

Village Connections  
Board Meeting  
Thursday February 27, 2020  
6 pm  
German Village Meeting Haus

***Welcome and Updates***

The meeting of the Village Connections Board was called to order by President Kim Cowie at 6:00 pm at German Village Meeting Haus, 588 South Third Street, pursuant to a call of the meeting.

Members present: Kim Cowie, Bill Curlis, Ed Elberfeld, Betty Garrett, Brenda Gischel, Edna Menke, Fran Schneider, and Carolyn Workman. A quorum was present.

Attending: Donald Wiggins, Executive Director and Alex Blankenship staff member through the American Corps Vista Program, Ken Hunger who is a prospective Board Member.

***Approval of December 2019 Minutes***

The President, Kim, presented the minutes of the December 5, 2019 Board Meeting.

MOTION: Approve the December 5, 2019 Board Meeting minutes.

Motion approved

[Carolyn Workman, Betty Garrett]

***Financial Report for February 27, 2020***

Kim presented the financial report that have a balance of \$46,258.46 in the checking account and \$8,494.68 in restricted funds, \$30,000.00 in Money Market account for a total of \$84,753.14.

MOTION: Approve the financial report for February 27, 2020.

Motion approved

[Betty Garrett, Brenda Gischel]

**Committee Reports:**

***Marketing Committee Report***

The Marketing Committee is focusing on improving some of the improving the web site, media announcements, and the Village Connections committee needs.

- So far Pam made some website enhancements so the website is more user friendly, including adjustments to learning about Village Connections and becoming a member, learning and registering for events, and making online donations through the Columbus Foundation.
- In the monthly newsletter plan to add that can make donations through the Columbus Foundation.
- In the process of developing a new Volunteer Guide with some of the Service Committee members that include Barb and Kim with input from Ed.
- Pam developed a Volunteer Quick Guide that is 4.5 inches by 6.5 inches that is being given to all volunteers.

***Membership Committee Report***

Ed reported that now have 238 members that are mostly social members. In addition have received a social donation from Friends and Neighbors. December was an important month for membership renewal as have 70 members who need to renew. In the process of contacting those who need to renew.

The next meeting of the committee is March 6 at the Bake Me Happy in Merion Village.

***Services Committee Report***

Barb, Kim, and Ed are refining the existing Volunteer Handbook. Based on the changes Pam developed a Volunteer Quick Guide that is a small double sided guide that all volunteers can use that focuses on contact, general and transformation information. A copy of the Guide was given to the Board Members at the meeting.

Donald, Kim, and Alex presented the report from the Ad Hoc committee on transportation. They developed a job description for a summer pilot of a Transportation Service Coordinator that would be paid \$15 dollars an hour for working 15 hours per week from June 1-August 31, 2020 to determine if it is feasible. If it is feasible will develop a grant for a Community Transportation Service Coordinator.

***Nominating Committee***

As chair of the Nominating Committee, Bill provided that wanted to approve Ken Hunger to fill term for Mark Donati that expires in June 2020.

MOTION: Approve Ken Hunger to fill the term for Mark Donati that will expire in June 2020.

Motion approved  
[Bill Curlis, Betty Garrett]

### ***President's Report***

Kim reported that Community Partnership grant that had been submitted to United Way was not funded.

The rest of the time was spent on some of the logistics of the membership only party on February 29<sup>th</sup> from 6 pm to 10 pm at the German Village Haus. The theme is a Tiki Party with a co-theme of frogs for "leap" year. Ed has been coordinating the logistics of decorations and set up of the party. Ken is going to pick up the frogs for the party. The set up for the party will be at 10 am.

### ***Executive Director's Report***

Donald provided a copy of his Executive Report for February 27, 2020 which included his strategy for personalizing the Annual Appeal that was successful in 34% increase in donors. The goal was \$15,000 and actually resulted in \$20,100.

The current memberships increased to 238. In the business category five businesses joined that were Helen Winnemore, Tiki Botanicals, Hausfrau Haven, Print Pro, and Upscale Resale Furnishings.

In terms of the Holiday Party 90 people attended that included 1/3 full-service members, 1/3 social members, and 1/3 volunteers and guests.

Notified that would receive \$34,226 funding for our 2020 Senior Options Grant.

In the process of recruiting a new VISTA Partner Intern as Alex's term ends soon.

### ***VISTA Partner Update***

Alex continues to be doing a variety of things as a Vista Partner Intern with the title of Senior Village and Network Coordinator. He has been involved with all aspects of Village Connections working with Donald on all committees and outreach as well as writing the monthly Village Connections newsletter.

Alex has been doing surveys with VC service members. To date has completed surveys with 29 members regarding their experiences with Village Connections. Ninety-four percent of these members were satisfied with the services received.

Alex developed a list of all the businesses (167) in the areas served by Village Connections and a folder of materials that can be used by Donald as well as Board Members in recruiting more business members.

***Old Business***

None

***New Business***

None

***Adjournment***

The business of the Village Connections having been concluded the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

**MOTION:** A motion to adjourn the meeting was made.

MOTION was approved.

[Bill Curlis, Betty Garrett]

Respectfully submitted

Edna M Menke

Attest:

Kimberly Cowie