

## **Minutes of the RCRV Board of Directors Meeting 9/21/2005**

Board Chairman Chuck Wehage called the meeting to order at 1:39 P.M.

Board members and guests introduced themselves by name and organizational affiliation. Nineteen members and one guest were present.

### **Approval of March meeting minutes**

John McDonough moved approval of the Board of Directors Meeting Minutes as posted on the RCRV website. Vern Jackson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### **Opening Remarks**

None

### **Community Projects Report (John McDonough)**

The ramp design team has met at the Correctional Center on 29<sup>th</sup> Ave SW several times. We now have an Easter Seals designed and built wheelchair lift that will raise a chair 42 inches vertically. The lift currently resides at the Faches Center in front of their garage. The lift weighs approx 700 pounds. We are looking for space to house it and permit our design team to work with it. Access to the Surplus store has been denied. We are in dyer need of a solution to this problem as our office is too small to house it.

On 10/11/05, the annual Tech Expo will be held at the KTOS Center from 8 'til 5. We need volunteers to man this table for the duration of the show. We will be co-located with folks from Options of Linn County. They will bring some of the items we have designed for them.

We have done a lot of things at the Science Station this past month. Walls have been painted and displays have been made functional. Between Arlo Meyer and Keith Sutherland, things are running more smoothly at the Science Station. Arlo is working in the Maintenance area to make working conditions more favorable for our guys to work and Keith has identified most of the displays in the facility as well as to what is needed to get them in good working condition. We still need folks to step forward to latch onto a particular display that needs repair.

Keith also has designed another ramp for Aging Services. This particular home also needs to have a roof replaced among other things that Aging Services has contract out to the one of the local businesses.

Our guys have helped assemble playground equipment at Bowman Woods Elementary.

Thirty REACT updated computers have been donated to the Jane Boyd Computer Center. We have assisted in getting them set up as well as in the wiring of the facility in general.

Mike Wilson, et al, has set up and taught a class at the KTOS Center on Mentoring for the Lego program. It was well attended.

Heart of Iowa Mural Dedication Ceremony was held this past month.

Jim Green designed a shed for Milestones of Marion.

We have set up two meetings on 11/8 to discuss the Rockwell Collins Insurance Package and the new Federal Law on Prescription Drugs. The meeting will be held at the KTOS Center. An article will in our October Newsletter requesting folks with questions attend.

Linn Mar Students have manufactured 30 Bow and Arrow devices for Ann Griffin.

John Wauer is designing and will build a wheelchair swing for the New Horizons folks.

### **Communications (Rod Thorpe)**

Rod has begun composing the newsletter, to be published in October. Contributions to this issue should be submitted within the next two weeks.

### **Data Base (Jim Klein)**

The data base is up to date with all available membership and status changes. A copy was supplied to United Way for use in the fall campaign in accordance with board approval at the August meeting.

### **Recruitment (Pete Jurgens)**

No report.

### **United Way (Mary Klinger)**

No report.

### **Report on Activities of Heart of Iowa -- (Myrna Loehrlein)**

No report.

### **St Luke's (Jackie Ryan)**

St Lukes has approved donation of \$500 for the Wheelchair Ramp Assistance Program consortium administered by the Sixth Judicial District.

Checking for storage facility suitable to store models of the wheel chair lift.

### **Sixth Judicial District (Heidi Soethout)**

Wheelchair Ramp Assistance Program (WRAP) status report was given. Plans now call for a "Green room" session to analyze the lift design model completed by Chuck Larson from Easter Seals. Candidate materials for modular ramps are also under review.

Heidi reported that Tama funding has been reallocated, and the cottage industry idea reduced in scope. The project administrator has been reassigned to casework, no longer supported. Someone needs to check on the power tools sent there to be used by that project.

The next WRAP meeting will be October 3rd.

### **Heritage Agency on Aging (Linda Dearing)**

No report.

### **Aging Services (Carol Luth)**

No report.

### **Jane Boyd (Karl Kassel)**

No report.

