

# RCRV BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

October 15, 2014, 1:30 PM

Red Cross Offices

**Attendance:** (BOLD indicates presence)

**RCRV Board Members:**

**T. Lamb, D. Knuth, R. Pierce, J. McDonough, J. Green, J. Klein, T. Brennom, B. Clark, B. Ellis, D. Grimm, E. Holstrom, V. Jackson, C. Koop, R. Lenth, A. Meyer, J. Murphy, K. Nelson, B. Ocken, F. Spading, J. Spencer, K. Sutherland, J. Vacherlon, J. Wauer, C. Wehage, J. Wells, M. Wilson, J. Wirth**

**Community Service Agency Members:**

Kathy Horan	Aging Services
Kathy Waychoff	College Community Schools
Meghan Schneekloth	Four Oaks Bridge
Ann Griffin	Grant Wood AEA
<b>Tracey Robertson</b>	<b>Heritage Agency on Aging</b>
<b>Jessica Link</b>	<b>Cedar Rapids Public Library</b>
<b>Wayne Clayton</b>	<b>Options of Linn County</b>
Barb Klawiter	REACT Center
Shana Beal	Red Cross
Laura Nass	Horizons
<b>Kayla Paulson</b>	<b>RSVP (also RCRV Membership Chair)</b>
Kristen Weaverling	Salvation Army
Heidi Soethout	Sixth Judicial District
<b>Carole Dzingle</b>	<b>United Way</b>
Hilery Livengood	United Way
<b>Angie Ehle</b>	<b>WRAP</b>
Karla Terry	Linn Mar Schools

**Rockwell Collins:**

**Melanie Richert**                      **Senior Community Relations Specialist**

**Non-affiliated:**

**Joseph Hennager**                      **Habitat for Humanity ReStore**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Terry Lamb presided, determined a quorum was present, and called the meeting to order at 1:33 PM. There are 16 board and agency members present; 17 attendees total.

**MINUTES:**

Approval of the minutes from the September board meeting was moved and seconded. Motion carried.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Terry Lamb noted that the meeting in November is the RCRV

Annual Meeting and will be the last meeting of the year with none in December.

**PRESENTATION:**

Joe Hennager, Manager of the Habitat for Humanity ReStore gave a presentation discussing the purpose of the store and its features. Joe stated the ReStore is

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trying to expand name recognition. The local store is a new business model for ReStores nationally in that they offer new products alongside traditional sales of donated material.

Joe described some of over 50 new products offered in order to enhance the building and remodeling of homes in this community.

Joe talked about the common understanding that Habitat for Humanity (HfH) builds homes for people in need. Joe pointed out that the homes are not given away...

- That people earn the opportunity
- They must have been turned down by a bank for a loan
- Have lived in Cedar Rapids for at least 2 years
- Put in 300 to 500 hours of sweat equity on the house as down payment
- Go through classes about how to get along in a neighborhood

They have a high level of success, crime in the neighborhoods with HfH homes goes down, the GPA of students within a 5 block radius goes up because of community involvement of the owner and neighbors, and police and social agencies love HfH in the area.

Everything we do is aimed at getting people to a build site. Volunteering to work at a build should be on everyone's bucket list. It changes your life. The highest level of spirituality comes when you build a house for HfH.

The ReStore Pinterest Club was mentioned. It is sponsored by ReStore to help keep material out of the landfill, but also helps to support the ReStore through purchases of project material. It is now called the Repurpose Club and meets the third Thursday of the month at the ReStore, cost \$5 for each 4 hour session. Tools, tool instruction, work space, and project assistance are furnished.

How the RCRV organization can help the ReStore:

- Provide tool and project knowledge
- Volunteer at a build site or sponsor a build

The current ReStore has 5 fulltime employees and 5 part-time employees; 50 volunteers, but another 100 needed. The store has doubled income each of the past 3 years and is literally blowing the walls out due to space needs. The store has 35,000 square feet, but 80,000 square feet are needed. The ReStore needs volunteers:

- Who understand and recognize products
- Who have electrical, plumbing, and hardware knowledge
- Who can work with the current 7 people checking out electrical donations to ensure they work and are safe before sale
- Who can help with special projects such as a sculpture of cascading toilets and claw foot tub and understand water hydraulics, balance and structural needs, materials, plumbing, and welding
- Help with designing process for manufacturing plywood dinosaur puzzle/toy for sale

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Research shows more than 5000 families living in substandard housing in the greater Cedar Rapids area and we are building only 24 homes per year.

