

Felege Hiywot Center  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Minutes  
April 10, 2012

Opening:

The regular meeting of the Felege Hiywot Center(FHC ) Board of Directors was called to order by Valerie Tate at 6:20 PM on Tuesday, April 10, 2012 in the Felege Hiywot Center.

Present:

Aster Bekele  
Lynn Wiegand  
Ginny Roberts  
Chris Rothenberger  
Nicole Oglesby  
Lauren Nowlin  
Bryan Richards

Absent:

Darye Henry  
Mary Studley  
Gene Ford  
Ralph Taylor

- A. Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting were approved.
- B. Old Business: No old business was discussed.
- C. Review of Board Orientation Handbook- Bryan Richards made suggestions to add board calendar, board member list, supplemental supporter list of names to handbook. Discussed how to ensure all new board members receive the handbook and actually read it. Possibly use a game/competition to share information with each other. A point was made to have handbook available to employees . Val suggested we use Herron students to create our Annual Report document possibly as a service learning opportunity and to cross utilize community members as a form of outreach. Nicole will speak to her contacts to expedite the process. Goal of completing handbook by next board meeting was made.

D. Member Reports/Program updates:

Ginny Roberts: School programs are slowly transitioning from Aster to herself for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade programs at IPS 69. After school 4 H science projects are underway and will be presented in May. Also, the grow lab is being utilized and Ivy Tech interns are working well. They are getting whole class and small group experience. They are incorporating a multi – discipline approach which the students are embracing. Hoping to draw this group of students into our summer camp programs. Fliers and info has been sent home. Chickens and bees are going to be incorporated into the summer education programs. 25K grant from Lily for a greenhouse has been received and planning has begun.

Lynn Wiegand: fundraising: The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Garden Party fundraising event / dinner is planned for April 28, 6-8 pm at IPS 69. Hard copy invites were mailed out to the center's mailing list late March, email invites were sent April 9<sup>th</sup>, and reminder post cards to be mailed out this week. Board members are encouraged to

attend the fundraiser and be prepared to talk about the center. Anyone willing to help the day of the event can meet at the school at 4:00. Aster reviewed all of the grant monies being received for our summer garden camp program, as well as 25K for the greenhouse and orchard. Discussion about finding resources for administration/office help is of utmost concern and priority. Lauren Nowlin offered to look into getting business interns that need service/internship hours to possibly give support until resources are found. Aster will send a job description to Lauren for administrative assistant.

Other business: Discussion regarding the need for information to be in one convenient, easily accessible location. Caves not working for most board members. Request that the "old" board member site be revisited. Lynn will ask Vicki Craig to look into that possibility. Frustrations voiced about lack of clear and open communication from month to month, member to member, inconsistent meeting attendance and follow through. A suggestion was made to ask each board member to RSVP for each month's meeting, stating intent to attend, and to transmit information that was to be shared at that time. Start time of board meetings may need to be addressed due to 2 members not being able to get to the meeting on time due to work responsibilities. A request was made to give more notice for upcoming meetings. A calendar for board meetings will be made available for planning purposes as well as an email reminder a week prior to each meeting.

Next meeting is May 8, 2012, 6PM.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM

Minutes submitted by; Lynn Wiegand  
Approved by: