

Minutes of the RCRV Board of Directors Meeting 4/20/2005

Board Chairman Chuck Wehage called the meeting to order at 1:37 P.M.

Board members and guests introduced themselves by name and organizational affiliation. Sixteen RCRV members, seven agency representatives and one Rockwell Collins representative were present.

Approval of March meeting

Pete Jurgens moved and John McDonough seconded the motion to approve the minutes of February Board Meeting as posted on the RCRV website. Motion carried.

Notices of significance to RCRV

Chuck Wehage and Wayne Clayton attended the Community Providers meeting at Ames April 19. Chuck presented an adaptation of the recent Collins staff review of RCRV activities to a small but attentive audience.

Report on Activities of Red Cross -- Joan Schaffer

Joan handed out written reports and brochures describing significant programs. She briefly addressed the history of the Red Cross, describing the founding of the organization by Clara Barton and the mandate established by the US Congress. The American Red Cross has cooperative arrangements with the International Red Cross and with Red Crescent. The mission statement is as follows:

The American Red Cross, a humanitarian organization led by volunteers and guided by its congressional charter and the fundamental principles of the International Red Cross Movement, will provide relief to victims of disaster and help people prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies.

The Local Grant Wood Area Chapter includes Buchanan, Delaware, Benton, Linn, Jones, Iowa, and Johnson counties. In fiscal year 2004 it responded to 86 disasters in the area, assisted 416 people affected by disasters, provided preparedness training to 894 individuals, trained 24,644 people in lifesaving skills. The area agency was active in HIV/AIDS assistance and prevention, communication with military personnel, and collecting blood for hospitals.

The local chapter responded to the recent New Jersey flood with volunteers. It is wrapping up the local Heroes fundraising campaign, having raised over ten thousand dollars.

Question from the Board:

- How many employees? Over 1000 volunteers, over 200 per month. Staff about 25.
- Why discontinue layette program for indigent mothers? Staff decision cost vs. benefit.

Community Projects Report (John McDonough)

Seven wheelchair ramp designs have been requested. Aging Services recommended 3 of the ramp designs, REACT recommended one ramp design, Iowa Compass passed our name out to one of their clients for a ramp design and 2 Rockwell Collins workers and retirees recommended we design two more ramps. Some of these will need to have our assistance in building them. Five sites have been measured, two have not.

We have run into problems at this time. We need more people to step forward and design ramps. Three of the above ramps (one site measured, two have not been) are not being designed. Once

the designs have been completed, we need to build most of the ramps. It will take about six people two days to build a ramp. We need more HELP!

Heidi Soethout had a meeting this week on modular ramp design feasibility. Eleven people were in attendance including RCRV, Aging Services, Easter Seals and Iowa Compass representation as well as DCS leadership. We will have another meeting in about 30 days to continue the good discussions that were started yesterday. Obviously, no decisions were reached yesterday except that the committee is an excellent idea and that the problem is not unique to Cedar Rapids, or to Iowa but across the nation.

Heart of Iowa and the Science Station have several tasks that they need our help in performing.

Ed Holstrom continued working on Taxes having completed over 150 forms to date. This will be wrapping down in a couple of weeks.

Jack Murphy delivered four ball launchers to Ann Griffin.

Ann Griffin accepted the award for the National Teacher of the Year. Good work Ann and again, congratulations.

Thirty sets of switch parts were completed by corrections of Tama for Wayne Clayton for his usage at Ames in a hands-on class about devices used to assist the handicapped.

Communications (Rod Thorpe)

April Newsletter was finished last week. It included distribution of an Outreach Report from Rockwell re United Way.

The recent Pierce School Shuttle Mockup project created good publicity on local TV stations.

Data Base (Jim Klein)

Jim was still out of town. No report.

Recruitment (Pete Jurgens)

Active membership has reached 100.

United Way (Mary Klinger)

Brief status report was presented

St Lukes (Jackie Ryan)

Reported by Denise Walker: Denise distributed an Inpatient Rehab report on status of that program

Heart of Iowa (Myrna Loehrlein)

Infant room designed for 12, now 15 enrolled. Run first-come, first-served, so setup of room is variable day-to-day.

Youth center ten children over capacity also. Now have cabinets to be installed,

Sixth Judicial District (Heidi Soethout)

Refer to Community Project report for notes on modular wheel chair ramp feasibility.

Tama completed 30 wobble switches for Options of Linn County. Quality was good, with exception that internal switches were of the wrong type. This problem is being repaired.

Aging Services (Carol Luth)

No report.

RSVP (Sara Case)

Brief status report was presented.

Options of Linn County (Wayne Clayton)

1. Apr 14 Chuck Wehage & I gave presentation for IACP conference in Ames. It was sparsely attended, but we received positive feedback and one report of a few projects possibly arising out of the program.

*connected to this presentation, Tama completed 30 wobble switches for us. Quality was good.

2. Russ from Grinnell continues to work on an ergonomic arm support for a consumer.

3. Dick Kittrell is working on some repair projects.

Rockwell Collins (Cindy Dietz)

Green Communities Grant awards will be announced on Friday, April 22 (Earth Day). We awarded 19 grants in 15 communities covering five states where RC has facilities. Maximum award amount was \$2500.

REACT having a volunteer appreciation Party Thursday

The K-12 Kickoff Breakfast will be held Friday, August 19 at the Crowne Plaza hotel. Keynote speaker is Edward James Olmos, actor and diversity education activist.

Working on Hands across America campaign. Being considered as pace-setter for campaign.

Collins is considering whether to provide *The Reach Out Report* United Way newsletter on external web site for access by all retirees.

The topic of retiree volunteerism is gaining visibility. It was the topic of a breakout session at a recent Boston College Center for Corporate Citizenship conference. I provided information regarding our model and have since emailed the web address to several interested organizations. Boston College conducted a survey and will issue a report in the next few months. I'll forward any information I received on this topic.

Old Business:

Iowa Code Change issue: Don Grimm reported that the Iowa Code pertaining to nonprofit corporations is being rewritten as chapter 504. It is being written to make Iowa law considerably more explicit with regard to responsibilities of members and officers and to define legal obligations and protections from liability in more detail. RCRV Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation must be scrutinized to see what changes might need to be approved. Additional details will be provided at the next meeting.

Personal Liability issue: Chuck Wehage is leading an effort to determine just what protections are in place and what exposures RCRV members may have because of participation in or leadership of RCRV projects. Rockwell Collins director Gary Chadick referred Chuck to Tom Ohrt. Chuck has scheduled a meeting April 28 at 2: pm. Chuck will appoint a group to attend this meeting. The question of 501C3 tax-exempt status for RCRV may also be discussed in that meeting.

New Business

None.

Next meeting:

May 18 at Milestones in Marion at 1:30

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Donald Grimm, Secretary.