

Lake County Community Food Council Minutes April 10, 2017

Participants: Leo Heska, Sally Mellema, Paul Betts, Gordie Moeller, Meryl Smith, Anne Bianchi, Danielle High, Danielle Peck, Trevor Peck, Ruth Lorger Jr., Sue Brown-Havens, Nancy Przedwojewski, Tom Ellis, Kendra Gibson, Kendra Wills, Kathy Merchant, Lynne Mills, Ellen Kerns, Chris Johnson, Fr. Ron Schneider

Meeting called to order at 3:43 PM. Welcome and Introduction of new members.

I. Review and accept minutes of March meeting

Vote to approve minutes. Motion carried.

II. Report of Board Meeting April 3, 2017

A. Rogation Day – April 25 Volunteer sign-up sheet being passed around

1. Paul secured milk jugs for the project from Padnos. (We should make a flyer asking people to wash and separate their jugs. We should also send Padnos a thank you note.)
2. Sue said she will bring up cutting of the jugs to the Garden Club at their first meeting this Thursday. (We also need drain holes of at bottom.)
3. Paul also secured tomatoes and bean plant donations from a local nursery.
4. Erika at the Ludington Makers market is also very excited about working on this.
5. Someone needs to talk with Father Ron about whether April 30 Rogation Day Sunday is still a “go.” Father Ron confirmed April 30. 12:30 PM
6. Kendra Wills will assist with a press release to the Lake County Star.
7. Discussion on purchasing growing medium. H and H excavating is where we should purchase soil from.
8. Leo is asking for a volunteer to cut wood to build the boxes this Friday at St. Ann’s at 8 AM in the garage. 248 boxes will be made. Paul will help. Tom maybe also.
9. The Peck’s agreed to donate marigolds for the boxes. They grow mostly flowers right now.

D. Other

1. We need to order new business cards and thank you notes for the Food Council from Vista Print. Kendra Wills will work on this.

III. New Business – Agenda Items A-D were delayed because the attorney recommended several new sections to both documents. The Board needs time to review these. We hope to both on these documents at next month’s meeting.

A. Formation of a subcommittee to oversee smaller grant applications

- a. We anticipate securing enough funds through the Food Council so that we could issue mini grants to other community organizations. This could be a large amount of work to design grant requests for proposals and to review applications. We are looking ahead and want people to start thinking about this task. It was noted that perhaps the grant could provide a stipend for people’s time and travel for this work.

IV. Old Business

A. Review of Grant Funds from DHD #10. (Nancy had not received the check. Sally is checking on this.)

\$1490 for Idlewild community garden. (Nancy will be contacting him to make sure he is able to spend the funds.)

\$800 filing fees for Food Council 501c3

\$1500 canning kits & supplies

\$800 Bread of Life supplies

All must be spent by July 31, 2017

B. VFF Grant approved

\$580 for Build-a-Box Garden Supplies

\$400 for promotion of youth hunting workshops and donation promotion

\$500 for Bread of Life Pantry Open House (The group will talk about applying to Meijer for food supplies on the 19th.)

All must be spent by July 31, 2017

C. Leo Heska Cook Book & storage unit info

Leo would like a subcommittee to meet on April 25 4 PM at St. Ann's Church. Anyone interested in canning kits please come to this meeting. This includes Library employees. The kits will be worth \$50 and we need a system to make sure that they are returned. Leo is also thinking about designing a new cookbook.

D. Paul Betts and Grand Valley State University and Spectrum Health Care. Scott Lombard is the contact with Spectrum that is leading this effort. \$150,000 worth of mobile health screening time. Paul recommended that MSUE connected with Spectrum to update them on the nutrition programming in the pantry as well.

E. Eat Fit NW MI. Report: How do we need to stay involved with this project? Anne reported that they have engaged five restaurants in the healthy food menu using the NOLA model. Hoping to debut the menu labeling at a lunch next month. The restaurants will be added to the Eat Fit NOLA smartphone app. The DHD #10 will market the app in the community this summer. Eventually the goal is to expand to corner stores and gas stations. The pantry could also add Eat Fit signage on the foods that fit the requirements. The group wants to continue to meet at 2:00 p.m. before Food Council meetings and will report to the Food Council on their work.

F. June Events

1) MI Local Food Council Network meeting June 12, 10:00 – 2:00

Catered but we provide desserts for 30 Sign up sheet available

2) Weber Park "GO Day" June 10, 10:00–2:00 Sign up sheet available

Bring your box back and fill them with milk cartons to Webber Township and Rogation Sunday.

3) Multicultural Workshop June 27 10:00 – 3:00 Limit 30

Kendra Gibson will provide a short synopsis for us to take back to our church pastors, schools etc. Kendra Gibson is accepting RSVPs. Kathy and Lynne will both be attending. Once Food council folks sign up she will open it up to other community members.

G. Idlewild Community Gardens

1) Sally is going to reach out to Joe to determine if this project is still a go.

Other Items:

Gordie invited people to pick up farmers market and Double Up Food Bucks posters and marketing materials.

The Pecks noted that they are using some of Freddie's equipment as Freddie and his family will be relocating to Oklahoma. It is possible they may return to Lake County in a few years.

Kendra Gibson said she has three people that have committed to get a photo for the Photovoice display for the open house. Meryl asked for a flyer on this project so they could contact their clients. She could use two or three more people to participate. They don't have to be people around this table.

The Bread of Life Pantry Open House will be targeted for May or the first part of June. Ceiling needs to be painted and the floor tiles need to be installed.

Next meeting May 8 at 3:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned 5:06.