

Minutes of the RCRV Board of Directors Meeting 3/15/2006

Board Chairman Chuck Wehage called the meeting to order at 1:34 P.M.

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

The Chairman determined that a quorum is present.

Minutes

Jim Green moved approval of the minutes from the February Board Meeting. John McDonough seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Opening Remarks

Jenny Becker described details of the First Annual Iowa Volunteer Fair. This will be held Monday, March 2, in the State Capitol Building Rotunda in Des Moines. This event is being sponsored by the Iowa Commission on for Volunteer Service. RCRV will share a table with the Rockwell K12 program and with REACT at that event.

Waypoint Services Presentation (Corinne Ramler)

Corinne Ramler is Director of Marketing for Waypoint Services in Cedar Rapids.

Waypoint (formerly the Cedar Rapids YWCA) is a Human Service provider, focusing on assistance to women and children who are victims of violence or homelessness. They also provide child care for all ages through 12 years old for those who cannot otherwise afford it.

Waypoint currently employs 140, and operates on a \$3 million annual budget. Half of this comes from child care revenue, 15% from grants, 16% from United Way, 10% from individual contributions, and the remainder from fundraising events.

One of the Waypoint centers of service is the Madge Phillips Center. This facility has 16 bedrooms and provides temporary housing for women and children, a day program with hot meals, groceries, laundry, used clothing, personal health care, and computer access. This center aims to stabilize the lives of working mothers who need time to address debt, acquire new job skills, and find adequate employment. Residency is limited to 90 days maximum. This is sufficient for many of their clients. However, some face chronic homelessness due to mental illness or drug abuse.

Another facility is the Domestic Violence shelter, which housed some 272 women & children last year. Contact is made primarily through a crisis hot line or through hospital referrals. The average length of stay is fourteen days. The location of this facility is kept confidential. The shelter provides everything needed to those who come with nothing. Counseling is provided, with four advocates on staff, and arrangements are made as required with hospitals. Criminal justice advice is available.

A full time preventive counseling service is being established, supported by funding from United Way.

Other Waypoint activities include sexual assault intervention services, and the Wise Buys Resale Shop to distribute donated goods to clients and to raise money for Waypoint services.

Community Service (John McDonough)

We, along with REACT and K-12 Programs will display our wares in the Rotunda of the Capital next Monday from 11 'til 3. Our theme will be how RC provides support to volunteering in the community for active and retiree's.

We have 4 requests for assistance from College Community School District. They are a switch activated measuring cup, an activity arch, a balloon inflator, and a lighted switch.

We have also received a request for some drawings on one of our golfing devices.

Murphy is building several more of our large ball throwers for GWAEA.

The Science Station documentation project is in the final stages of completion.

We are continuing to design ramps as well as building having recently completed another ramp.

Our next design meeting for the Ramp and Lift Design Teams will be held in our office on 3/21/06.

Several of us also continue to help seniors with Medicare Part D signups. Also, Humana is sending out checks to folks that purchased drugs recently and were overcharged. Three months drugs should cost twice the monthly charge, but they were charging 2 ½ times. I received my check this week.

The Salvation Army is looking for Math and Science mentors in the Roosevelt Middle School area for a new program they are about to start.

The American Cancer Society also needs drivers to transport patients to and from treatments.

A Space Shuttle Project at Pierce will need 10 volunteers again this year.

Our Team continues to support several 15-5 meetings in the area.

Communications (Rod Thorpe)

The RCRV Newsletter is due out in April. Anyone with material to appear in this newsletter should submit that material in March or in very early April.

Data Base (Jim Klein)

Database was updated for a few address changes and for the obituaries. It was also updated for the new RCRV registrations provided by Pete Jurgens.

Since I will be out of town until May, I made a copy of the mailing list for the April newsletter and sent it to Cindy Dietz.

I was contacted about the need for a computer upgrade in the RCRV office. I responded that the current computer is adequate for the Database Committee requirements and that an upgrade was not necessary.

Recruiting and Retention (Pete Jurgens)

No report

Heart of Iowa (Myrna Loehrlein)

After a slightly slow period around the holidays, we are full up again. Three of our five childcare rooms are oversubscribed so that we cannot take all the children at the same time. While we are dealing with lots of children, we are still experiencing a staff shortage due to maternity leaves, serious illness, etc. We hope to see all staff back to work soon.

