

Stewpot Community Services, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting
September 17, 2014

Call to Order

A meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order by President Charles Parrott at 12:06 PM.

Members Present

Charles Parrot
Barbara Brunini
Steve Browning.
James Donald
Glen Breedlove
Ton Rietvelt
Sister Trinita Eddington
Amy Brooks
Ricky James
Jane Anna Barksdale
Sheldon Alston

Staff Present

Frank Spencer
Rhonda Tomlin

Prayer

Frank offered the opening prayer.

Minutes

The minutes were unanimously approved as written.

Business and Professional Luncheon and 5K Race/Walk/Red Beans and Rice

The Business and Professional Luncheon raised \$65,000 this year, which was less than last year. The 5K Race/Walk made \$2,000 this year after expenses. Michelle Bingham wants to do the race again next year and maybe do it twice.

Red Beans and Rice will be on October 25th from 11a.m.-4:30p.m. Trustmark is reducing their level of participation in Red Beans and Rice and Frank is seeking a new partner for the future. Trustmark is also not selling tickets and they will not have a cooking booth. Instead of it being called Trustmark Red Beans & Rice it will be Stewpot's Red Beans & Rice. Stewpot is hoping to find another sponsor. Sheldon Alston suggested Stewpot revamp Red Beans & Rice and to look at new locations to move in the future

Financial Report

The total drop in monetary donations is \$400,000. Congregational giving is down \$30,000 and Individuals and Businesses are down \$230,000. Grants are down \$150,000.

Frank Spencer stated Stewpot has asked for a line of credit with Trustmark Bank. Charles Parrot reiterated the funding is not just a temporary problem. Steve Browning asked about how many Individuals and Businesses actually stopped donating. Charles Parrot stated his intention to investigate starting a Stewpot Advisory Board to get high level community leaders to advise Stewpot as to possible future actions and also to insure that additional community leaders know what is needed at Stewpot.

Frank Spencer explained that the cuts in grants for Matt's House and Brumsfield Shelter is HUD is putting their emphasis on funding rapid rehousing projects instead of emergency shelters. Rapid rehousing is an extended stay housing program where the program houses clients first and then attempts to assist them.

Frank stated he has confidence that County Supervisor Kenneth Stokes is going to help Stewpot get its needs before the County Board of Supervisors. Frank has already met with the Board of Supervisors and told them about the finances and the closing of the shelters. Frank thinks these government units are a very possible source of revenue to replace the lost funds. He reported that he has written several letters to these groups and shared them with the Board. The last one asked for \$100,000 from each.

Stewpots Board of Directors unanimously approved revamping the grants by making Matt's House and Brumfield Shelter more permanent housing in the future so they will be eligible for the rapid rehousing grants if needed.

Steve Browning suggested bringing the city council members to come see Stewpot and see what their services offer the homeless. Amy Brooks wanted to know if there were any costs to move the emergency shelters to rapid rehousing shelters. Frank Spencer stated there were none.

Old/New Business

There was no old/new business

Rhonda Tomlin, Recorder

Charles Parrott, President