

Minutes of the RCRV Board of Directors Meeting 1/18/2006

Board Chairman Chuck Wehage called the meeting to order at 1:35 P.M.

Board members and guests introduced themselves by name and organizational affiliation.

Twenty-five members signed the attendance list.

The Chairman determined that a quorum is present.

Opening Remarks

RCRV was featured in an Options of Linn County interview conducted by Ron Steele of KWVL news. This interview was aired on the KWVL news on December 15th and 16th, and adapted for presentation on the IPTN Volunteer Iowa program January 15th. Chuck played a video tape of the IPTV presentation for those who had not previously seen it.

RCRV pledged 24000 hours for a Volunteer Iowa goal in 2006 during that television show.

Community Service (John McDonough)

We are continuing to support the Science Station. We currently are documenting the Traits of Life exhibit so that the Science Station can use the display free of charge. The effort will be concluded early next month. The exhibit moves out at the end of January.

We continue to support TRIAD, REACT, The Free Clinic, and Jane Boyd.

We are looking at three new wheelchair ramp design efforts.

Don Grimm added two wheels to the front of the Easter Seals built wheelchair lift. It was moved to the History Center this past week.

Pete Jurgens presented Medicare Part D prescription drug information to over 3,000 people in our locale.

The Festival of Trees project was completed with more than 16 volunteers assisting Mike Wilson in the effort. We agreed that RCRV would again do this next year. The location may change to Hawkeye downs due to financial reasons.

Several Home inspections were completed by RCRV folks for Aging Services.

Over 3,000 hours were spent by RCRV volunteers on the Rockwell Collins K-12 program with the Cedar Rapids Schools. Projects included LEGO League, Kindergarten Science, mentoring, math tutors, Robotics, Future Cities and many other projects.

Our group continues to support the WRAP wheelchair ramp/lift design team at Corrections. We have split RCRV folks up into a modular ramp design team and a wheelchair lift design team.

Grimm wrote software for REACT to help keep track of their efforts.

We have folks working on Taxes, and the Medicare Part D enrollment effort continues to be a very large project.

In further discussion, Jack Hotchkiss announced that he is working with TRIAD proposing to the Hawkeye Area Building Council Executive Director to solicit volunteer support for Aging Services. Their meeting will be February 1 at 9:00 AM.

Communications (Rod Thorpe)

The newsletter is now available on the RCRV web site, and will be mailed to retirees this week. Response to Medicare briefing in last newsletter produced over 1000 attendees, demonstrating the widespread readership of this mailing.

The Cedar Rapids Community Schools will be presenting RCRV their Organizational Award at The Governor's Volunteer Awards ceremony for 2005. The ceremony will be held at Linn-Mar High School in June.

Data Base (Jim Klein)

The database was updated for the obituaries and for the new retirees listing from Rockwell Collins.

The database record format was modified to make it easier to generate the newsletter mailing list. The non-RCRV part of the database (used for the Rockwell Collins senior corporate officers) had a different address format (which included there internal mail stop) than the rest of the database. The format was change to facilitate the merging of the two databases when generating the mailing list.

Recruiting and Retention (Pete Jurgens)

Now have 130 active members on record. Pete challenged the organization to double the active membership in 2006.

Heart of Iowa (Myrna Loehrlein)

Two new programs for rating child care & preschool performance are impacting Heart of Iowa programs. One is mutual rating system by United Way. The other is voluntary program initiated by the State of Iowa. Heart of Iowa will be challenged by these rating systems. Preschool operations are in need of more math materials. Upgrades will be needed to provide more appropriate storage facilities and child-appropriate materials. Myrna will present specific requests for assistance at future RCRV meetings.

St Lukes (Jackie Ryan)

Denise Walker attended this meeting and reported upcoming events:

Saturday, January 28, a *Day of Dance* event will be presented at Westdale Mall. St. Lukes expects to provide free health screenings for a large number of those who attend.

St. Lukes Rehabilitation will begin a major remodeling of the sixth floor facility starting in May.

United Way (Mary Klinger)

No report.

Heritage Agency on Aging (Linda Dearing)

No report.

Aging Services (Carol Luth)

Aging Services has received a \$5000 *Transportation Services* grant.

A doctor of optometry has been added to the staff to provide client services two Mondays per month.

Jane Boyd (Karl Kassel)

No report.

RSVP (Sara Case)

Sara explained that RSVP is double-checking the 2005 total to resolve an internal audit. Results may vary slightly from previously announced results by an inconsequential number. Final results will be known before the end of January.