We have been blessed with two grants - one for the shelving units we have been seeking for some time. These are the base of our centers-based program. The other grant is from our participation in the Childcare Quality Initiative sponsored by United Way.

We will finally be able to discard the concrete block filled tubs we have been using for dividers in our infant room and use appropriate child size furniture. We are very excited about this.

Next project will be curbs to contain chips in the playground. We are also looking to provide benches for mothers to observe their children in the playground. This will be developed in Community Project meetings

We had a visit from Senator Tom Harkin. This was probably an expression of the increased interest in family-centered substance abuse treatment.

I am presently looking for research based guidelines for the participation of children in these programs - an option for anyone in RCRV who would like to start a research program of their own!

St Lukes (Denise Walker)

The St. Lukes Rehabilitation Program is undergoing a new 3–year accreditation evaluation. The major renovation program for the rehabilitation facilities previously reported begins in April.

Saturday, June 3, Rehabilitation Services and another program called "Think First" are presenting a bike safety rodeo. Up to 1000 participants are expected. This is intended to be a "real educational effort." Organizers may ask for RCRV volunteer help setting up new events on the course.

The staff is still working on policy on borrowed bicycles and helmets.

United Way (Mary Klinger)

No report

Heritage Agency on Aging (Linda Dearing)

No report.

Aging Services (Carol Luth)

John Wauer and crew have finished another wheel chair ramp for Aging Services.

Aging Services is being honored as one of 5 best volunteer programs in the country. This award is to be presented in California next month.

The shortfall in the county volunteer services grant is affecting Aging Services programs. Considerable time is being spent to work around problems and find new funding sources.

Jane Boyd (Karl Kassel)

No report.

RSVP (Sara Case)

Meals on Wheels is much in need of drivers.

Options of Linn County (Wayne Clayton)

Our most recent activity with RCRV has centered on repair of switches and a CD-ROM device. We have also received a switch tester.

Red Cross (Joan Schaffer)

No report.

REACT (Barb Klaweiter)

No report.

Bridge, Four Oaks (Carol Kalous)

A mock trial is to be presented April 6, with children playing roles. Jack Rector is helping and is to testify as a "witness."

A carnival or bazaar–like event called Spring Delight will be presented April 29, featuring various product vendors.

Fourteen Four Oakes children participated in the Broadway Maybes event as dancers.

Sixth Judicial District (Heidi Soethout)

Next meeting of WRAP is April 3.

Grant Wood AEA (Ann Griffin)

No report.

Rockwell Collins (Jenny Becker)

Thanks to all of the RCRV members that participated in Engineers Week. More than 3000 students attended a variety of activities sponsored by the Rockwell Collins K-12 Program.

Jim Wolfe reported that the Linn–Mar Robotics team placed sixth out of forty-one teams at the Regional Competition in St. Louis and received a Special Award.

The Gibson 'Gators' LEGO League team will travel to Atlanta in April to compete in the International LEGO League Competition.

Jenny reported that she is working with Tom Hobson and others for the planning of the 20th Anniversary of the Child Development Center and the Recreation Center. An event will be held in April.

April 28 is Bring Your Child to Work Day at Rockwell Collins. There may be RCRV members asked to assist Jenny in this event.

The K-12 Kick off Breakfast will be held on Thursday, August 17 from 7:00 - 8:30 AM at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. All RCRV members that are active K-12 volunteers will be invited.

The Linn-Mar School district, together with the K-12 Partnership Program won the Iowa 'State Civic Star Volunteerism Award.' The partnership was one of only 34 in the nation to receive this honor.

Other Reports:

RCRV was notified that it will receive the Governor's Volunteer Award. RCRV was nominated by the Cedar Rapids Community School District. The award is to be presented personally by Governor Vilsack in June.

Old Business:

None

New Business

None

Adjournment

Rod Thorp moved to adjourn. Jim Green seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 2:36 pm.

The next Board meeting is April 19th at the Red Cross building.

Submitted by Donald Grimm, Secretary.