



Felege Hiywot Center

1648 Sheldon St.
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(317) 545-2245
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Truly I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my Brethren; you did it to me. Matthew 25:40

Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting

Date: January 26, 2017
Place: Felege Hiywot Center
Time: 3:30 –5:00

A = absent, P = present

2017 Officers		A/ P	Board of Directors (Jan 1, 2017 – Dec 31, 2017)	A/ P
Tommy Reddicks	Interim Chair	P	Chris Lee Rothenberger	P
Patricia Gamble-Moore	Treasurer	A	Chris Larson	P
Kahfii King	Secretary	P	Caroline Patrick	A
Aster Bekele	Executive Director	P		

A. CALL TO ORDER

The January 26, 2017 meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order by Aster Bekele, Executive Director/Founder with the above in attendance.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The November 10, 2016 minutes were approved as written.

C. OLD BUSINESS

D. STAFF REPORTS

Farm Preparation: Farm preparation will begin in March with the first group of volunteers coming on March 15th. Currently, seeds are being ordered. The focus of the farm this growing season will be on a variety of greens, green tomatoes, and pepper varieties.

Youth Summit: The youth summit was successfully completed with a total of 160 attendees. Students were comfortable and excelled at leading workshops. Student Mike, greatly emphasized the need for mentoring and students returning to be mentors.

Spirit and Place Festival: Ms. Bekele reported that this year long event ran successfully. Three senior interviews were conducted in which reflective experiences were shared among the adults and the youth. It was decided that the event must continue. The Harrison Center expressed interest in creating a documentary about the Martindale Brightwood neighborhood to be completed by October. A committee meeting the following week is to be held to discuss documentary budget.

Under the Sun Grocery

Plans are moving forward to supply produce for the Under the Sun store at 2400 Roosevelt Ave. Currently they have no produce. FHC will collaborate with Easely Farm and nursery, a 60-acre farm 45 minutes away. The students will visit the farm for educational purposes. Easly will advise on pricing methods for stocking and understanding supply and demand of shoppers for Under the Sun. There was discussion of bringing a member of Easly Farm onto the Board of Directors.



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E. FINANCE REPORT

Grant(s) Status: Ann Yeakle communicated that Community Health Network will only fund FHC at 95k, which is the same amount as last year. Community Health Network is hiring a new Community Benefit Director and several liaisons for target neighborhoods.

CICF – Potentially to fund FHC for 2017 Farm Manager position and possibly continue funding for another year after review.

PNC Web Grant – Had first meeting with web developer.

Ms. Bekele announced she wants to add the Lily Endowment capacity building grant to the list of 2017 grant applications.

FHC needs to create a stable budget in order to receive continued funding, which includes set up on own payroll.

Decision: Tommy Reddicks, Pat Gamble-Moore, and Aster Bekele will work on preparation of a complete February budget.

F. REHAB OF BUILDING:

Chris Larson to take over the kitchen and health department licensing follow up.

G. NEW BUSINESS

The new academic farm manager job description needs to be written and posted. Interviews need to be conducted. Projected \$40k position with Paramount School of Excellence to manage benefits. Discussion of FHC eventually managing benefits.

Discussion of summer program application process. Ms. Bekele mentioned a need to target groups outside of Martindale Brightwood neighborhood and to recruit summer programs to bring in groups for site visits and “field trips”. These outside groups pay \$5 each for participation in the program. The application process begins in February.

Discussion of new board member recruitment. Aster announced she will check with Lily Board of Directors and Chris Larson has the potential to recruit new members from the Purdue Extension Urban Agriculture class run by Amy Matthews and Emily Toner.

Brief mention of fundraising to have a shelter for communal lunching on site.

DECISION was made that Tommy Reddicks act as Interim Chair for Board of Directors until March 1st at the latest. Discussion of Brian Richards of Aspen Impact to additional Interim Chair for Board of Directors.

DECISION was made that Kahfii King will act as the new secretary.

MOTION to vote Chris Larson onto the Board of Directors. Approved.

H. IMPORTANT DATES

Black History Month event will take place on February 25th.

GA2G event will take place on April 1st.

I. ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 P.M.