

St. Johns CARES, Inc.

MINUTES FOR 124th PLANNING MEETING April 18, 2018

Attendees:

Howard Gomer – River Oaks

Mary Ann Kriniske – Worthington Pkwy

Kim McNickle – Durbin

Meg Balke

Cheryl Fields – Deer Run

Debbie Gomer – River Oaks

Harry Crowell – Julington Creek

Jill DAmato – Nocatee

Jorge Bertran –WGV

Lindsay Navin – St. Johns Golf

1. **Call to order**– 7:02 p.m.
2. **New Member & Guest Welcome**- Jorge Bertran of WGV. He is a member of Our Lady of Good Council Church. They would like to support homeless kids with their educational needs. Meg advised he speak with Michael Israel and attend an Unaccompanied Youth meeting. He will connect with Kim M regarding ways to support homeless students. The church wants to stuff backpacks for children in need.
3. **Approval of Minutes** – Mary Ann approved and Jill D 2nd
4. **Financial Report – Howard Gomer** –
 - a. As of 2/28/18, we had \$8288.00.
 - b. We had \$1230.76 in deposits. There was a \$598.66 VISA payment. Our balance as of 3/31/18 was \$8920.00.
 - c. Meg received a \$1500.00 check from Publix for Food for Sharing.
5. **Meeting Updates**
 - a. St. Johns Continuum of Care (CoC) –
 - i. Point in time report shows the unofficial homeless count as 397. The official count is 342.
 - 1.) The count is through HUD. They only count those without a home or shelter (excludes those who live in a car or a shelter). The count takes place over one day only.
 - 2.) There are about 900 homeless kids in the county. They are not included in the Point in time report because most are living with friends or family.
 - b. Integrated Service Team –services that help homeless - no update
 - c. Unaccompanied Youth – no update
 - d. Let Meg know if interested in attending any of these meetings
6. **2018 Initiative Chairs**
 - a. Children’s Committee – Jill DAmato
 - i. Jill has stepped down as chairperson.
 - ii. Halo Keepers Yarn Drive in March collected 850 skeins. It was the biggest yarn drive they ever had.
 - iii. Kids Farmers Market
 - 1.) The event has been organized and information is in a binder. Planning can be handed over to co-chairs. There is 1 co-chair. A 2nd co-chair is needed for the event. No one has stepped up.
 - 2.) The event is on hold.
 - 3.) Lindsay N suggested rescheduling for Sunday, October 14.
 - 4.) The kids pay \$10 per table and they bring their own tables and decorate them.
 - 5.) We need sponsors for the bounce house and volunteers for face painting and game booths.
 - 6.) Booth games were made by hand.
 - 7.) A banner is available.
 - iv. The only date-specific events are the 911 event and the Valentine’s event.

- b. DDA – cancelled for 2018 but Linda G is planning 2019
- c. Homeless Student (ASSIST) initiative– Meg will oversee this initiative
 - i. Money for Suitcases for Seniors is through a social media fundraiser through Donasity. We need to push the fundraiser on social media.
 - 1.) The goal is \$10,000.00. We are at \$1400.00 and the collection ends in April.
 - 2.) We are collecting new books for middle school and high school students.
 - 3.) The Amazon wish list is up, but monetary donations are preferred. If you register at Amazon SMILE, a % of your orders go to a charity of choice. You can designate St. Johns CARES.
 - 4.) Mary Ann volunteered her home as a drop off for deliveries and a storage site.
 - 5.) \$200.00 buys a full suitcase. The contents list is posted on the St. Johns CARES website. Meg will send the list to Jorge.
- d. Food Drive – no update
- e. Giving Tree 2018 – Meg Balke and Mary Ann K
 - i. Tags are almost finished.
 - ii. October is the next volunteer activity.
 - iii. Books will go to ASSIST program.
 - iv. August – start contacting charities.
 - v. June – Mary Ann will start calling businesses. She will not call businesses that did not collect last year.

7. *Old Business*

- a. Publix Race Track Road donations – no update
- b. Update on partnerships with other agencies in county – no update
- c. Family FunFest Alpha Omega event is April 28 at Francis Field from 9a.m. to 7 p.m. Orthopedic Associates are the sponsor.
 - i. Kim N is volunteering and needs volunteers for the boxing blow-up game. Teens can take 2 hour shifts.
 - ii. St. Johns CARES can have a table. Kim will coordinate the table.

8. *New Business* –

- a. President Co-chair positions
 - i. Kim McNickle has volunteered to be co-President
 - 1.) She was a homeless liaison for 7 years and then worked with Somebody Cares. Her position was eliminated. She is able to devote her time to St. Johns CARES.
 - ii. Lindsay Navin volunteered to be the other co-President.
 - 1.) She and Kim have been friends for many years.
 - 2.) She lives in St. Johns Golf and Country Club.
 - 3.) She owned 2 businesses in the past and currently works at Raymond James as a financial advisor.
 - iii. Deborah G motioned for them to be moved into office. All in attendance were in favor. Their positions will take effect on May 1, 2018.
 - iv. Meg Balke and Charlotte Neudigate will be removed from the Vystar bank account. Kim McNickle and Lindsay Navin will be added to the Vystar bank account. Kim will have the credit card. Meg will keep one.
- b. Lindsay would like a calendar with a list of initiatives and their chairs. She will contact each chair to ask if they are committed to remaining a chair for this year.
- c. Cheryl F is no longer keeping the Armstrong/Hastings dinner calendars.
 - i. If we can only coordinate Armstrong dinners, we will drop Hastings since the intent was to feed migrant workers and they have not been coming to the dinners.
 - ii. We need a new calendar coordinator.
 - iii. We need groups to volunteer for dinners.
 - iv. Our Lady of Good Council Church has 20,000-25,000 pounds of food in their pantry each month. The pantry is on Rte 16 and open on Wednesdays. They would like to be added as a beneficiary for the Food Drive.

Adjourned 7:50 p.m.
Next meeting – May 15, 2018
Bartram Academy-164 Everest Lane, Ste. 1