

Minutes of the RCRV Board of Directors Meeting September 24, 2008
These minutes were approved at the October 15th, 2008 Board of Directors Meeting

Board chairman Jim Green determined that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM.

Twenty-two members and three guests attended.

Introductions

Minutes

Don Grimm moved approval of the minutes from the August board meeting. John McDonough seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Program: Corridor STEM Initiative, Jim Thornton:

Jim Thornton introduced himself as a former education executive in Cedar Rapids school system.

The Stem Initiative was formed with leadership from -Clay Jones, Grant Wood Area Education Association, and the Metro high school superintendent. The acronym stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. The purpose is to improve high school curricula in the state to develop a more skilled workforce. Economic, scientific, and industrial competition has intensified in the world and has greatly influenced the job market. The US must improve workforce skills, along with many other cultural, economic, and infrastructure attributes, to remain competitive.

Jim is talking to interested organizations in Cedar Rapids area promoting STEM goals. A primary objective is to expand student interest in pursuing mathematics, science, and literacy. In pursuit of that objective, STEM has applied for a grant from the Iowa Department of Education to encourage female, ethnic, and disadvantaged socio-economic populations to pursue technical education at the elementary and middle school levels.

Q/A:

Vern Jackson: observed that the new \$1.4 M Eastern Iowa Observatory and Learning Center facility would be a good fit as an aid to the program.

Wehage: Could Collins facilities tours be a source of inspiration for student groups? Jenny Becker will be at the October 8 planning meeting. Cindy Dietz agrees that well planned and focused tours could likely be supported.

Jack Rector: pointed out the importance of teachers and volunteers in creating enthusiasm for science and math.

Presentation of Rockwell Collins RCRV Financial Grants

Cedar Valley Amateur Astronomers: \$5000.00

Sponsor: Vern Jackson

Greg Frohner explained that the new Eastern Iowa Observatory and Learning Center has been in process for 3 years, has a present value of \$1.5 M. The Rockwell Collins RCRV grant will be used to expand the educational outreach of the facility to younger students. Learning aids will be acquired for that purpose. Helen Potthoff is leading a group to spearhead that expansion.

Four Oaks Bridge: \$5000.00

Sponsor: Jack Rector

Ron Karkosh, senior program manager at Four Oaks, described the Four Oaks Bridge facility at 2100 First Ave NE. It is centered on intergenerational experiences and after school programs for kindergarten through sixth grade. The Rockwell Collins RCRV grant will be used to introduce various curricula for engaging the children in the program. Mary Beth Minges enumerated a few intended purchases, including a laptop computer, digital projector, other items to facilitate the Lego League program and other programs that introduce science and technical subjects.

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Committee Reports

Community Projects, John McDonough:

- We have set up 10/27, 10/28, 10/29 and 11/4 at 10 and 1:30 each day for presentations on the 2009 Rockwell Collins Insurance Package. Linda Dearing has made arrangements to keep track of reservations for us. Pete and I will review the package tomorrow PM with RC personnel.
- Barb Hoffman, RSVP Director, printed a couple of hundred RCRV brochures for us to pass out at the United Way / Rockwell Collins Volunteer Fair. Also, Jim Green asked Kirkwood students to design a brochure of RCRV as one of their class projects. Final approvals will be made by this board and by RC officials prior to printing.
- We continue to support: The company museum, Lego programs at Regis, 4 Oaks Bridge, Pierce, Viola Gibson, and Wright Schools. Also, SHIIP programs at St Lukes, Witwer Center, and Heritage Area Agency on Aging, EIOLC, SCORE, American Red Cross, St Lukes Festival of Trees, the organ restoration efforts including painting of the History Center Room donation for the effort, Aging Services, and GWAEA.
- We have had several ramp design requests as well the recent build of several new ramps in the area.
- We have been requested to build several stilts for Truman Elementary school.
- Several of our members have been building various tools for Options of Linn County that they lost in the recent flood.
- RCRV SHIIP members have made several "Welcome to Medicare" seminars in recent weeks.
- Just a note, free admission to the Museum of Art until 1 November.

If you can dream it, we can do it.

Communications, Chuck Wehage:

Most newsletter material was sent to John for publication, with only a few items left. Chuck will check to see if medical insurance briefing dates are included.

Data Base, Jim Klein:

- The database was updated for the new retiree list for the months of July and August.
- The Volunteer Newsletter mailing list was generated and sent to Rockwell Collins.
- RSVP has indicated that they might be interested in making a mailing to new Rockwell Collins retirees to invite them to join RCRV/RSVP. Since I save the files from Rockwell Collins, I can make a mailing list for any period of interest. I can make an Excel file with the addresses for RSVP to use or I can use Word Mail Merge to print labels. There would be a small charge for the label sheets (about 20 cents for 30 labels per sheet) that I would be willing to donate. I will need the RCRV board approval to provide the labels to RSVP. Since this would be for RCRV recruitment, I see no problem with providing RSVP with the labels.