Joe made a plea that people consider donating just 4 hours per week to the ReStore. Spread the word in the community.

Terry Lamb offered Joe opportunity to provide a video of his talk to put on the RCRV website to reach out to the entire RCRV organization since he was only addressing the board of directors.

In response to a question, Joe indicated that a Pinterest group was started by ReStore at the Marion library that is very successful and has resulted in numerous other libraries requesting a similar organization to be started at their libraries. ReStore provides kits of material and support for the Marion groups projects.

In response to a question about private workshops, Joe indicated ReStore does do them and have even done birthday parties. The special workshops are the same \$5 per person as the monthly meetings. They need a month prior notice to set up the workshop.

In the ReStore's home center they offer new:

- Carpeting and pad
- Cabinets
- Appliances
- Tile
- Counter tops
- Flooring
- Can design kitchens and baths using 20/20 software to offer 3D views of the actual kitchen plan

Question about banks offering special terms to HfH construction. Joe stated the property is usually free or very low priced and construction labor is donated representing about 2/3 of the cost. Material cost is reduced through the purchase of material wholesale.

Typically a house sells for \$80,000 to owner. The payback is over 30 years which provides steady flow of funding to sustain future builds. Also, HfH does fundraising. The Cedar Rapids police department is going to build a house next year and have challenged the fire department to do the same.

Joe sees HfH getting to place where the houses are built indoors prefab to reduce cost and time, then storing them for later build.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

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## **PARTNER AGENCY REPORTS:**

**Cedar Rapids Library:** Jessica Link reported:

- On October 22-24, the Iowa Library Association conference will be taking place in Cedar Rapids. The opening reception for the conference will be at the downtown Cedar Rapids Public Library on Wednesday evening. Conference attendees will also be able to tour the downtown CRPL, Coe College's Stewart Memorial Library, the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, and the Iowa Masonic Library and Museum. We are honored to share our community's great library spaces with library professionals from around the state.
- The annual Friends of the Cedar Rapids Public Library book sale will be October 24-26 at the Cherry Building in New Bohemia. This year, there will not be a charge for entrance to the sale.
- There were questions about library materials security that were asked. The library utilizes RFID technology, the four Media Box systems, and security cameras throughout the two facilities to prevent material loss. The library industry continues to monitor loss rates and develop new systems to reduce loss rates.

**WRAP:** Angela Ehle reported as of October 13<sup>th</sup>, WRAP has 41 completed projects year to date.

Weather issues the past week created build problems. She expects 4 more to be built in next 4 days. At end of Thursday they will have broken their record for a year.

There are currently 12 jobs in queue.

They have scheduled a Build 101 class instructed by Joe Wells. Date set for 8:00 AM October 30<sup>th</sup> at REACT.

**RSVP Agency Report:** Kayla Paulson reported:

- United Way and RCRV presented at most of the RCI Retiree Insurance briefings and handed out almost 80 packets of information about RCRV. We have not had anyone sign-up through that effort yet. We will be sending a set of new retiree letters yet this week that will be co-signed by Terry Lamb and myself. We encourage personal notes from active members if you know any of the retirees.
- The 55+ Initiative has 4 grant reports that are due yet this month so I will be hunkering down and working on those a decent amount. I am blocking out sections of my day where my email and phone will be turned off so that I can stay focused on completing those reports.
- We have some great volunteer opportunities with:

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- o Linn County Sleep Out – 11/8-9
- o UnityPoint – St. Luke’s SHIP Advantage Admin
- o Linn Community Food Bank – Morning Assistance (moving materials)
- o Hiawatha Study Buddies for kids learning English as a Second Language
- o Gems of Hope has great opportunities to do beading or card making as a group.
- o Opportunity for Retired Teachers to mentor new teachers.

**Options of Linn County:** Wayne Clayton reported they held their Abilities in Action Conference/Tech expo Oct 1 at KTOS. He shared the news about WRAP and RCRV which people found impressive.

He saw the information about the Rockwell Collins Health and Safety Fair and would like to have the Linn County team attend to perhaps pick up some new ideas.

**Heritage Agency on Aging:** Tracy Robertson reported there is a Community Forum for people with disabilities scheduled October 24 from 1:00 - 3:00 PM at the Unity Center on Blairsferry Rd NE.

The Elder Abuse Prevention Awareness program Tracy manages has quadrupled her responsibilities. As result, Tracy will not be able to represent Heritage at these meetings after November. Tracy will provide the name of the new representative to Terry Lamb.

