

Village Connections
Board Meeting
Thursday October 24, 2019
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: Pam Albrecht, Kim Cowie, Bill Curlis, Ed Elberfeld, Betty Garrett, Brenda Gischel, Edna Menke, Jim Plunkett, 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.

Approval of Minutes of August 15, 2019

The approval of the August 15 minutes was deferred as the minutes were not sent out prior to the meeting. The decision was to send out the meetings and any corrections be sent to the Executive Director. The only change was to omit that Fran Schneider was present at the meeting. After this correction was made the minutes of August 15 were approved.

Financial Report for October 24, 2019

Jim Plunkett, Treasurer, reported that had a balance of \$ 57,636.62 in the checking account and \$ 17,243.36 in restricted funds for a total of \$74,879.98.

MOTION: Approve the financial report for August 15, 2019.

Motion approved.

[Garrett, Workman]

Committee reports:

Marketing Committee Report

The committee met on July 9 and August 6 to work on the Impact Report 2019. Edna Menke is the chair of the committee and the other members are Donald Wiggins, Alex Blankenship, Kim Cowie, Michael Warner, Pam Albrecht, and Jeannie Tranter. After the first meeting Michael developed a new map for the area that Village Connections serves that was used in developing the report. Early in the development of the report Donald, Alex, and Pam met with the printer. During both of the committee meetings we decided on the organization and format of the report. Everyone participated in the development and the various drafts of the report. The next meeting was on August 29 to work on finalizing the report so can be printed. The final draft was taken to the printers and was supposed to be sent to members and donors in September; however, at the meeting few individuals had received the Impact Report 2019. On October 25, 2019 most individuals received the report. The next meeting of the committee will be January 7, 2020.

Membership Committee Report

The committee met on August 9. Ed Elberfeld is the chair of the committee and the other members are Donald Wiggins, Alex Blankenship, Kim Cowie, Edna Menke, and Fran Schneider. Ed reported that now have 173 total members that is an increase of 20 members since VC Board Meeting in August. The committee is focusing on increasing membership in Merion Village and Fran developed a list of individuals to contact in the first several streets south of Thurman. Donald is continuing contacting businesses and corporations to join Village Connections as social members for \$125 or more. The Winter Party will be held at Ed and Barb's home on December 14 from 6 to 9 pm.

Services Committee Report

Kim reported that the committee did not meet as committee members were on vacation or unavailable. Kim and Alex had an outreach lunch and learn that 15

people attended. Activities are scheduled for August, September, and October. Also 250 door hangers were hung in the Merion Village area for the Merion Village Festival that is on September 8.

Finance Committee

The finance committee did not meet.

President's Report

Kim reported that a strategic plan has been developed by the Fund Raising Committee by Betty, Donald, Pam, and herself. The focus is on Columbus Foundation and other sources for grant funding or donations.

She indicated that the candle making activity for members' only at Tiki Botanicals was a success. There will be members' only Tiki Party at the German Village Haus on February 22, 2020.

Also she provided an update on the retreat that the Board had on October 12 to update the Strategic Outcomes Causative & Verifying Milestones and the progress that has been made for the 2018-2019 year and what has been or being accomplished for the 2019-2020 year.

Executive Director's Report

Donald provided the board members a comprehensive list of things that he has been doing the last several months. This included some of the statistics that the organization is moving forward in very healthy directions in increasing memberships and would like to recruit another 23 members to have 200 members by the end of the year and continue to increase revenue. The fundraising platform of Better Together with the Columbus Foundation is working well. The Annual Appeal letter has been developed and will be mailed in November. He commended Alex Blankenship for his accomplishments in his position. Alex shared some of the things he has been doing in the last several months in working with all of the committees, a survey of members, development of more user friendly membership lists, assisting Kim with some projects, and other things that Donald has delegated to him.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Adjournment

The business of the Village Connections having been concluded the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

MOTION: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made.

MOTION was approved.

[Gischel, Curlis]

Respectfully submitted

Edna M Menke

Attest:

Kimberly Cowie