

Nassau Community Connections, Inc.

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday January 11th, 2022, 7:00 PM

Via Zoom

Our grassroots organization builds community, inspires hope, and networks for equity by raising awareness and connecting essential resources

Attendees:

Chaplain Michael Needham, President; Lori Clark, Treasurer; Joseph Gil, Communications Officer; John Imhoff, Secretary; Jean Wagner, Nassau resident; Shaykha Sheila DS Foraker, AQRT Sufi Order; Pastor Dion Marquit, Grace United Methodist Church; Carol Siver, Grace United Methodist Church; Mary Scallon, Grace United Methodist Church; Ken Scallon, St. Mary's Catholic Church

Meeting Minutes:

Opening Reflection – Led by Pastor Dion

- Community Center
 - Opening of center is still on hold, pending completion of the access ramp. Not unfortunate in light of the pandemic.
 - We'll need to monitor the pandemic;; hopefully will be in better shape to open the community center doors when positivity rate is better. We don't to become a source of people getting sick.
 - Jean Waggoner indicated that we currently have 7 volunteers to staff the center, and we will need more than that for full coverage.
 - May be able to get more volunteers from open house and if we do a bit more recruiting.
 - We also need to raise money for operating costs. Asking folks on the committee to come up with fundraising ideas.
- Lori Clark reported that Carol agreed to having us do an event at S&S Brewery; possibly a bake sale or a table with donation jar. She may allow us to take the microphone to let us tell folks who we are, ask for volunteers and supporters.
- Officers will see about getting a date set up and confirmed with Carol.
- Asking the committee to come back next time with some other fundraising ideas.
 - Michael Needham suggested assuming that we would need \$10K per year for insurance, rent, utilities, wireless internet and coffee and snacks.
 - The Committee requested a budget laying out the anticipated costs.
 - Officers agreed that a budget of anticipated costs would be prepared and made available to the Committee.

Officer's Report

- Secretary – John Imhoff - nothing specific to report.
- Treasurer - Lori Clark reported that our current account balance is \$5,158.26 and we collected Facebook donations totaling \$480 over the holidays.
- Communications Officer – Joseph Gil – Indicated that the Stewart's grant application is due at the end of the month and he will be working to get that submitted.

- President - Michael Needham made a motion that Jean Waggoner's position as Volunteer Coordinator be raised to an Officer's position.
 - The motion was seconded by Shaykha Sheila.
 - Discussion raised questions about how officers are elected and the terms of office.
 - Officer's agreed that by-laws outlining the election process and terms would be circulated to the Committee.
 - Unanimous vote of all present to make the Volunteer Coordinator an Officer's position.

Assistance Provided

- Lori indicated there was an individual who didn't have any heat, and she was able to get them in touch with someone who could winterize the furnace.

Last Minute Thoughts

- Chaplain Needham asked if there were other community needs that the Committee could think of that we should focus some attention on.
 - Pastor Dion raised mental health, especially as it relates to children as an issue in the community that needs attention. He is gathering resources and doing more training on the subject.
 - Chaplain Needham discussed the Glenmont Job Corps and that he will work to find out information about the organization and how it relates to the work we want to do.
 - Also suggested that we reschedule the visit by Heide from Community Caregivers to see how we might work together to bring those in need together with folks who can help. .
 - A general suggestion was made that we could compile a formalized list of opportunities that we could promote through Nassau Community Connections.
 - The Committee agreed that we should prepare some case studies that highlight the work that NCC does. Joe agreed to work with Mike and Lori to create some case studies that we could highlight on our website.

Closing Reflection – Led by Shaykha Sheila

Next Month's meeting on Tuesday 08 Feb 2022 @ 7PM.