### **RSVP (Sara Case)**

No report.

**Options of Linn County (Wayne Clayton)**

1. Repair work. RCRV has been active repairing a variety of switches for us.
2. Adapted CD player. RCRV has helped brainstorm some ideas for a consumer who is requesting a CD player adapted to be operated by switch.
3. We have the Assistive Tech Expo coming up Oct 11 at KTOS. RCRV/Options will have a display table there. This Expo is held in conjunction with the Abilities in Action Conference, which features speakers on a variety of topics.

**Red Cross (Joan Schaffer)**

Red Cross hurricane relief efforts have dominated the agency recently. They can always use more volunteer help. Training programs are being conducted to prepare volunteers of on-site response work. They find widely varying backgrounds among volunteers, and are not always able to match special skills to specific tasks very well, since Red Cross is geared to be an immediate response agency. RCRV member Dave Nelson was one of the volunteers who traveled to help at the scene, and has recently returned.

**Bridge, Four Oaks (Carol Kalous)**

No report.

**Rockwell Collins (Cindy Dietz)**

Thanks for the help RCRV has provided at Science Station to get displays repaired and back in service. It is GREATLY APPRECIATED!!!! The Science Station Board has made an offer for a Science Station Director. An announcement is expected soon.

Rockwell Collins *Hands across America* campaign exceeded \$2M goal. The community campaign for United Way is now underway. The Goal for United Way of East Central Iowa is \$8,885,001. Information will be included in the next RCRV newsletter. As approved at the last Board Meeting, RCRV is working with UWECI to send solicitation letters to its active retirees mailing list.

Rockwell Collins is changing its criteria for maintaining its yellow badge visitor access list. Best information indicates the majority of RCRV badges expire August 2006, so should be good for now. Rockwell Collins is trying to reduce the number of badges issued, and will require background checks and drug screening to remain on the list.

**Other Reports:**

Jack Hotchkiss reported preparations are being made for this year's *Volunteer Iowa* show. IPTN is looking for opportunities to tape interviews with volunteers. See Jack if you have ideas.

Mike Wilson reminded everyone that RCRV has accepted responsibility to help set up Festival of Trees. November 15 and 16th are the setup dates. Subsequent teardown is also an RCRV responsibility.

**TRIAD Presentation: (Nevin Meredith)**

Jack Hotchkiss introduced Chairman of the Triad organization, Nevin Meredith, representing the Linn County Sheriff's office. TRIAD is a multi-agency cooperative project aimed at protecting senior citizens, and includes the police departments of Marion, Cedar Rapids, and others, along with Heritage Agency on Aging.

Focus of TRIAD is identity theft, home safety, personal safety, home fraud, bank fraud, credit card fraud, and elder abuse.

Nevin reported that the Social Security drug plan is now an active area for frauds.

Ongoing TRIAD-supported projects include the Home Safety Inspection program and the flashing porch light alerter.

Nevin reported that neighborhood watch programs are very effective at suppressing crime. TRIAD can help establish neighborhood programs.

Triad continues to gather crime statistical data from the Cedar Rapids Police Department, with Bob Ocken still helping track data. This project has now gathered sufficient data to guide TRIAD emphasis.

TRIAD is studying the possibility of an automated call tree to speed notification of seniors when specific risks arise.

**Old Business:**

Wehage reported on the status of the organization's personal liability protection for individual designers. This question has been reviewed by the Rockwell Collins risk management department. It was recently referred to a representative of the Linn County Bar Association to get advice on whether the risk was serious enough to warrant further protection.

We were advised that case law is not established in this area well enough to assure that legal costs to prepare a defense can be avoided. Recommendation is to find insurance to cover that risk. The RSVP liability coverage under which we also operate may cover that risk, but it is far from certain that it does.

Wehage will form a committee to pursue this further.

**New Business**

Next meeting 10/19/2005

Rod Thorpe moved to adjourn the meeting. John McDonough seconded the motion, which carried. Meeting adjourned approximately 2:55 PM.

Submitted by Donald Grimm, Secretary.