Christmas Tour of Homes: December 3, 2023, from 1-5:00. Goal: 6 homes (have 3). If any Board members would like to offer their home for the tour, let us know. Collect silent auction items now.
   4. Will have Christmas outreach event for clients at Serenity in the Mountains – to see their 130+ decorated Christmas trees. Will also partner with FCHS art program to create Christmas cutouts (stand behind, put faces through). Plan to participate in Arts in the Park and other events. Will also have banners, magnets, and other signage to increase awareness.
5. Feed Fannin—Jim Yacavone-- FCFC purchases food from Chattanooga and Atlanta Food banks several times per month with money coming from GNAP (state program). State considering allowing purchases only four times per year which would cause us to have to buy retail which will be challenging. Currently a $1 donation allows us to purchase $8 worth of food. There are also other potential changes by the state regarding eligibility guidelines. Will keep everyone posted on any changes that are implemented by state.
6. Soap Box Derby—Brian Higgins-- Sponsored by Kiwanis and held on May 6 at 10:00 a.m. at Fannin County Middle School. The Blue Ridge Soap Box Derby (BRSBD) was created to by Brian Higgins (new board member) and Mike Sullivan. They need drivers ages 7 and up. A donor has purchased a car for FCFC and it will have full color graphics. Everyone invited to attend. There are 30 cars thus far in the race. More info can be found on the BRSBD website and facebook page.

Director’s Report: Kristy Lindstrom

1. Reviewed handouts of monthly statistics. See attached.
2. Reviewed Upcoming events—see agenda for dates and information. Also check out events at <https://fcfc1.org/calendar>.

Adjournment

JimYacavone adjourned the meeting at 11:15

Minutes submitted by Theresa TC Dillard

Next Board meeting – April 20, 2023, at 8:30 a.m.

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

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