

Village Connections
Board Meeting
Monday October 30, 2017
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, Ed Elberfeld, Betty Garrett, Brenda Gischel, Edna Menke, James Nichols, Jim Plunkett, Frances Schneider, Meg Teafor, and Carolyn Workman. A quorum was present.

Attending: Kristen Schweitzer, Executive Director

Note a board meeting was not held in September as determined would not have a quorum.

The President, Kim, requested that a motion be made for the Village Connection Board to authorize Kristen Schweitzer, Executive Director, to reapply for another grant from Franklin County for 2018 with a budget of \$32,735.55.

MOTION: To authorize Kristen Schweitzer to reapply for another grant from Franklin County for 2018 with a budget of \$32,735.55.

Motion approved.

[Elberfeld, Teafor]

Approval of Minutes of August 31, 2017 meeting

The President, Kim, presented the minutes of the August 31, 2017 Board meeting.

MOTION: Approve the August 31, 2017 minutes of the Board Meeting.

Motion approved.

[Teafor, Elberfeld]

Financial Reports for September and October 2017

Jim Plunkett, Treasurer, reported that on September 19, 2017 had a balance of \$35,852.27 in the checking accounts and \$14,365.31 in restricted funds for a total of \$ 30,217.58

MOTION: approve the financial report for September 2017.

Motion approved.

[Gischel, Elberfeld]

Jim Plunkett, Treasurer, reported that on October 30, 2017 had a balance of \$33,655.35 in the checking accounts and \$ 12,170.87in restricted funds for a total of \$ 45,846.22

MOTION: approve the financial report for October 2017.

Motion approved.

[Garrett, Plunkett]

Jim reported that to date have spent \$2,000 of the Columbus City 2017 grant.

Committee reports

Marketing Committee Report

The marketing committee met on September 19 and October 17. Those present for both meetings were Paula, Jeannie, Kristen, Kim, and Edna. At the October meeting Ken Hunt met with the committee. At the September meeting focused on the Village Connections postcard that has been in the process of being developed for the last several months which will be sent to households who have at least one individual sixty years or older. Also there was discussion about the Annual Appeal letter that will be sent to donors, members, and volunteers. The other items were the stickers that will be attached to the Ice Melt that will be delivered to members.

At the October meeting the group discussed the annual appeal letter and final approval of the postcard that will be sent at the end of the month. In addition, there was a great deal of discussion regarding an event that Ken and Kim are developing to have at Lindey's on December 9.

The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for November 21, 2017.

Membership Committee Report

Ed reported that the first postcard regarding Village Connections had been sent out the last week in October. Some of the board members indicated that had received their postcards today. Since our last meeting Ed reported that had recruited 11 members and 9 of them were from the perspective member list.

Paula indicated that the marketing committee wanted to add a new category for membership of individuals who are under 50 years of age or live outside of the area that Village Connection serves. There was some discussion of this idea to be able to be move inclusive regarding membership.

MOTION: To add a new category of membership called supporting neighbor for individuals who are under 50 years of age and/or live outside the area served by Village Connections who pay dues of \$125.

Motion approved.

[Nichols, Elberfeld]

Kim indicated that Ken Hunt and she were planning a membership recruitment event at Lindey's on December 9 that will focus on recruitment of perspective members. They have one potential sponsor who will donate \$5,000 for the event. The event will be by invitation only as can only have 82 individuals attend for the room have reserved.

The next meeting of the membership committee will be November 3, 2017.

Services Committee Report

The service committee met on September 18 and October 16. At the September meeting Barb reported that she is trained a new volunteer and will be training two more volunteers. The committee is continuing to provide services to members with transportation to be the biggest request. Another activity is a second fall yard cleanup in November. The ice melt will be purchased from Home Depot that has the most reasonable price. The ice melt with the Village Connection will be distributed to each member some time in December.

Events for members for members have been planned for October through December. The Happy Hours have been successful in attracting more members to

attend. The third Thursday breakfast events have continued to be attended by some members. On Tuesday, November 28, at the Gateway Theater, there is going to be an age-friendly Columbus release of strategic plan press conference from 10:30 -11:30 am, followed by a short video of our member, Karen Peters. In the afternoon there will be a showing of Murder on the Orient Express.

Fundraising Committee Report

The fundraising committee met on September 15. Those attending were Kim, Ed, Bill, Kristen, and Meg Teafor. Betty Garrett is the new chair of this committee. The committee reviewed the goals of the committee, including the goal of raising \$30, 000 this year. Kim has identified some businesses that she and Betty will contact for possible donations.

Bill had raised the issue of continuing to have events as they raise visibility in the community. The committee confirmed that will continue to have events; however, need to find the right events. The idea of having an event committee was suggested.

Kristen developed the publicity for giving monies to Village Connections through the Columbus Foundation for the Big Give on October 10, 2017. At the October board meeting she reported that we got \$8,453.72 from donations and the bonus pool funds.

The annual appeal letter was developed by the marketing committee, especially Jeannie Tranter, and Ed is doing the layout. The letter is being sent out to potential donors by the beginning of November. Again this year an anonymous donor will match up to \$5000 given by others during the annual appeal. Also the fundraising committee discussed giving social memberships to those who donate at least \$125 during the annual appeal

Executive Director's Report

Kristen provided two reports for September and October that had been sent to the Board members prior to the meeting. Since we received the grant for

Columbus City Council have recruited 11 new members. The major services requested by members is transportation.

The first fall yard cleanup was a success and a second one is planned for November. Also the Ice Melt will be distributed to members in November.

Kristen has been invited to reapply for another grant from Franklin County for 2018. The Village Connections Board voted to authorize this action at our October 30 meeting.

Kristen and Meg are attending the National Village Gathering, November 6 to 8 in Baltimore. In addition, Kristen has been meeting with the Village in the Ville and At Home By High directors and meet with Columbus City Council to thank Council member Stinziano and the entire Council for their support of the Villages.

President's Report

At the meeting Kim reported that we are making progress with meeting the Village Connections Strategic Outcome Causative and Verifying Milestones.

Kim wants the Board members to consider meeting every other month instead of every month. This will be discussed at the November meeting.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Adjournment

The business of the Village Connections having been concluded the meeting was adjourned at 7: 05 pm.

MOTION: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made.

Motion was approved.

[Elberfeld, Gischel]

Respectfully submitted:

Edna M. Menke

Attest:

Kimberly Cowie