

FOCUS
Fellowship of Christians United in Service
July 16, 2015, Board Meeting

BOARD MEETING was called to order by Board Chairman David King; Chaplain Garvin Gourie offered prayer.

MEMBERS PRESENT: David King, Bill Searcey, Sally Cobb, Sally Clay Smith, Faye Garrett, Julie Nordin, Jenny Jackson, Bill Scrantom, Bob Patterson, Mary Ellen Taylor, Jayson Johnston, Janice Owens, Rhonda Howard, Charles Sweat and Garvin Gourie.

Sherrie Mundy, Thrift Shop Manager, was also present, as was Volunteer, Jesse Morgan.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Hon. Judge Gil McBride, Samantha Link and Willie Green.

NEW LOGO examples were presented, with a display of t-shirts, stationery, business cards and letterhead. Various types of shirts are available for purchase. ByKatrina (Katrina Horne) is doing the embroidery. Sherrie and Brandi Payne have been the driving forces behind getting the new look and apparel. The Board thanked them for their commitment and hard work. Board members can contact Sherrie to purchase a t-shirt or for more information.

TREASURER'S REPORT was reviewed. Through June, total revenues still lag slightly behind budget – mostly related to donations. However, Thrift Shop revenues are above expectations and Bill Searcey and his staff have kept operating expenses below budget leaving us with more than adequate operating and savings funds in our account. The shoe fundraiser made \$2,200 for the food bank. Bill Scrantom moved the report be approved and Bob Patterson seconded.

BYLAWS were discussed, focusing on the recent changes – (some to ensure 501c(3) status):

- Using the term “non-compensated” for any staff member or volunteer serving on the Board.
- 75% of board members must reside in Harris County.

- Discussion about whether the “2 meeting absence = dismissal from the board” is reasonable. Motion by Jayson Johnston (2nd by Bill Scrantom) to change 2 to 3 absences, with Board evaluating whether excused or unexcused.
- Added conflict of interest language to bylaws.
- Added language permitting the use of special meetings or electronic mail for approving matters. These would be ratified at the next regular meeting.
- After discussion about staggered terms for Board members, how to get back to reasonable attrition, etc.; it was decided that the Executive Committee and Bill Scrantom will make recommendations at the next Board meeting.
- Article VI (b) will be revised to not require new/potential directors to attend the meeting in which the Board votes on their nomination.
- Article III (1 & 2) Annual meetings of the Board of Directors will be in February, with new members and budget voted on in December each year.

The Board agreed to table approval of the bylaws until the September meeting. Bill Scrantom will provide a final draft prior to that meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

DEVELOPMENT/FUNDRAISING – Faye Garrett has been in touch with Gwen Lee, who has experience writing grant applications for Muscogee County. Dick Weaver has contacted several “local” foundations and Bill Searcey is working on narrative for mentoring program, so applications can include the many ways FOCUS contributes to our community.

FUN DAY – Jayson Johnston said this activity would be scheduled as part of a larger county-wide event in the future.

APPEALS – David and Bill Searcey will work on a letter for our FOCUS annual appeal. David asked Faye and her committee to recommend to the Board week-long activities that would be geared to supporting our annual appeal. Those will be presented at the September Board meeting.

MISSIONS and PROGRAMS – Rhonda Howard said they would be working on revising the scholarship program. Anyone who is interested is welcome to participate.

CUBS FOR CHRIST at Park Elementary is a going well. Plans for the future include FOCUS sponsorship, with a coalition of churches to be involved. Every volunteer

has to have a background check, so attempts are being made to streamline that process.

FACILITIES – It was determined that adding on to the current building would be costly, as much as \$100,000 just for an additional 1,000 square feet. . Therefore, we're currently evaluating other options. The Board would approve any decisions. Must consider how current and future space can be best utilized, cost of maintenance, etc. Board members are asked to pray for God's guidance in how best to serve our community.

CHAIR ELECT – we need a qualified, willing individual. If any board members/volunteers have suggestions, please see David King.

PRAYER AND ADJOURN – the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:20 p.m., with a prayer by our chaplain.

Next Board Meeting: Sept. 17

SCS