

RCRV BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

May 21, 2014, 1:30 PM

Prairiewoods, Spirituality Center

- Indian Creek Nature Center to create a 2/3 acre outdoor wetland for students to study the role of wetlands in water quality cycles and life cycles. They partner with area schools to provide hands on activities to learn water cycles and to understand, predict, and improve water quality.

Grant is \$1,000

- Linn Mar Community Schools project to fund Project Lead the Way - Gateway to Technology Program. Project funds 2 robotics kits with 2 modules: Design and Modeling; and Automation and Robotics. Each kit will allow 30 students in each of 2 middle schools to work with the modules simultaneously. Implementation will provide the basis to align with the high school program by providing the middle schools with introduction to STEM careers.

Grant is \$2,100

- Cedar Amateur Astronomers grant for Lessons In Light interactive learning station featuring hands on observation of gas discharge tubes using a spectrometer to allow visual and numerical analysis of each tube. Grant is to purchase spectrographic camera and software to provide a state of the art educational tool. It will illustrate the use of tools to disperse light according to wavelength allowing the study of: intensity, absorption, and emission characteristics of standard and common sources of light. They anticipate as many as 2000 students per year may use the system.

Grant is \$2,500

- Kids on Course was awarded a grant for establishing Lego Leagues at 2 Cedar Rapids schools: Grant and Harrison elementary schools. These schools are in need and require a larger grant than normally provided in order for them to have successful experience. The grant provides transportation, tournament fees, registration fees, materials, field trips, insurance and other costs associated with the program.

Grant is \$4,400

PRESENTATION: A Prairiewoods staff member gave a presentation about Prairiewoods' Hoop Houses. She stated that Prairiewoods was founded in 1996 by the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration. The organization has a 3 part focus: Spirituality, Ecology, and Holistic Health.

The focus is achieved through the use of renewable energy features, ecological features, and sustainability features around the campus. They recently completed a Renew Building training facility. A suggestion was made to utilize excess energy from their solar panels by piping it into their gardens allowing year round gardening via their hoop house. They received a Rockwell Collins grant to do that.

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They had some battery problems this past hard winter and have replaced the batteries with ones more suitable to the pumps they power.

They are currently growing radishes, spinach, and lettuce and have grown peppers, cucumbers, and tomatoes.

They are partnering with Metro Catholic Outreach to provide fresh produce for their food shelter.

Their hoop house was described as an inverted U shape covered with green house fabric; a center aisle between 2 beds running the length of the house. Pex tubing heats the floor to produce root zone heating.

The house provides food for Prairiewoods guests and Metro Catholic Outreach.

They have received grants from Rockwell Collins for prairie restoration, a storm water project, and to show live streaming solar panel performance to visitors.

OLD BUSINESS: Terry Lamb stated noted that the Red Cross Director is retiring June 2. So, we will need to wait for a new director to be announced before a RCRV representative can be named.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

PARTNER AGENCY REPORTS:

WRAP: Angela Ehle reported:

WRAP has completed 15 projects year to date, including:

- Eight wood ramp builds,
- Three wood ramp removals,
- Two aluminum ramp installs
- Two aluminum ramp removals.

There are currently 14 jobs in queue needing designers, including:

- Nine wood ramp builds,
- Two repairs,
- One aluminum ramp installation,
- One aluminum ramp removal, and
- One wood ramp removal.

WRAP participated in two awareness events in April:

- Post Acute Services event at St. Luke's Hospital
- 2 Your Health Expo at US Cellular Center

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WRAP built 5 ramps with groups of volunteers on United Way's Day of Caring May 8th and 9th. Groups included employees from Rockwell Collins, Wells Fargo, and Pearson.

Thank you to RCRV for their continued AWESOME support of WRAP!

RSVP Agency Report: Kayla Paulson

Yesterday we had an amazing turnout at the RSVP Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast! Thank you to all of those who came. There were a number of RCRV members that won awards and were recognized for their amazing dedication to making our community a better place. A huge thank you to the volunteers that turned in their hours at the event. With our federal funding a little rocky I need to make sure to have accurate and comprehensive data in the event that we need to explore additional funding streams.

I will not be able to make the June Board Meeting since I will be presenting at the National Conference on Volunteerism & Service in Atlanta, Georgia. I will though send a report to the Executive Team prior to my departure.

