

# **Lake County Community Food Council Minutes**

**Monday, January 9, 2017**

**3:30 p.m. at St. Ann's Church in Baldwin, MI**

Participants: Nancy Przedwojewski, Ruth Lorenger, Jr., Lynne Mills, Leo Heska, Paul Betts, Meryl Smith, Sally Mellema, Anne Bianchi, Kendra Gibson, Kendra Wills, Sue Brown-Havens

## **1. Nominations of Board Officers**

- a. Leo and Lynn nominated Nancy. Nancy is willing to serve; however she noted that we can't have 20% of the people doing 80% of the work. The group also needs sustainable goals. When we start something we need to be able to keep it going. We also need to attract some younger members.
- b. Leo and Paul nominated Sue Brown-Havens to serve as Vice Chairperson. She is willing to serve.
- c. Leo is willing to share secretarial duties with Kendra Wills. He noted that he would need to share this position with someone else if Kendra Wills wasn't able to do it any longer.
- d. The group agreed that two at large members should be elected to serve on the to the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors: Paul Betts is willing to serve for 3 months (until the Merchants return from FL) and Lynn Mills was nominated by Leo.
- e. The Executive Committee will be responsible for the 501c3 application process.

## **2. Election of officers**

Paul moved to call the vote with support for Leo. Voice votes were taken. All voting members voted in favor of all nominees. (MSU Extension and District Health Department staff are not voting members.)

## **3. 2017 Voices for Food funding request (funds must be spent by July 31).**

- a. Leo reported that his hunting scope purchase request was denied in December 2016.
- b. Snacks for classes are also not allowed with VFF funds.
- c. Leo has submitted a grant request to the Lake County Community Foundation for live hunters safety workshop firearms.
- d. The proposal needs to be written by a council member (not MSUE). This is practice for when the group is a 501c3.
- e. Lynne reported that the electric bill for the new freezer increased the electricity bill \$500 this past month. The group discussed ideas on how to address this. Paul agreed to do some research to see if the freezer could be made more energy efficient. Other ideas: 1) a fund raising campaign from local businesses requesting \$15 each month from 30 local businesses; 2) seek donated solar panels from Paul; 3) make sure the cooler is drawing in cold air in the winter months.
- f. Proposed Grant Budget:
  - i. \$500 for Bread of Life Pantry open house.
    1. Conduct a fund raiser for the pantry at this event: some type of brick or plaque
    2. Catering
    3. Posters / Photo Voice
      - a. Note: The group is in favor of having Kendra Gibson organize a photo voice training program. There must be a minimum of six people. We can issue a press release to the Lake County Star for this training program.
    4. Newspaper ads for the open house
  - ii. \$400 Hunting workshop banners, posters and flyer printing costs
  - iii. \$600 Build-a-Box Garden
    1. \$299 for air-nailer
    2. Purchase fence posts
    3. Goal: 300 boxes
    4. Weber Township event, Rogation Sunday event, pantry give-a-way
    5. Purchase Plants from Twin Lakes (or seek donation)
    6. Soil costs (we did not like the donated soil)
    7. Sue noted that we need more participation from more members. Need people to cut down the milk jugs during our meeting. And need large boxes to store the milk jugs.

- a. Perhaps people involved in the CHIL group would be willing to help with this project.
  - iv. Funding to support for legal review of 501c3 application and filing fees
    1. Leo will ask a contact from the bank if they could help with this legal review.
4. **2017 DHD #10 \$5,000 grant request and review community change tool. July 31 deadline for spending.** The grant proposal due by March 31. Sally Mellema will help develop the proposal. The community change measurement tool needs to be submitted with the proposal.
  - a. Proposed Grant Budget:
    - i. Idlewild Community Garden \$2,000
      1. Ask Joe what specific supplies he needs. Fencing and posts? The Home Depot grant was not funded. Perhaps there are other grants we can apply for.
    - ii. \$500 toward 501c3 filing fees – Sally will ask if this is an eligible expense.
    - iii. \$500 Choice Pantry Support (food scales)
    - iv. \$500 for the Bread of Life Pantry for food labels and ink
    - v. \$1,500 for 2017 Canning workshops and lending kits
      1. ACE Hardware in Baldwin is the vendor.
      2. 4-6 locations (Sally has a list.)
      3. Storage location – bank vault in the basement of MSUE building. Rotarians are willing to clean out this space.
      4. Check with Jane to see if there are canning demo class costs (food).
      5. Paul has an idea to use Mason jars (4) to have a sprout garden. \$100 - \$250 for cheesecloth/screen lids and sprout seeds. Garage sale/used canning jars can be used for alfalfa seed sprouting. Perhaps demos at the Pathfinder Library and the Bread of Life Pantry.
      6. Note: if we do jam – need to make sure it is low or no sugar.
5. Update on MSU Center for Regional Food Systems Mini-Grant application
  - a. This grant request was not supported. There will be an opportunity to apply again in the fall if the group is in favor of that.
6. Reports from partners and projects.
  - a. Leo distributed an updated charter with foraging language updates.
  - b. Paul made a contact with the Vice President of SpartanNash. She has a cabin in Baldwin. Perhaps we can engage her in this Council.
  - c. Paul made another contact with Spectrum Health that we could add to the mailing list.
  - d. CHIL: Eat Fit and Live Well training. Free. Healthy menus and labeling for food serve establishments and the general public. Feb. 16, 2017 at St. Ann's Church. Molly Kimball of Eat Fit New Orleans. Contact Meryl Smith for more information 231-316-8572.
7. Meeting adjourned at 5:10 PM
8. Homework:
  - a. Review the community change tool and provide input to Sally with the DHD #10.
  - b. Review mailing list and provide edits to Kendra Wills

Next Meeting: Monday, February 13, 2017 3:30 PM at St. Ann's Church. On the Agenda: Discuss social media options. Leo has three ideas to consider: 1) home grown; 2) pay a local consultant; 3) ClubRunner.