

## **Minutes of the RCRV Board of Directors Meeting 09/19/2007**

**Note: These minutes are subject to amendment and approval at the next board meeting.**

Board Chairman Jim Green conducted the meeting. He determined that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 1:35 PM.

Eighteen members and guests signed the attendance list.

Tom Brennom moved approval of the August minutes as published on the web site, seconded by John McDonough. The motion was approved.

### **Program**

Mary Klinger, United Way of East Central Iowa, presented the mission and fundraising goals of the United Way's annual campaign. The agency has set a fundraising goal of \$10 million, an ambitious increase from last year's campaign. Mary explained that the focus of UWECI is on the most critical needs of the community, and the partner agencies are moving toward preventive actions rather than corrective actions. RCRV members will be contacted by mail during October for an opportunity to contribute to the fundraising campaign. Last year's contributions from RCRV membership was approximately \$60,000.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Community Projects, John McDonough:**

- \* Governor's Award Ceremonies coming up October 22, 2007 at Linn-Mar High School. We again will take care of the parking and ushering during the ceremonies. RC will provide coffee and lemonade to the participants.
- \* RSVP is having two signs made for RCRV that will state: that the "volunteer work provided by RCRV" Thank you RSVP.
- \* Several RCRV folks are volunteering at the Eastern Iowa Observatory and Learning Center, namely Vern Jackson, John Leeson and Helen Potthoff. The center now has an occupancy certificate. Events will begin to be held at the center. The first event is now history. They had very good attendance with 85 chairs filled.
- \* Linda Dearing of Heritage Area Agency on Aging has reserved the large conference room for us on several days in October and November for us to provide info on the latest insurance offering from RC. Info should be available the last of September with open enrollment the last part of October through the middle of November.
- \* REACT has set up a basic computer training class which will be taught by Don Wickenkamp starting the first week in October.
- \* Lego Mentoring class was held recently. Mike Wilson plus several RCRV members provided the class for new mentors as well as experienced mentors.
- \* RCRV was well represented at the recent K-12 Breakfast.

\* Jack Murphy repaired an Audio Dialer for Aging Services so that one of their volunteers could continue with her function.

\* The Assistive Tech Fair will be held October 3, 2007 at the KTOS Center from 10:30 thru 2. We will be there with Options, and GWAEA folks.

\* The hours reporting software is up and running again. Please use to report your hours.

\* We built a ramp this past period.

\* We continue to volunteer for RSVP, Aging Services, Kirkwood, and Heritage Area Agency on Aging, GWAEA, Options of Linn Co, EIOLC, Mercy Hospice, IRPE, REACT Center, SHIIP, and WRAP.

\* Don Grimm and his wife are on a 5 week tour of the upper US and Canada demonstrating his small engines at various trade shows.

\* Ann Griffin, GWAEA, has several requests for new items for us to design and build or simply make more copies of already designed items:

Basketball hoop extenders, disc golf receptacles, bean bag shooter, bowling ramp pusher extender, golf chipper, power soccer bumpers plus a sheet of plastic over a bulleting board at the Paul Engle Center to prevent vandalism.

\* October 19, 2007 at 8:30 is the RSVP Appreciation Event at the KTOS Center.

\* Alice Rector volunteered to crochet our logo on knit shirts for us. We supply the shirts.

If you can dream it, we can do it.

#### **Recruitment/Retention, Pete Jurgens:**

The active membership has increased to over 200. Volunteer hours reported for the previous month were not yet available.

Pete reported that he and John are working with Rockwell Collins to prepare presentations on this year's changes to retiree health insurance coverage. Linda Dearing is assisting with reservations of a meeting room at KTOS in Marion. More details to follow.

#### **Communications, Rod Thorp:**

Rod reported that the quarterly newsletter is close to being completed, and that this will be Rod's last newsletter as editor. He is asking that someone else volunteer to take over this very important position.

### **Data Base, Jim Klein:**

The database has been updated for the new retiree list (for the months of May – June) from Rockwell Collins. The database has also been updated based on the obituaries from Wilma Shadle and for the address changes resulting from the July newsletter mailing.

### **Partner Agencies Reports:**

**Ageing Services, Carol Luth:** The Vision Enhancement Center will be having an **Open House** and “**10% Off CCTV Readers and amplified phones**” on **Wednesday, September 26, 2007** from 12:00 – 6:00pm. The sale will feature all the new technologies and equipment available to make life easier for persons experiencing low vision problems and hearing problems.

The Vision Enhancement Center is located at 800 1<sup>st</sup> Street NW, just north of the Best Western Hotel and Cooper’s Mill in Abbe Inc.’s two-story gray building.

