

Minutes of the RCRV Board of Directors Meeting 8/16/2006

Board Chairman Chuck Wehage determined that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 1:32 pm.

Board members and guests introduced themselves by name and organizational affiliation. Twenty members signed the attendance list.

Approval of the minutes of the June meeting was moved by Don Grimm, seconded by Mike Wilson, and passed by voice vote.

Nominating Committee

Chairman Wehage announced that it was time to convene the Nominating Committee in accordance with the bylaws in order to prepare for the annual membership meeting in November. For that purpose, Vern Jackson, Jack Rector, and Bob Ocken were asked to form a nominating committee and prepare a preliminary slate of candidates in time for review at the October board meeting.

Program

No formal program was presented.

Committee Reports

Rockwell Collins, Chuck Wehage reporting for Cindy Dietz:

The K12 Kickoff breakfast is scheduled for August 17 (tomorrow) at the Crown Plaza in downtown Cedar Rapids. Because she was busy with preparation for this event, Cindy was unable to attend this board meeting in person.

Because the new Rockwell Collins logo is being phased into the business, surplus "Fly Collins" signs are available for silent auction. Contact information will be distributed to the RCRV Email Group and in the Community Projects minutes.

Community Projects, John McDonough:

Since our last Board Meeting in June, the following projects have been completed, or started:

Ramp activities have included the build of a ramp in Marion by Sutherland et al, and three more requested, one by St Lukes, one by Mercy and a third by a new member of RCRV upon the recommendation of Iowa Compass.

Two of these have been delayed due to vacations and other reasons, and the third has been put on hold until the new RCRV member gets back to us.

We also have a request from Heart of Iowa to contain roughly a 3000 square foot area where a 7 inch layer of wood chips under their equipment so that if students fall, they will not be hurt.

The Volunteer Newsletter has been published again.

Several pieces of playground equipment for Heart of Iowa have been painted.

Attendance at our Thursday meetings has dropped. I believe this is due to vacations and warmer weather.

We have three RCRV folks that will be attending the Senior Leadership Institute class again in September.

RCRV folks continue to support activities at REACT, 4 Oaks Bridge, Heart of Iowa, Aging Services, the Science Station, SHIIP, TRIAD, 15/5 Committees, the Free Clinic, and the repair of switches plus failed electronics.

We received two bids for the Ramp Post Support used to locate the bottom posts on ramps. We purchased some from P & D Welding in Marion and now have placed another order from Prison Industries in Anamosa. Aging Services provided the moneys to P and D Welding, and the WRAP program will fund the build of ten more from Prison Industries.

The WRAP lift needs to find a new home. It will be in the way shortly as activities will be starting on the Festival of Trees shortly. As a last resort, we can locate the lift in our office area.

We will be provided several 2-man teams to assist the CR Fire Dept in the installations of smoke alarms in the homes of students that either get free meals, or reduced price meals in the local elementary schools. Twelve schools represent 74% of the home fires over the recent past. The FD received a grant for them to purchase smoke detectors that will be installed free in these homes.

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Don Grimm reported that he took a trip to his home town to assist in the writing of a data base that will provide the city a means to document who is buried in what plot in their cemetery. This will be them included on the web so folks can more readily trace their ancestry.

Carol Luth is looking for a data base to assist Aging Services to identify their clients in case of a disaster in our area. Bob Ocken is looking into this for Aging Services.

Again, RCRV has been involved in lots of projects that help lots of people in our area.

If you can dream it, we can do it.

Communications, Rod Thorpe:

The next edition of the RCRV newsletter will be published in late October.

Rod Thorpe reported that the work of producing this newsletter has become burdensome, and suggested that a "production manager" be appointed to take responsibility for editing, composing, and publishing tasks. No resolution was introduced, but the board was receptive to the idea of appointing a "production manager."

Data Base, Jim Klein:

I received an email (it was forwarded to me) from Marge Mc Christy who helped with stuffing the last newsletter into the envelopes. She said there were 108 duplicate mailings that she pulled out. She left them in the RCRV office and I picked them up. They seem to be cases where both the wife and husband are retirees.

Should both be getting the mailings or not? I think this is a policy issue.

