

**FOCUS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**February 19, 2016**  
**ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**

**BOARD MEETING** was called to order by Chairman Bill Scrantom with a prayer offered by Past Chair, David King.

**Board members present:** Bill Scrantom, David King, Bill Searcey, Julie Nordin, Sally Cobb, Faye Garrett, Janice Owens, Willie Greene, Sally Clay Smith, and our newest board member, LaChandra Brundage.

**Board members unable to attend:** Garvin Gourie, Hon. Judge Gil McBride, Charles Sweat, Rhonda Howard, Jayson Johnston and Bob Patterson.

Former board member Samantha Link recently resigned due to a move out of the area.

**Others present:** Sherrie Mundy, Thrift Shop Manager.

**Chairman Bill Scrantom** introduced our newest member, LaChandra Brundage. LaChandra brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to FOCUS, and we are looking forward to working with her.

**JANUARY 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 be in good shape financially. Julie Nordin moved, Faye Garrett seconded, and the treasurer's report was approved with no changes.

**Chairman Bill Scrantom** distributed the 2015 Annual Report, as well as a summary of FOCUS 2016 Officers and Staff, and FOCUS Board Responsibilities of Individual Board Members. We were charged with reviewing all documents, as well as the Strategic Plan, bringing thoughts and ideas to the next board meeting.

**COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE** – David King is the remaining member (with the resignations of Samantha Link and Brandi Payne) and he will maintain the website and newsletter. Sherrie will post Thrift Shop information and Sally Clay Smith will help with Facebook updates. Marketing is vital to the success of FOCUS. We need a communications oriented volunteer. Executive committee will discuss at next meeting and offer suggestions at next board meeting.

**MISSIONS AND PROGRAMS** – Mary Ellen, Janice, Rhonda Howard and Willie comprise this committee. Cubs for Christ is going well at Park Elementary.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE** is Charles Sweat and Sally Cobb (see Treasurer's Report above).

**STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE** established the plan for FOCUS and we are all encouraged to review this plan regularly, and to offer suggestions/ideas on how to implement the plan.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** consists of Chairman, Chair Elect and Past Chair, as well as Treasurer, Secretary and Executive Director. This committee will meet in months opposite Board meetings, and as otherwise needed.

**SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE** – Mary Ellen reported that the Scholarship Committee (Mary Ellen, Judy Westbrook and Rhonda Howard) is taking applications for the FOCUS scholarships. There will be two \$2,000 scholarships for traditional college and one \$1,000 scholarship for technical school. The program has been expanded to include Alabama schools, since we are so close to the state line. We discussed the basis on which the scholarships would be awarded, with primary focus on need, then community service and academic ability. The application deadline is March 18. Willie Greene and Mary Ellen Taylor are working with the high school to get the word out. Scholarship committee will discuss the possibility of also offering a “back to school” scholarship for adults who are pursuing a career.

**FOOD PANTRY** – Julie announced a new, wonderful program... Bob Patterson and the Keatings wanted to check on the homebound they met while delivering Thanksgiving food. They now have nine families to whom they deliver food on a regular basis. Bob will check with Rotary, in hopes that they'll want to be involved. Kudos to Bob!

**EMPTY BOWL** will be April 16, 2016. Sally Clay has been in touch with Sandra Palmer, the teacher at Harris County High who coordinates this event. FOCUS responsibilities will include ticket sales, soup warmers, bread and desserts. More information will be forthcoming.

**FACILITIES** – Charles Sweat presented the FOCUS position at the recent meeting with the Hamilton City Council and FOCUS can now proceed with renovation. Special THANKS to Charles, Bill Scramton, Bill Searcey and all involved on the success of getting over this hurdle.

**ANNUAL REPORT** – Bill Searcey reviewed the 2015 Annual Report. 2015 was a good year for FOCUS. The Annual Appeal generated \$17,000, Thrift Shop is doing very well, 40 kids will be able to go to Camp Joy this year, we're looking forward to more home repairs this year, we now have three farms donating fresh food regularly (thanks to Jenny Jack Sun Farm, Little Bit Farm and now Strickland Farms), the new addition to our facility will start soon, and FOCUS will need to completely restore HVAC/electrical systems in the older part of the building.

Bill reiterated that our FOCUS should be on CHRIST and doing HIS work. With mentoring, tutoring and other youth programs on the horizon, we will need a committee to facilitate these programs. Executive committee will discuss and offer a plan at the next board meeting.

Bill is looking forward to meeting new organizations, businesses and individuals who are willing to join in the work of FOCUS in our community. If you know anyone who could help, please introduce Bill and he'd love to meet with them.

**OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS** – none mentioned.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm with a prayer offered by Chairman, Bill Scrantom.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Clay Smith  
2/23/16