

Marion Polk Food Share
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Oct. 22, 2020 — Held virtually via WebEx

Board Members Attending: Alex Beamer, Warren Bednarz, John Burt, Courtney Knox Busch, Mike Garrison, Jim Green, Chris Mercier, Holly Nelson, Linda Norris, Debbie Sailer, Bahaa Wanly, Mark Wilk, Sarah DeSantis

Staff Members Attending: Kendra Alexander, Eileen DiCicco, Ian Dixon-McDonald, Sayla Elsbree-Kraft, Rick Gaupo, Jim Green, Julie Hambuchen, Corrina Hawkins, Sam Tenney

Call to Order

Courtney Knox Busch called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

Guest Introductions

Rick Gaupo introduced Lee McKenzie, the Food Share's new Director of People and Culture (HR).

Consent Agenda

- Board Meeting Minutes, September 24, 2020
- September Financial statements

ACTION: Linda Norris moved and John Burt seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Updates from Board Committees & Departments

Finance Committee – audit

Board Treasurer Jim Green reported that our audit was absolutely spotless and credited Mattie Jenkins and Finance Director Jim E. Green for the excellent job.

Jim E. Green said we ended FY20 with a strong surplus — \$2.7M on budgeted deficit of \$150,000. The audit opinion was completed on 9.25.20, earlier than last year, with not proposed adjustments offered by the auditors.

Programs – Wildfire Response

Director of Programs Ian Dixon-McDonald reported on wildfire response activities in the Santiam Canyon. Four partners — Scotts Mill, Mill City/Gates, Idanha/Detroit and Mehama — are all back up and running. The Food Share is providing food and replacement equipment to the partners. We have received food and funds donations for wildfire relief. Scotts Mill and Idanha/Detroit are operating normally. Mill City/Gates and Mehama are operating with extended hours. Mill City/Gates is seeing fewer clients than normal because fewer people are

returning to that community and may not come back for quite a long time. Also, there are some additional food resources being offered through schools and churches. The Food Share has a new partner in Gates that is serving meals. Since the fire, 40,000 pounds of food has been distributed to canyon partners. The Food Share provided 8 pallets of water to the Detroit, which lost its water system. FEMA is now helping with water in that community.

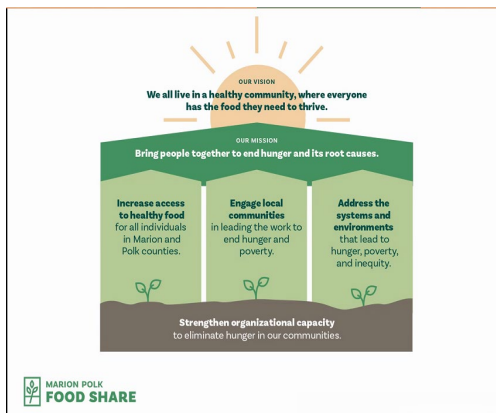
Development

Director of Development Julie Hambuchen reported the Development team is working hard to respond to every opportunity for funding. She encouraged the board to participate in our Chefs' Night Out To Go campaign and the Empty Bowls pre-sale on Nov. 20 (there will be no reception) and public sale on Nov. 21. She announced the availability of two donation matches — \$30K anonymous; \$100K Brendon Family Foundation.

Rick noted we are looking at how to use the surplus funds and at what pace, noting recovery will be long term. He said the December budget will reflect investments in programmatic growth including capital, warehouse and Meals on Wheels.

10-Year Plan

Rick Gaupo shared a slide with our strategic direction vision, mission, focus areas. He noted, we are good at getting food out in community and we're trying to get better at addressing root causes and community engagement. To do all this, we need a healthy organization.



Board members were asked to provide their 10-year vision for the Food Share with an emphasis on community engagement and addressing causes of hunger, poverty and inequity. These topics will be further explored in December and January and will be reflected in the FY22 budget. This was a brainstorming session during which Sayla Elsbree-Kraft collected board statements which were to be shared with members for review to make sure they reflect what they said.

Many ideas were shared with these themes standing out among them:

- We need to be flexible and responsive to emerging needs for food in the community. (Warren Bednarz, Linda Norris)

- We need to identify and find ways to reach those in need of food assistance, who are not utilizing partner services. (Sarah DeSantis)
- We need to partner with other community organizations that are serving populations that are harder for us to reach (i.e. migrant and seasonal farmworkers, indigenous, formerly institutionalized/incarcerated, homeless). Find out more about the underserved and unserved. Address fear and dignity. (Mark Wilt)
- We need to hire staff and dedicate them to going into communities to provide leadership and structure for community conversations to address the root causes of hunger, poverty, inequity. (Alex Beamer)
- We need to do more of what we are doing through AWARE and Iskam to bring people together. (Courtney Knox Busch)
- If we are going to improve health and end hunger, we need to find key community leaders, public health partners, maybe churches and community centers and look for interconnections between hunger and health. (Bahaa Wanly, Debbie Sailer)
- We need to be efficient and collaborative so we don't duplicate what other organizations are doing. (Holly Larson)
- We need to consider partnerships with food producers (i.e. farm bureaus, soil and water conservation districts, food processors) in our conversations. (John Burt)
- We need to be mindful of the diverse communities we work for. (Chris Mercier, Courtney)
- We need to help communities become self-sufficient. We should take a leadership role in bringing others to the table to coordinate a variety of services related to food delivery and healthy lifestyles. (Mike Garrison, Jim Green, Warren Bednarz)
- We need to advocate for our communities to alleviate root causes. (Linda Norris, Sarah DeSantis, Courtney Knox Busch)

Rick concluded with praise for the board engagement, noting our mission is not to feed people, it's to empower people. Everything we do is aimed to end hunger. We need to be as bold as we can be. Food delivery is part of what we do. During our December and January board meetings, we will connect these conversations.

Courtney also noted that Rick's review will take place on Dec. 3 and asked members to send their comments. The revised budget also will be discussed at that meeting.

Adjournment

Courtney adjourned the meeting at 9:31 a.m.

Dates to Remember

December Board meeting — Dec. 3

January Board Retreat – Jan. 30


Warren Bednarz (Nov 5, 2020 12:22 PST)

Warren Bednarz
Board Secretary






Board Meeting Minutes 2020.10.22

Final Audit Report

2020-11-05

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