**United Way:** Carole Dzingle reported United Way has reached \$2.5M of their \$11M goal to date and have a long way to go.

Friday at 7:00PM is the NBA basketball game they are selling tickets to. The Gazette and IMON are offering \$10 discount on tickets for their subscribers purchasing tickets.

The Legacy Dinner for the Young Leadership Society is scheduled for November 20<sup>th</sup> at the Cedar Rapids Country Club.

## **RCRV COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS:**

**Membership Report:** Kayla Paulson reports:

### **Stats for September 2014**

- 181 active volunteers
- 2 new volunteers
- 1 inactivated volunteer restarted
- 0 inactive volunteers terminated/inactivated
- 77 members have reported hours
- 2019.53 hours

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## Top 5 Agencies supported by RCRV Volunteers in September

Job Name	Hours
REACT Computer Technician	460.00
Community Project Mtg., RCRV	306.05
Non-Profit Misc., RCRV	272.50
WRAP Laborer, WRAP	180.70
Education Enrichment Vol., RCRV	90.10

## Stats for Year to Date 2014

- 180 active volunteers
- 4 new volunteers
- 1 inactivated volunteer restarted
- 56 inactive volunteers terminated/removed
- 157 members have reported hours
- 22,342.63 hours reported

## Top 5 Agencies supported by RCRV Volunteers in 2014

Job Name	Hours
Non-Profit Misc., RCRV	4,818.38
REACT Computer Technician, REACT	2,297.00
Volunteer Program, St. Luke's	1,669.22
SHIIP Counselor, St. Luke's	1,425.09
Community Project Mtg., RCRV	1,266.40

## Data Base: Jim Klein reported:

- The database was updated for:
  - Returned insurance mailing postcards
  - Request via RCRV email and voice mail
  - Additions from requests from people at the Insurance meetings
- Made a mailing list for the Rockwell Collins Recreation Center for an insurance information mailing. The list was limited to east central Iowa addresses.

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- The database structure was adapted to make a means for tracking changed, deleted and added addresses. This information was requested by Kayla Paulson at RSVP.

## **Community Projects:** John McDonough reported:

- Mike Wilson's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration will be held at the Art Museum from 1:00 to 3:00. Please RSVP at 614-402-1885. No gifts allowed, Contributions should be made to your favorite charity.
- Honor Flight to DC this past week with Terry Lamb as one of the honorees.
- Abilities in Action Seminar was held at KTOS with RCRV having a display table. This was held on Oct 1, 2014
- Rockwell Collins Retiree Volunteers SHIP counselors held 9 seminars at KTOS this past week where approximately 1,900 retirees received information on Rockwell Collins Insurance Programs for their retirees. We had Adele Lerma from RC Cypress, CA and David Carter from OneExchange Towers Watson of Dallas answering questions from retirees after the presentations. Claudia Young and Jim Green presented the seminars on Monday as the counselors had a SHIP Fall Update in Coralville on Monday. Barb Klawiter assisted with the efforts. Don Grimm, Harlan Hanson and James Wolfe presented the remaining 6 seminars. Each presenter did an excellent job in presentation. I have reserved space at KTOS for the next two years. We had roughly 30% of the folks getting reservations online this year.
- We repaired several devices that Ann Griffin brought in. She also requested more of the large ball launcher.
- Jessica Link of the CR Library requested volunteers, up to 150, to assist in the build of a multi-generational playground at Hidder Park located at 10<sup>th</sup> St and 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE for October 11, 2014. Don't know if anyone from RCRV assisted in this effort.
- We continue to support various nonprofits in the area with volunteers.

If you can dream it, we can do it.

**RCI:** Melanie Richert reported that Rockwell Collins has increased their grant to RCRV from \$10,000 to \$12,500 for next year.

The Rockwell Collins Operations unit is championing a 5K run to benefit the UW scheduled for November 8<sup>th</sup>. It is open to Rockwell Collins employees, but not the public. This is the first year of the event and it may be expanded later.

The Honor Flight went very well. At the WWII memorial several groups were present, but for the Rockwell Collins group there seemed to be special treatment. A Marine with portable microphone came out, followed by the color guard marching out. The Marine then sang the National Anthem.

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## **ADJOURNMENT:**

President Lamb adjourned the meeting at 2:46. The next meeting is the RCRV Annual Meeting, November 19, at Red Cross Offices.

The next board meeting will be 1:30 PM January 21, 2015 at the Cedar Rapids Public Library.

Submitted by: R. Pierce