The RCRV/RSVP membership application form was reviewed, and Sara explained the procedure using the current form. Minor changes were suggested.

Options of Linn County (Wayne Clayton)

Wayne thanked RCRV members for participation in the production of the Ron Steele interview aired on KWWL and on IPTV.

Red Cross (Joan Schaffer)

Joan noted the passing of staff member Fran Mason.

This year has seen a large increase in disaster responses. Red Cross will start disaster training classes in Cedar Rapids the first Wednesday in February, from 5:30 to 8:30 pm, and in Iowa City the first Wednesday in March.

CPR training will be conducted Saturday, March 4 in both Cedar Rapids and Iowa City. Training will take place in the Red Cross office in Cedar Rapids, and in Coral Ridge Mall in Iowa City.

March is Red Cross month.

REACT (Barb Klaweiter)

No report.

Bridge, Four Oaks (Carol Kalous)

Carol expressed thanks to RCRV for help during the past months.

To train children about the workings of the legal system, a mock trial will be conducted with local participants. Practice sessions begin January 18th at the Bridge, and continue every wed for eight weeks.

The Bridge needs math tutors for 3rd grade pupils Monday through Friday from 4:00 to 5:30 pm.

A new project with Kirkwood College will form groups to make products to sell at Wallgreens. The project will use a Donald Trump theme. A business group from Kirkwood will report the results of the project at a conference in Des Moines.

Four Oaks now serves 11 cities in 99 counties, with 5000 clients served per year. The Four Oaks Board will start tracking volunteer activity and will employ a part-time volunteer coordinator. A volunteer recognition event is being planned.

A bazaar is also in the planning phase. Besides raising money, the event will be used to teach kids responsibility and money management.

Charles Wehage asked whether Four Oaks is beginning to experience problems with the "white shirt gang" in Cedar Rapids. Carol did not single out that gang, but pointed out the Four Oaks aims to intervene with children to provide an environment that does not support gang growth.

Sixth Judicial District (Heidi Soethout)

Corrections is looking for volunteers to help do income tax returns for clients, and others to act as mediators for court system. It was suggested that RSVP may be able to help provide volunteers.

Grant Wood AEA (Ann Griffin)

No Report.

Rockwell Collins (Cindy Dietz)

Cindy offered congratulations for the Ron Steele telethon and channel 7 presentations showing RCRV and Rockwell Collins in a very favorable light.

Cindy and Jack Hotchkiss will call a meeting to discuss how to respond to David Eisner's request for information about RCRV and how Collins supports it. This meeting will likely take place the first week of February.

Thanks to RCRV volunteers for helping with Lego League. The tournament at Taft involved more than 200 volunteers. The qualifying tournament will take place at Ames on January 21. Cindy reported she is receiving numerous spontaneous expressions of appreciation from parents.

The United Way campaign exceed its goal this year, collecting over nine million dollars. Rockwell Collins employees and retirees contributed over \$1.8 million.

Jenny Becker is organizing volunteer support for the Future Cities competition January 28. She needs judges for the middle school competition. Reports from around the country indicate some of the class teams have chosen rebuilding of New Orleans as a project. Don't know about CR area teams.

Engineers Week activities are coming together. Confirmed dates include: Saturday, Feb 18, Free Day at the Iowa Childrens' Museum at Coral Ridge Mall with hands-on activities from 10:00am - 2:00pm; Sunday, Feb. 19, Zoom Zone activities at Lindale Mall from noon - 3:00pm; Monday Feb. 20 - Friday Feb 24, activities at various K-12 Partnership Schools; Saturday, Feb. 25, Free Engineering Day at the Science Station with hands-on activities from 10:00am - 2:00pm.

Cindy reported the formation of a new Linn County non-profit resource center, organized by the Cedar Rapids Community Foundation. This will supplement the Sandy Boyd center that already exists. Cindy has been named to the board of the new organization.

Green communities program grants are available from Rockwell Collins for projects to help the environment in specific ways. Grant applications are available on the Rockwell Collins website. Eligible projects must show participation by Rockwell Collins employees or retirees.

Other Reports:

None.

Old Business:

None.

New Business

None.

Adjournment

Tom Brennom moved to adjourn. John McDonough seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 2:36 pm.

The next Board meeting is February 15th at the Red Cross building.

Submitted by Donald Grimm, Secretary.