

Village Connections
Board Meeting
Thursday August 31, 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, Paula Harer, Edna Menke, James Nichols, Jim Plunkett, Frances Schneider, and Meg Teaford. A quorum was present.

Attending: Kristen Schweitzer, Executive Director

Approval of Minutes of June 26, 2017 (corrected) and July 27, 2017 meeting

The President, Kim, presented the minutes of the June 26, 2017 (corrected) and July 27, 2017 Board meeting.

MOTION: Approve the corrected June 26, 2017 minutes of the Board Meeting.

Motion approved.

[Teaford, Elberfeld]

MOTION: Approve the July 27, 2017 minutes of the Board Meeting.

Motion approved.

[Harer, Cowie]

Financial Reports for August 2017

Jim Plunkett, Treasurer, reported had a balance of \$35,024 in the checking accounts and \$14,365 in restricted funds for a total of \$49,309

MOTION: approve the financial report for July 2017.

Motion approved.

[Garrett, Schneider]

Committee reports

Marketing Committee Report

As chair of the Marketing Committee, Paula reported that the committee met for the first time on August 8, 2017. The members include Edna and Jeanne Tranter. Those present were Kim, Paula, Edna, and Kristen. The committee discussed the three postcards to be sent to members and individuals 60 years and older who could be potential members. The postcards will be sent in September, October, and November. The September card is in process which Jeanne Tranter provided changes in the wording of the draft that had been developed prior to the Marketing and Membership becoming two separate committees. Ed is assisting with the development and sending of the September postcard.

Kim shared how to invite friends on Facebook regarding events. The expectation is that Board members send Facebook invitations to 5 individuals. New white vinyl cling signs will be developed for the Pedi cab to be placed on both sides and the back with the Village Connection logo, sans Right at Home, our web address, and telephone number below. Some discussion of the ConnectionsFest that will be on September 30th to celebrate the Third Anniversary of Village Connections. Kristen is making a Facebook invitation that Board members can use to send invitations to 5 members. Planning to develop some different events for members that will be held in the early evening in our area served with the intent of more members participating and increase our visibility to a larger audience.

The next committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 18, 2017.

Services Committee Report

The committee did not meet this month. Sometime this fall, members of the services committee and other volunteers will drop off complimentary ice melt to each of our members in preparation of the colder weather. Each container will serve as a friendly visit. Six different social events are planned for September, with the biggest on the ConnectionsFest on September 20. We will have a booth at Merion Village Festival on September 10th where will promote our half price

memberships, invite folks to ConnectionsFest, and will have membership and volunteer applications on hand.

Fundraising Committee Report

The Fundraising Committee met on August, 11, 2017. The members present were Kim, Betty, Ed, Bill, Kristen, and Meg Teaford. On August 16 there was a Village Connections gather at Land Grant that was used for part of the membership drive. The ConnectionsFest was briefly discussed as this is our major effort of our autumn membership drive.

The Annual Appeal will go out in early November this year and follow-up. We have 148 individuals who have donated to us in the past and over 700 solicited over the past few years. Plan to increase the number solicited this year. Also some discussion of what get in exchange for being a donor. Meg sent out a report to the donors. Meg will draw up a plan or donor appreciation with the purpose of keeping them informed about the organization on a regular basis with a donor appreciation in the spring. The Fundraising Committee will work with the Marketing Committee on the look and message to go out in the Annual Appeal letter.

Kim and Betty have been researching both foundation and corporate support. They are putting together a calendar and a list of contact persons. There was discussion about donor advised funds at the Columbus Foundation. Kim will work with Carolyn Workman on this.

The next committee meeting is September 15, 2017.

Membership Committee Report

The chair of the membership committee is Ed. The members of the committee include Fran Schneider and Stuart Hensel. The focus of the committee is recruiting new members and promoting our half price membership since received a grant from Columbus City Council. Four new Village Connection members have joined this month that includes 3 full members and one social member. Ed distributed a perspective membership list to everyone and asked the Board to use

the list or add additional possible members. Ed wants everyone to send any additions to him.

The next committee meeting will be September 1, 2017.

Executive Director's Report

Kristen presented a copy of her report for August. As of August 31, 2017 we have 51 members. Two of our members passed away this summer; however added three new members thanks to Ed and Betty. Also we need to add 2 subsidized members as have membership scholarships that need to use. In terms of services provided in July, 37 services were provided to 11 members by 10 volunteers with most of the services being for transportation.

In her report addressed membership, committees, services, fundraising, website, and upcoming events. She also reported that Kim Cowie will be featured in the volunteer spotlight in the October issue of the new German Village Magazine. Also Village Connections will be in an ad for the German Village Society that highlights four CVBC members.

Connections Fest Update

A brief report was given regarding ConnectionsFest. Ed reported that has done a double order of food from Schmidt's, beer and wine. Each board member is asked to bring a bottle of wine. There will be a band and special entertainment at the event. Could use some help with setting up on the day of the event.

President's Report

Kim provided a brief report that included wanting each committee to provide a progress report in regard to our strategic plan at our monthly board meetings. Briefly mentioned the Annual Appeal and ConnectionsFest. Shared with the group that Dwight Garner had resigned from the Board.

Our next meeting will be September 21 rather than September 28, 2017.

Old Business

Meg reported that the Bylaws committee will be meeting on September 7, 2017.

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.

[Gischel, Plunkett]

Respectfully submitted:

Edna M. Menke

Attest:

Kimberly Cowie