

Minutes of the September 2, 2015, Evanston Hungry Children Backpack Program

Meeting was called to order by Gerry Bolger at 4:30 p.m. Those attending were: Gerry Bolger, Glen Defa, Irene Hansen, Sandy Douglas, Joy Bell, Holly Robbins, Bev Fackrell, Larissa Sneider, Deborah Demander, Lee Parker, Susie Hinton, Holly Law and Tina Taylor.

Motion Joy, second Deborah to approve the minutes of the May 7, 2015, meeting. Passed.

Gerry reported the current bank balance is \$19,000. \$4900 was received from CSBG funding and since the money must be spent by September 30, 2015, groceries have been ordered to start the year and use that funding. Gerry said the groceries will be transported from Smith's to the Backpack Center at 4:30 on September 10, 2015.

Gerry said he will contact Gary Bentley about having the Backpack facility cleaned on Tuesday, September 8, 2015.

Gerry said he has 350 bags in his office.

Tina reported that delivering backpacks on the 11th may be too soon as the applications for free and reduced lunch have not been processed yet.

Members agreed that CSBG funds can only be used for those children who qualify for free lunches.

Joy said the Boys and Girls Club has received a grant and staff has been teaching attendees to cook and take home food and recipes.

Larissa reported there are Walmart store grants available. Gerry, Lee and Irene plan to meet with Alex Morrill.

It was agreed that the first backpacks will be sent on September 15th and will only be for those children qualified for free lunches at this time. Bev Fackrell asked about middle schools and Horizon High school. Tina and Bev will work on numbers for Horizon and report to the Board.

It was discussed that Clark Elementary is still not participating fully. Joy said she would contact Brenda and Brian Richins.

Lee said Carlos Vasquez is coordinating volunteers for packing bags. His number is 677-3478 and his email address is carlos.vasquez@hotmail.com. He has the fall calendar full. Larissa is heading up the packing procedures.

Sandy will continue to deliver to Aspen and Clark (if there are participants in the program). She will also meet North PTA on Friday for them to pick up their bags. The Uinta Meadows PTA will pick up their bags on Tuesday. Packing will begin at 5:15 and should be ready for pickup by 5:45. The schools will be responsible for contacting Larissa on number of bags.

Gerry reported that the 1st Bank event was very successful. \$717 and a trunk of groceries were received.

Holly Law asked about helping provide school supplies for needy children. Since Angels Among Us are already involved in that process, it was agreed that the Backpack Program would look at partnering with them. Larissa said that there are often school supplies discarded at Walmart after the season and they could possibly be donated to the program.

Joy offered to donate a refrigerator to the Program.

Larissa asked about the calories in each bag. Gerry is planning to put together a spreadsheet of the food purchased, prices, and how they are used. Larissa said she thinks Smith's may be substituting some items with cans. Gerry will contact them.

Joy will check on the status of the 501(c)3 application.

It was agreed to meet once a month on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Next meeting will be held at 4:30 on October 8, 2015.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Irene Hansen