

FELEGE HIYWOT CENTER  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Minutes  
September 11, 2012

Opening:

The regular meeting of the FHC Board of Directors was called to order by board president, Darye Henry at 6:11 PM on Tuesday, September 11, 2012 in the Felege Hiywot Center.

Present:

Darye Henry                      Aster Bekele  
Lynn Wiegand                    Chris Rothenberger  
Mary Studley                    Val Tate  
Lauren Nowlin                  Nicole Oglesby  
Invited guest: Bryan Richards, Aspen Impact

Absent:

Gene Ford  
Ralph Taylor

Approval of Agenda: The meeting agenda was reviewed and agreed upon

Updates/Reports: Aster Bekele

Budget Review- Budget committee, consisting of Darye Henry, Aster Bekele and Chris Rothenberger met last week to review and discuss previous budgets, make adjustments, separate grant and non-grant income/expenses and garner a better understanding of the center's financial position. This data was compiled into graphs/charts/documents to clearly articulate the information to the board. Continued work to be done on current 2012 and 2013 budget. Areas of technology, advertising/fundraising, building and grounds, garden and programs are working on "wish lists" for the 2013 budget. FHC financial information dating back to 2004 was presented and explained. Discussion about need for more fund raising, need to maximize our current donor/contact list, how to engage them through increased and regular communications, updates, and use of periodic pledge drives and fundraisers.

All documents that were distributed to present board members will be posted to board web site. All board members were encouraged to view on going updates to the center's financial information there.

Fundraising Initiatives:

Ethiopian food sale will start on October 12. Sale was delayed due to unavailability of Ethiopian food prep staff. Graphics to be finalized within a week so that signage/fliers can be made and distributed. Menu/order form to be completed as well within the next few weeks.

iPad sale ....we have 11 first generation ipads purchased for the center to be sold for min. of \$250-350 each. Would prefer to keep sale in house/private at first.

Community Health will match funds up to 5K to obtain Public Ally. Will also match with in kind volunteers to support program throughout the year. Nursing/health and nutrition staff will help in the schools year round.

Aster reinforced the need for support from the Public Ally to perform program management and administrative support. Interviews were conducted and one hired to start 9/12/12. Idamarie is experienced, will work 30 hrs/week 9-5 Tuesday – Saturday for 10 months.

Brian Richard: Update of strategic plan is very close to completion. ICIF will receive update of plan. Stressed importance of having final plan/budget in order to finalize the strategic plan.

November is annual meeting, will consider board requests to renew or resign board position. Darye will send emails informing each board member of their term expiration and status. Each board member is to respond to that email regarding their intent to continue on the FHC Board of Directors. The responsibilities of the board members will be redefined for the coming year and will be evolving into more active roles and each of us need to evaluate our ability and availability to participate as active board members. FHC is moving forward and will demand a more results oriented board of directors that are engaged and able to fully participate in the center's strategic plan and activities. In addition, the new strategic plan guidelines to evaluate new potential board members will be implemented as well as ongoing participation of current members. Darye will include these guidelines in his email to each board member. He encouraged each member to thoughtfully consider their time commitments, availability and expectations when making the decision to continue as a board member. Open positions will be identified and determined for board vacancies. Adding a youth member to the board is a priority. Each member should think about the skills and qualities that board members should possess. Darye will accept nominations between now and the next board meeting.

Aster would also like to build an advisory board, to promote idea generation and to provide general guidance of ideas/projects/input. Quarterly basis...less task oriented.

Next meeting is Oct. 9 , 2012

Approval of minutes:

Minutes from last month's meeting was distributed and time allowed for review. After a few errors were noted, minutes were approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM

Minutes submitted by: Lynn Wiegand

Minutes approved by: Aster Bekele