In some cases, she pulled some that should have been mailed. We mail newsletters to the officers of the IBEW at the IBEW office address. Since they went to the same address, she pulled them but we want each officer to receive their own copy.

In follow-up discussion, Myrna Loehrlein suggested combining husbands and wives in one name field so that both names appear on the mailing label. Heidi felt it is important to keep the identity of each individual retiree on the mailing list. Rod Thorpe suggested keeping the system as is and not trying to eliminate redundant copies. The board agreed that this would be perhaps the best compromise, but many were concerned with minimizing the cost of the program for Rockwell Collins.

This question was tabled for the moment, but will be resolved before the next newsletter is published.

Recruiting and Retention, Pete Jurgens:

No report. John McDonough believes that there are 145 active members of record at this time.

Agency Reports

RSVP, Angela Berns:

RSVP is trying to drum up interest in Jones County for a retiree volunteer program linked to the RCRV Cedar Rapids program. In addition to that, the Duane Arnold Energy Center is interested in establishing a retiree group patterned after RCRV. RSVP is facilitating these efforts, and RCRV will either lead or participate as appropriate.

Correctional Services, Heidi Soethout:

The next WRAP meeting will be September 11.

Chuck Larson –Iowa Easter Seals– has tentatively found an application for the wheel chair lift with a recipient living in Cedar Rapids. This will be pursued in the near future.

An order has been placed by RCRV to Iowa Prison Industries for 10 wheel chair ramp railing support brackets. IPI quoted a price of \$11.60, compared with a welding shop price of over \$30.00.

Correctional Services is trying to place a number of court-ordered community service individuals with appropriate non-profit and government agencies. Anyone with potential service opportunities is urged to call Heidi.

Heritage Agency on Aging, Linda Dearing:

The Senior Leadership Institute still has openings for those who might be interested in attending.

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Heritage has scheduled enrollment events each week for Medicare part D enrolment events each week at KTOS beginning November 16 and ending December 18. John McDonough, Pete Jurgens, Bill Ellis, and Jim Wolfe will be asked to join the Heritage SHIPP volunteers in this project.

Esther Wilson accepted a CDBG check for the Heritage Money Management Program at an event in July. The funding comes from Cedar Rapids HUD allotment funds.

Hospice of Mercy, Sara Case:

Groundbreaking for the new house near the Mercy outpatient facility on Blairs Ferry Road is scheduled for Sept 28. This will be a beautiful facility, initially sized for twelve residents, with expansion provisions for six additional rooms as required.

Heart of Iowa, Myrna Loehrlein:

Myrna expressed appreciation for the RCRV painters, particularly for the hopscotch patterns. These patterns have generated much discussion. They are being heavily used.

Heart of Iowa still need to enclose the playground surface for wood chips, and possibly needs a fence in the back. It was noted that other playgrounds visited recently were required to use 13 inches of pea gravel as a surface to prevent injuries from falls.

Myrna also reported that a July 25-26 downpour with unfinished roof repairs did extensive damage. There are many problems to resolve with cleanup.

School begins tomorrow.

Ageing Services, Inc., Carol Luth:

ASI received a United Way Community Response Fund grant to start an errand transportation program. This will entail taking older adults to grocery stores, food banks, and farmer's markets. We are looking for volunteers to assist with this program. Mileage is reimbursed at the IRS business rate. Time commitments are very flexible.

Red Cross, Joan Schaffer:

No report.

Options of Linn County, Wayne Clayton:

Our accreditation survey took place in July and CARF awarded Options a 3-year accreditation as a result of that visit. The surveyors pointed out in their report that the assistive tech adaptations we use are one of the many strengths of our program.

The Abilities in Action Conference & Expo will be held Wednesday Oct 11 8:30-4:15 at KTOS. We would welcome RCRV's participation again this year, displaying a sampling of your A.T. designs.

As always, thank you for being a valued partner in our program.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Art Roderick and Mike Wilson made a Festival of Trees presentation suggesting incorporating LEGO demonstrations into the Festival.

Adjournment

The next Board meeting is September 20th at the Red Cross building.

Rod Thorpe moved to adjourn, seconded by John McDonough, and this motion carried by voice vote.

Submitted by Don Grimm, Secretary.