Horizons Report: Laura Nass:

- Introduced Jenny Barnett, Horizons' new Community Health Manager
- Gearing up for Local Foods Days—kickoff event at NewBo on Thursday, June 5 from 5-7 PM
- Also gearing up for Summer Meals—volunteers needed to deliver meals

We are having a benefit for our Meals On Wheels program on Sunday, June 8. This is in response to the recent budget cuts the necessitated the closure of several of our congregate dining sites. There is no admission fee, but a free will donation will be accepted. Flyer is attached.

Heritage Agency on Aging: Tracey Robertson announced that the Governor plans to sign SF 2239 on Friday, May 23rd. This is the Elder Abuse Bill. Tracey and other local constituents will plan to attend the signing in Des Moines.

Options of Linn County: Wayne Clayton reported they are closing out their fiscal year. They do not have any RCRV projects at this time.

Linn Mar Schools: Karla Terry reported that Kathy Waychoff at College Community Schools will be hosting the Governor's Volunteer Awards. Linn Mar Schools will host the event next year.

Linn Mar also honored 69 volunteers with more than 100 hours each of service. Some have several hundred hours.

RCRV COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS:

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Community Projects: John McDonough reported:

- We had a request from HACAP, Cheryl Collins, to build skillet covers similar to the ones that we built for the Rockwell Collins Child Care facility recently. Jim Green tried to get with her to no avail. He indicated he would try in the near future.
- RCRV / REACT Appreciation Event will be held on June 17 at the Outback Restaurant on First Avenue after the Governor Award Ceremonies at College Community Schools. The restaurant is open to the public so you need to tell them you are with the Rockwell Collins party. You, and your spouse or significant other are invited. You do need reservations, so contact Barb Klawiter or myself of your intentions.
- The Governor Award Ceremonies will be held on this same date at College community Auditorium. We have 7 volunteers that will handle the parking and ushering duties.
- We supported the Financial Literacy Fair at Kirkwood's Workplace Learning Center in Hiawatha during two one week periods in earlier.
- The WRAP program designed, and built 6 ramps on the two days of caring for the UWECI program.
- We supported the iExplore STEM program at McKinley Middle School as well as the Webelos Cub Scout program at Squaw Creek that were after their Engineering Badges.
- At the Science Stations Makers Fair, Don Grimm demonstrated on of his engines.
- We continue to support many nonprofit area agencies with volunteers.

If you can dream it, we can do it.

Database: Jim Klein had no report.

RCI: Rockwell Collins Lego League grant requests are available to any qualified school or nonprofit through the end of August. Available on the Rockwell Collins web site.

Communications/Newsletter: Jim Green reported he is working on the June Newsletter and expects it out before the end of June.

Membership and Retention: Kayla Paulson reported stats for April 2014

- 43 members reported hours
- 1267.85 hours

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Top 5 Agencies supported by RCRV Volunteers in April

Agency Name	Hours
RCRV	2.90
Madison Valley Habitat for Humanity	9.50
Unity Point Health - St. Luke's Hospital	1.50
RAP	.60
St. Mary's Medical Center	1.00

Stats for Year to Date 2014

- 233 active volunteers
- 2 new volunteers
- 0 inactivated volunteer restarted
- 1 inactive volunteers terminated/removed
- 122 members have reported hours
- 7783.2 hours

Top 5 Agencies supported by RCRV Volunteers in 2014

Agency Name	Hours
RCRV	67.27
Unity Point Health - St. Luke's Hospital	91.16
FACT Center	21.50
Warrior Food Pantry	5.00
SCORE/SBA	0.20

Terry Lamb and I will be sending letters to RCRV Volunteers that are currently considered active, but not had any engagement with RCRV or RSVP during 2013 or yet this year. We may have a sizeable drop in our active membership since there will be over 75 members getting letters. In order to stay active and continuing to get the United Way RSVP insurance and volunteer placement services they will need to follow-up with me.

Terry Lamb indicated he and Jim Green were planning an article for the newsletter concerning reporting volunteer time.

ADJOURNMENT:

President Knuth adjourned the meeting at 2:13. The next board meeting will be 1:30 PM June 18th, location Red Cross.

Submitted by: R. Pierce

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