

FCCA Board Meeting Minutes 4/15/2021

Present: Julie Wolcott, Michele Bessett, Tyrone Shaw, Meg Patenode, Kathy Rosenberg, Carol Skon, Julie Matranga, Ethan Dezotelle, Megan Bushey

*The meeting began at 7:08.

***Agenda was approved**

***Minutes from the March meeting were approved.**

Communications and announcements:

*Julie Wolcott reported that Maple Run School District is interested in renting the daycare space again next year. Questions were raised regarding summer rent. Julie W. said she would check on that. Let's hold off on moving forward with renting space to anyone else for now. The Town hired a new grant writer.

Office administrator report:

*It was announced that the MRSD has funds to sponsor children to attend Black Creek Adventure Camp. To date they have registered 30 children and the community center has registered six. This number may rise. The school district is willing to pay for additional children who apply. The camp committee will meet again to work on the budget and to plan on staffing. These numbers are far higher than current planning provides for. The committee will also reach out to Dr. O'Dell and MR for clarification regarding enrollment, funding, bussing, etc.

*Project connect has installed a Wi-Fi hotspot which now extends to the MH inside and out. Julie Matranga will check with the library and their experience with hosting a hot spot so that we might anticipate usage.

*The PPP application has been accepted and the funds have already been received

*A quote of \$800 has been received for cleaning and polishing the floors in the community center. This involves \$100 in travel for the gentleman who is going to do the work. This project was approved and Julie M. will contact the gentleman to get the work done as soon as possible.

*Julie has been in touch with the people who are planning "Tomstock". Their request has been to use the green by the garden and pizza oven as well as the town green. They will provide PortaPotties. They plan to have a potluck meal, barbecue and two bands. They are requesting to use the kitchen in case a need arises. Details of this event were discussed. It was suggested that they contact the town regarding use of the town green. The board agreed to use of the FCC outdoor space, including power and water access. Use of the building or kitchen was not approved. Tyrone will contact Jonathan at the town offices to let him know what the board has approved.

***Treasurer's Report:** Sarah was not present at this meeting. Financial reports were reviewed in advance and there were no questions.

Community Meals and Food Shelf reports: *Both programs are very busy and continue to run well. Funding is in place to continue Ready to Heat meals program through the end of June. *Kathy and Megan hope to attend a zoom meeting with a state agency that will help determine the guidelines for

the start-up of senior meals. It is unclear at this time what the Covid recommendations are. Updates next meeting.

Program Reports:

*Megan reported that she has activity packets for school kids for April vacation. She has contacted local schools and asked Ethan to do some PR.

*Megan is planning a community yard sale. Thinking to hold it Memorial Day Weekend: rent-a-space and bring your own table idea. Michele and Megan will discuss the planning and get together soon to work out the details.

Outreach Report:

*Thanked Julie W. for connecting new staff to school folks. FCCA is linked to many other websites now-town, school, newsletter too! Ethan reported that he has reached out to local schools and area nonprofits to share news and information about the Community Center, specifically NCSS for a community partnership action. He is working on the second newsletter and it should be out in the next week and a half. He is also working on revising our website and making many changes and improvements. Almost everything is transferrable to the new site, except for the blog, so he'll blog separately. Will send us a link as soon as it is ready. He has requested the bios and photos of the board and staff be forwarded to him so that he can feature people in a monthly newsletter, as well as on our new website. Julie M. will forward board bios to him.

Grant updates:

*The pavilion grant has been submitted and we should know in about a month if our application has been approved.

*Julie W. reported that we have received a \$3000 Vermonters Feeding Vermonters mini-grant. This allows us to purchase local products for the food shelf.

*Julie is also interested in applying for funding from the Food and Markets Vision Grant. If received, this money will focus on food security and edible landscape projects, partnering with the Library, School and Bridges of Health. The board approved proceeding with this application.

Building and Grounds:

*Mark Irish has begun the doorway project between the daycare and the small room. The electrical work has been completed and the door should go in this week. Once completed, Carol will schedule the flooring.

Strategic Planning update:

*Michelle gave a report on her discussion with Claire Wheeler, the consultant, who we hope will lead the board in acquiring new organizational tools and focusing on strategic planning for the future. Claire will attend one of our upcoming meetings to introduce herself and talk a little bit about the process. We hope that our work with Claire will begin in the fall. Her fee could be as high as \$5000. Some of the topics Michele discussed with her:

- Find healthy, succinct, successful way to communicate at our board meetings. Be more efficient and find different strategies for this.
- Organizational structure and sociocracy
- Strategic planning, yes, but are we ready for this one?
- This will take time and the board needs to commit and we will need agreements from everyone.

Meeting House on the Green report:

*Summer concert schedule is set and everyone is urged to visit the website for additional information.
No other news at this point

Next meeting:

May 27 at 6 PM. This meeting will be in person at the FCCA. Those who are unable to attend may join by phone and/or zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 minutes by Michele Bessett (with additions by Julie Matranga)