

Lake County Community Food Council

June 12, 2017 meeting minutes Submitted by: Leo Heska, Secretary

Present:

Carol Moore, Joe Dukes, Sr., Joe Dukes, Jr., Leo Heska, Sally Mellesma, Kendra Gibson, Nancy Przedwojewski, Tannya Scales, Sue Brown-Haven, Wayne Eversole, Paul Betts, Kathy Merchant, Chris Johnson

15:40 Meeting called to order by chairperson Nancy Przedwojewski

15:45-15:48 Minutes reviewed and accepted on voice vote with no opposition

Wayne reported that we need to spend \$20 for a corporation document and \$800 to get our 501(c)(3).

He also reported on our tax-exempt letter.

Nancy stated that we don't need a motion to approve the above fees since this was already approved.

16:00 Leo reported that the hunter safety program still needs volunteers.

16:04 Kathy merchant reported that the food pantry open house went well. Plan is to be a choice pantry by end of June.

Discussion ensued regarding fundraising, donors, electric costs, and freeloaders.

16:15 Webber Township Park event report

160 garden-in-a-box units were distributed.

We need a banner.

The units were well-received and some people returning from last year have already replanted theirs.

16:22 Paul Betts reported that he has plants and 34 boxex left over from that event

16:23 Discussion of whether to run the garden-in-a-box program again this year.

Leo suggested that if we do, we need not just a money budget but also an hours budget; people to do the work.

We ran out of milk jug inserts - if we do this next year we need to start collecting those sooner.

Nancy suggested that some of the tasks, we can give to others, such as 4H.

16:25 Digression - Joe Dukes wonders if there is grant money available for work programs.

Joe points out that many local children have no dads and no way to learn a work ethic. Discussion ensued and we recognized the truth of what Joe said but it isn't food-related and no one present had any knowledge to contribute.

16:29 Nancy reported that the Michigan local food council meeting went well.

16:30 Kendra Gibson summarized and announced the upcoming multicultural training.

16:35 Nancy commented that "Discouraged people don't need any more critics."

16:36 Leo reported on cookbooks. Little has been done other than Leo sent out an email to everyone who indicated interest. No one responded.

16:38 Report on garden-in-a-box

16:41 Paul Betts reported on the Spectrum prediabetic health screening. Stuff is happening, they are buying equipment, doing data analysis using algorithms.

16:44 Nancy reported that the Eat Fit Northwest Michigan effort is moving along. They are training staff.

It's a slow process because you're asking people (e.g. cooks) to be more accurate.

Once enough progress has been made (i.e. enough restaurants participating in sufficient detail), it will be possible to provide an app that visitors can use to find, for example, gluten-free food.

Suggestion: go to one of the participating restaurants and try one of the menu items.

16:50 Nancy stated that we need to develop grant-writing skills.

Kendra Gibson suggested doing/revisiting this in the fall.

16:58 MSUEx reported that they are interviewing 4H coordinators.

16:59 Nancy adjourned the meeting.