This will be an opportunity to see and actually try out some of the **NEW items** you have seen in magazines and catalogs such as:

- **Reading machines** that enlarge the newspaper print up to 60x times bigger.
- **Scanning machines** that can read a book, letter, bill or mail aloud to you.
- **Computer enlargement** programs that let you read your e-mail and web site pages easily!
- Favorite **magnifiers** you can use at home or carry with you to the store and restaurants.
- **Large things** like clocks, talking watches, bingo cards, playing cards, games, calendars, and telephones with large buttons.

We will be featuring our newest line – **phones and products for the hearing impaired!** You will be able to actually dial and talk on 4 different amplified phones for a truly understandable conversation. You can try TV Ears you have seen advertised and an alarm clock designed to wake even severely hard of hearing people. You have to hear these items for yourself!

**Correctional Services, Heidi Soethout:** 6JD-DCS has received an AmeriCorps grant and will be seeking to fill various part-time positions in the next month or two.

**Four Oaks Bridge, Carol Kalous:** No report.

**Grant Wood AEA, Ann Griffin:** No report.

**Heart of Iowa, Myrna Loehrlein:** Things at Heart of Iowa will be in transition for a while. Our director of 14 years resigned to take another job, and Friday is her last day. We had a party last week including an inflatable jumper for the children and moms. Everybody seemed to have a good time.

We are eagerly anticipating the long-awaited installation of windows in our toddler and preschool rooms. We have been working on the addition of these windows for 4 years. Sometimes things move more slowly than I can even imagine. But we have finally put together the approvals we need and the funding. It looks like our young clients will no longer need to spend their days in a windowless room.

Our numbers are down a little overall, but we are still overcrowded in our elementary-age and middle school-age classrooms. We are pretty consistently overcrowded in at least one room. Otherwise things are moving on as usual.

**Heritage Agency on Aging, Linda Dearing:** The Elder Awareness conference is coming up. RCRV members will be assisting.

Churches of Marion need computer assistance for establishing a network in the residence units. It was suggested that Linda contact Ron Coffin. Linda has reserved the large meeting room at KTOS for the October and November health insurance briefings.

**Hospice of Mercy, Sara Case:** No report.

**Jane Boy Community House, Karl Cassell:** No report.

**New Horizons, Mark Beason:** No report.

**Options of Linn County, Wayne Clayton:** Options has a couple of upcoming events that may be of interest.

1. Oct 3 is the Abilities in Action Conference/Tech Expo. This is an annual event where Options and RCRV have shared a display table, showing examples of the assistive tech items RCRV has provided for Options and Grant Wood AEA. The event will be held at KTOS and we will be at our table 10:00-2:00.

2. Oct 18 is the Options Open House. Address is 1019 7th St SE, Cedar Rapids. Time is 6:30-8:30. We will have tours of our facility that will feature a number of assistive devices created by RCRV. This is open to the public and everyone is invited to attend.

**REACT, Barb Klawiter:** No report.

**Red Cross, Joan Schaffer:** The Red Cross members are making many presentations in the community about the needs of the organization. A near-term need is for a new CFO, and Joan is asking for recommendations.

**RSVP, Barbara Hoffman:** No report.

**WRAP, Angela Berns:** WRAP is applying for a \$25,000 grant through United Way. A presentation to the Strengthening Families review committee is scheduled for September 20.

The Executive Committee has welcomed John Wauer as a new member of that committee. Committee meetings are accomplishing much in defining policy and procedures.

Teresa Robinson is on staff as the Intake Coordinator. She works Thursdays 8:30-4:30 and Fridays 8:30-10:30. Teresa is located in the Volunteer Services office at St. Luke's Hospital.

WRAP is applying for 3 grants this year for capital funding.

All referral clients will be referred to "Iowa Able" for a low interest loan to expedite funding issues.

**St. Luke's Hospital, Denise Walker:** No report.

**Rockwell Collins, Jenny Becker:** Rockwell Collins hosted the K-12 Kick Off Breakfast on Aug. 17 at the Marriott in Cedar Rapids. This event was attended by many RCRV members. At the event, Clay Jones announced a major partnership with FIRST (For Inspiration and

Recognition of Science and Technology), of \$1.3 million dollars over the first two years. The partnership will go to support LEGO Teams, training for teachers and coaches, and funding for tournaments not only in Iowa but near Rockwell Collins regional locations.

Cheri Kampman and Jenny Becker are working with Renee Litfin at the United Way to implement a database that will be used for the 'Engineering Experiences' volunteer program. The database will work like CorridorVolunteers.org and will reside on an external server so that it is accessible to retiree volunteers.

Cheri Kampman will be on maternity leave beginning in late October.

Respectfully submitted by the Secretary Pro Tem, Jim Green