- Info about cost of postage:

There are 108 retirees so far this year that live in Iowa.

January – February	22	x	\$0.42	=	\$ 9.24
March - April	22	x	\$0.42	=	\$ 9.24
May – June	44	x	\$0.42	=	\$18.48
July – August	20	x	\$0.42	=	\$ 8.40

Totals	108				\$45.36

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Recruiting and Retention, Pete Jurgens:

There are currently 188 active RCRV members, 23 of whom have stopped reporting hours recently. Of those, 11 responded to a letter. One hundred six members have been inactive for a longer time. Pete will try sending letters to those as well.

Partner Agency Reports

Aging Services, Carol Luth:

No report.

Four Oaks Bridge, Beth Minges:

Vern Jackson is starting a new stock investment class.

The Bridge has established good connections to get volunteers from Kirkwood and from Coe College.

Correctional Services, Heidi Soethout:

No report.

Grant Wood AEA, Ann Griffin:

No report.

Heritage Agency on Aging, Linda Dearing:

Heritage is inviting FEMA to hold a public forum October 20th at KTOS. Linda suggests that RCRV could man a table there to offer services to people who attend. Hours are from 9:30 to 11:30 AM. Linda is hoping for 200 people.

Q/A:

Jim Green: RCRV serves nonprofits, not individuals. It could be awkward to promote RCRV services to individuals who are not applying through a sponsoring agency.

Rod Thorpe: WRAP should be represented for those people who might have access problems to be addressed.

Rod Thorpe: Can our RSVP brochure be available? The new design will not be printed, but the interim brochure produced by Barbara Hoffman will be available.

Linda reported she is getting request for help installing DTV converters. Linda will refer these requests to John McDonough for possible follow up by the Community Projects volunteers.

IBEW, Gerald Vuichard:

No report.

Jane Boy Community House, Karl Cassell:

No report.

New Horizons, Mark Beason:

No report.

Options of Linn County, Wayne Clayton:

This past month we received several new CD-ROMs from Dick Kittrell to replace the ones destroyed in the flood. Thanks go to Dick for those.

REACT, Barb Klawiter:

No report.

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Red Cross, Joan Schaffer:

No report.

RSVP, Barbara Hoffman:

No report.

Sixth Judicial District, Heidi Soethout:

No report.

WRAP, Heidi Soethout:

Twenty-five steels frames were placed on order from Corrections.

Two aluminum ramps are now back in inventory. The wood material inventory is essentially depleted. There are about eight designs in process. Two recently were recently completed.

St. Luke's Hospital, Denise Walker:

No report.

United Way, Mary Klinger:

No report.

Rockwell Collins, Cindy Dietz:

Rockwell Collins has announced availability of a grant \$2.8 M targeted for human service and nonprofit organizations helping flood victims. So far, 70 applications have been received, totaling \$3.0 M. Rockwell Collins intends to spread the total grant over two or three application cycles.

The Seventy-fifty anniversary of the founding of Collins Radio Company occurs Monday, September 22. A number of special activities commemorating the founding will be scheduled during the next year. Souvenir item and memorabilia will be available in the employee store and 75 will be available on the Rockwell Collins web site. The Cedar Rapids Gazette will include a special supplement noting the event next Sunday.

The employee United Way campaign is wrapping up. The community goal is \$10.4 M. As in the past, retirees can expect solicitation letters from the United Way organization.

The History Channel feature, *Modern Marvels*, had a film crew in town last week video taping story about synthetic vision products. This feature is expect to screen early in 2009

Rockwell Collins intends to purchase volunteer management data base for widespread use by many projects. It will be accessible on www.rockwellcollins.com for use by RCRV, *Lego* programs, and many others.

Old Business

No old business.

New Business

RSVP has proposed to create a flyer in to be made available to Rockwell Collins employees at the time of their retirement. Barbara Hoffman has proposed that she can mail letters to recent retirees with information and an application form. Jim Green asked the directors to consider whether this proposal would be appropriate.

Comments:

Keith Sutherland: include a copy of the most recent RCRV newsletter in the mailing. Normally there are about 140 retirees per year, and these could be screened for mailing addresses in proximity to the Cedar Rapids area.

Pete Jorgenson: Barbara Hoffman has been doing a fantastic job of supporting RCRV.

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Rod Thorpe: The RSVP board met yesterday and has approved the proposal.

Cindy Dietz: RCRV has been managing the use of the data base responsibly, and should be able to decide if this use of the mailing list is appropriate.

Pete Jurgens moved that RCRV partner with RSVP to provide recruiting material as described to new retirees. Cuuck Wehage seconded the motion. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Don Grimm moved to authorize Jim Green to review and approve the draft of the recruiting letter. Keith Sutherland seconded the motion, and it was then approved by voice vote.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:04 PM.

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

Submitted by Don Grimm, Secretary.