

FOCUS BOARD OF DIRECTORS
November 19, 2015
MEETING MINUTES

BOARD MEETING was called to order by Chairman David King with a prayer offered by Executive Director Bill Searcey.

Board members present: Julie Nordin, Charles Sweat, Rhonda Howard, Mary Ellen Taylor, Bob Patterson, Bill Scrantom, Bill Searcey, David King, Sally Cobb, Faye Garrett, Janice Owens, Willie Greene, Jayson Johnston and Sally Clay Smith.

Board members absent: Samantha Link, Garvin Gourie, Hon. Judge Gil McBride and Jenny Jackson.

Others present: Sherrie Mundy, Thrift Shop Manager, and volunteers Brandi Payne and Jessie Moore.

OCTOBER TREASURER'S REPORT/CASH FLOW STATEMENT was reviewed and thanks to the Thrift Shop's revenue and a close eye on spending, FOCUS continues to have a good year financially. Bob Patterson moved, Jayson Johnston seconded, and the treasurer's report was approved. The final budget for next year will be discussed and voted on at the December 10 meeting.

MINUTES from the two September Board meetings, emailed earlier to Board members, will be forwarded again, and if no objections, approved.

ANNUAL APPEAL went out the end of October. More than 900 letters were copied, addressed, stamped and mailed. So far, response has generated nearly \$8,000 in donations. Board members were encouraged to give, if they haven't already.

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE to be held Nov. 20-21. Kudos to Julie Nordin and Judy Westbrook for all their hard work in coordinating volunteers and food.

FACILITIES COMMITTEE reported that talks continue regarding FOCUS expansion.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE – Brandi Payne indicated that Bob Patterson and Samantha Link would be working to identify larger corporations that might be approached to ask for donations of items that might be sold in the Thrift Shop. A church/corporation clothing drive, as well as a community yard sale were discussed. All board members were encouraged to contact any corporations where they had contacts, and to share the information so a request could be sent mid-January.

BYLAWS were again addressed. Bill Scramtom discussed the rotation of board members, in an effort to have equitable attrition each year. Sally Cobb, Julie Nordin, Faye Garrett and Charles Sweat agreed to roll off after their first year, then roll back on, extending their term through 2018. This will balance the board and eliminate the chance of losing too many board members in a given year. Bill Scramtom also talked about increasing the maximum number of board members from 20 to 25. Bill Searcey moved to approve changes and Charles Sweat seconded. Bylaws revisions were approved.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE offered a slate for 2016 to include Bill Scramtom as Board Chairman and Charles Sweat as Vice Chairman (incoming chair for 2017). Jenny Jackson rolls off the board in 2015, and a candidate was suggested to fill her position. Additional nominations will be taken until December 3, and the Board will vote on nominees December 10. Board stability has been evident this year and the Board looks forward to more great leadership in 2016.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- TIGER BUDDIES at Park Elementary is going well, thanks to our leaders.
- Bill Searcey is developing a tutoring/mentoring program to expand the FOCUS outreach.
- Volunteer Banquet was well attended and we are hopeful that our volunteers felt appreciated.
- FOCUS is working with the Department of Children and Family Services and Family Connections in an effort to help local families, while eliminating any opportunities to take advantage of the generosity of our organizations.

PROPRIETARY INFORMATION was discussed, after employees were dismissed. Performance reviews for our three employees have been completed and salaries were discussed.

Future meetings – December 10 – special called meeting to approve 2016 budget and elect any new Board members
January -- training for any new Board members
February 18 – first Board meeting for 2016

David King closed the meeting with prayer, at approximately 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sally Clay Smith
11/30/15