

Fountain City Difference Project, Inc
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
May 21st, 2022
12:45 p.m.

Columbus State University Main Campus Library Columbus, GA 31907

Directors present: Jazsmaine Dixon (Executive Director- ED), Pierre Heard (Community Outreach Director-COD), Jacobe Love (Mass Media Director- MMD), Deionka Dixon (Financial Operations Director- FOD)

Admin Present: Danielle Gaskins

I. Call to Order

Jazsmaine Dixon, ED, called the meeting to order at 12:52 p.m. and welcomed everyone and the meeting began with a short review of the April 16th minutes by Pierre. Pierre made a motion to approve the minutes, Jacobe seconded, April 16th minutes approved by the board.

II. Agenda

Jazsmaine Dixon began the meeting with a discussion tasks and duty updates since the previous meeting.

III. Updates

Jacobe presented his updates regarding Mass Media. For equipment there is a group called Southeast Stage. However, their soundstage is a little more on the expensive side. Also, Columbus Tape & Video, more affordable than Southeast and waiting to hear back from Nicole about the PS Systems.

Chairs and tables- Ms. Nette, so far, she is the only contact we have. Parking & cones- Contacted he Captain in Columbus Police Department, waiting to hear back from her. Advertising- his students helped him create commercials which he will present to the board after the meeting.

Pierre Heard presented his updates regarding the Parks & Rec locations for Splash Jam. Contacted Vicky again who advised him to contact Mr. Seldon at Shirley B Winston. Mr. Seldon informed that the use of inside or outside is on a first come first serve basis. They do not do holds and reservations must be made in person. Procurement for use of any facility falling under Columbus Parks & Recreation, cannot be done in advance. Monthly checks ins will be required in order to get desired date.

Shirley B Winston is closed on Sundays, but they are open around 2-3 pm Saturdays. He plans to meet with Mr. Seldon today. Shirley B Winston is in Division 1 of Columbus that falls under the jurisdiction of Chairwoman Hughley- Green. Pierre stated he will reach out to her about what the school board can do or provide for nonprofits and their events.

He informed the board that there is currently one volunteer, Tatiana Lewis from Columbus High School. He reached out to CHS magnet coordinator to get FCDP on registry board for nonprofit for students to be able to volunteer. He also will be contacting the Guidance department & Magnet programs that do community service to see what is needed to get volunteers.

Deionka reported of her contact for possible volunteers, Cortney Wilson. However, Cortney will be out until August so she will reach out then. She created the first FCDP newsletter that is to go out May 31,2022. She has been assisting Jazsmaine getting ready for Market day on June 25, 2022. For Next meeting will discuss access to financials from Jazsmaine.

Jazsmaine contacted major Marvin Strange of the Sheriff's department. Waiting on confirmation to see if the CPD & Sheriff's department can provide 6 officers and a donation. Domestic Violence Roundtable & Columbus Martial Arts have been confirmed. She has been in talks with Jason Benton who is fire arm certified interested in doing the gun workshop. Communications were sent a few days ago in hope to get an in-person meeting. In the process of trying to set up day and time. Will update at next meeting.

IV. Budget

FCDP currently has \$2,570 in donations. Current grant applications include: Ben & Jerry's \$30k closes June 15, 2022, \$1k Mini Grant – should hear back in July & \$5k Mini Grant – also should hear back in July.

V. Old Business

Jazsmaine brought up the idea to have a community event where people can come and talk about the crime in the area and how we can fix it. The equivalent of a Townhall meeting.

Pierre suggested that the Townhall would need to be located where crime is affecting people the most, i.e. South of Macon Rd. Possible locations: South library, Liberty Theatre, Prince Hall event center, Mildred Terry, Delta House.

Jacobe suggested to go to the individual neighborhoods and go door to door and have conversation. He stated it would also be good advertising as well.

Deionka proposed that at the market day, when we draw in the people, we can have them take a survey about wanting to have a townhall meeting about the crime in the area. How would they like to hear about who we are and what we do? She also suggested a registration /sign-up sheet at the table and even a box for donations. The survey would include 3-5 impactful questions that allows us to collect data to also assist with applying for grants. As well as having a spin board game that has questions about FCDP topics, gun violence, Domestic Violence, Self Defense, etc.

Jazsmaine inquired if we should have baked goods and should we sell them or have people just donate for whatever they feel for the goods. Also, what do we want to do about the baked goods, do we have someone bake them for us, do we bake them or purchase them from a store. Jacobe suggested getting dome donuts from Krispy Kreme and giving them as the free baked good.

In regards to the items on the table for market day, they will include: goody bags with branded pens, hand sanitizer, notepad & candy. Brochures, Business cards, thank you cards with the EIN number and the baked goods. Jazsmaine also informed that on the tri-board, there will be a QR code for volunteers & donations.

Pierre advised to make the most use of people's time is to have them complete the game, then the survey, then earn a free treat.

VI. New Business

1. The target attendance for Splash Jam 2023 has changed from 500-100 attendees to 100-200, to make a more manageable and cost efficient first FCDP event.
2. Danielle Gaskins will be become a paid contracted Event Planner starting January 2023.
3. Starting next year have quarterly community meetings with a different topic each meeting- Domestic Violence, Gun safety, Self Defense & Empowering Youth. Pierre thought it would be a better to analyze prior 3-month data and have that be the topic of the community meeting. Ex. If in January, February, March there was a higher number of domestic violence reporting's/cases, then the 1st quarter meeting would be about domestic violence, so forth and so on.
4. The program that Vena put together is finally complete. There are 8 total programs for our organization in addition to a summer camp. The topics to choose from include, but are not limited to: Financial literacy, Suicide prevention, Leadership, Community, Teen talk, Sex education communication, Career pathing, Embracing intelligence, Truths about life, Self-love. Pierre and Deionka will choose their topics by the next meeting.
5. Volunteer handbook has been created, the board is to review and critique as necessary and prepare to approve the handbook at the next meeting in June. There also will be a volunteer packet including the documents that the volunteer is to complete and return. As well as a possible volunteer handbook video.
6. Catchfire is a free training platform to be used by board members, employees and volunteers alike.
7. In order to get more recognition and to raise more funds, Jazsmaine suggested a large gala within the next 5-7 years. During the meantime, we would complete Splash Jam 2023 and we could still do something in the realm of a gala, just make it on a smaller scale. That will be discussed in more detail after Splash Jam.

8. Moving the FCDP BOD meeting from every month to every other month. The board decided to move the monthly meetings to every other month starting in July. So, we will have our next meeting in June, but after that, we will not meet again until August. Beginning our every other month meeting cycle. The board will officially vote on this change in the June meeting.
9. Recruiting new board members. Possible list includes, but not limited to: Sylvester, Dr Logan, Alana, Whitney, Val, Phong, Alex Baker.

VII. Closing Remarks

1. Review of the May newsletter, Jacobe had some ideas of changing the layout, however due to time restraint, the board decided to keep the layout as is and review his idea for the next quarter newsletter.
2. Will review Vendors & Partners next meeting.

VIII. Adjournment

Jazmaine Dixon thanked everyone for their attendance and hard work towards FCDP. Meeting adjourned at 2:54p.m.