

City of Stoughton
Minutes of the Food Pantry Committee

Date/Time: October 20, 2016
Location: Hall of Fame Room
Members: Mike Heger, Carol Kastle, Judy Olson, Amy Winters, Sandy Fleming
Guests: Ann Marie Oakland, Jim Alonzo
Also Present: Deb Blaney, Accounting Specialist

CALL TO ORDER:

Mike Heger called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

#7 Discussion on Covenant Lutheran Church-Meals for kids

Items #7 was moved up. Covenant is running a program this summer for 12 weeks that is putting together a lunch program for kids that may not get that at home. Anne Marie Oakland and Mark Dahl met with Dr Onsager, from the school district, to discuss this. It would be all cold lunches, no hot lunch. Possibly holding these lunches at different locations to serve a wide range of kids. The location would serve as a pick up spot only, they wouldn't be eating there. Anne Marie stated this is a community effort, not a Covenant Lutheran Church event. She stated she is not worried about the financial aspect of this program, she is looking for volunteers. Ann Marie was hoping that the food Pantry could get the information out regarding the lunch program. The projected date for starting this program is June 12th. Mike is going to keep in touch with Ann Marie so that the Pantry can be involved.

Communications

The committee took a minute to welcome new Pantry board member Amy Winters. Amy has taken the place of Dan Marshall, as his term was up in April. Welcome aboard Amy!

Mike stated that the pantry is not getting many items from Pick N Save anymore. Corporate policy for Pick N Save is for them to sell bakery good at 1/2 price rather than being donated.

The pantry receives a lot of bread from Subway. Because of the quantity the Pantry does receive, we cannot give it out fast enough. Pantry may consider donating some of the bread to the Senior Center or Youth Center. We will continue to let the residents take what they can use before donating it. The Pantry is very appreciative of the donations from Subway.

Carol has been checking into brown paper bags and has ordered a bundle for the Pantry. Anne Marie and Sandy will put the word out in their church bulletins that the pantry could use brown paper bags.

Discussion on whether or not the Pantry could get another refrigerator and where it would go. Mike said to maybe wait until after the first of the year to talk to Wayne at CAC regarding a new refrigerator. Carol suggested rearranging the back section of the pantry where the computer is as a location for a new refrigerator.

Mike stated that he applied for the Stoughton Area Foundation grant for \$5000.00 and got it. Mike also contacted Walmart regarding a grant. He spoke with a gal who said that the Pantry would probably receive a \$2500 grant. The pantry would need to send in a letter that is signed by the Mayor to get things started. Mike will complete the application once the letter is received.

Patrick Nowlin is working on his yearly donation to the Food Pantry.

Discussion on unruly patrons. All board members agreed that pantry volunteers should not hesitate to call the police if a client's behavior is totally unacceptable.

Judy will send out via email the monthly calendar for volunteers schedules. This will enable all to know who is working when.

Discussion on Thanksgiving vouchers

Vouchers will be handed out on Friday, November 18th from 9 a.m. till 2:00 p.m. and Saturday, November 19th from 9 a.m. until Noon. The vouchers will be orange again this year. Mike and Sue Heger will direct the program this year. Jim Alonzo from Cummins will arrange for help to hand the vouchers out. This will take place at the EMS garage. The price of the vouchers will remain the same as last year. \$30 for families with kids under 18 and \$15 for everyone else. Residents can also ask at Pick N Save for the coupons to help out with the cost of a Thanksgiving meal. Carol has priced out a Thanksgiving meal and it can be done with the \$30 voucher. These vouchers are only given to current registered patrons of the Pantry. They will need to show proof of residence and an ID, but will not require ID's for each family member as this is done in March each year. If someone says they couldn't get there on the day they were handed out, use your discretion on whether to give them one.

Review responsibilities for board members

Review the chart from previous meeting. Everything will stay the same with the exception of Dan Marshall. Amy Winters will take over his duties. Accountability for training members will be up to Judy and Sandy. They will work on getting the list of volunteers current.

Discussion on vouchers being used for paper products

The pantry was notified by Ashley at Pick N Save that a patron was trying to use a voucher for paper products. Paper products are not on the list of prohibited items, thus all board members felt they should be able to purchase toilet paper and other paper products they might need. Karol will notify Pick N Save as this has been the intent of the pantry.

Discussion on Dane County Food Pantry meeting

The monthly Food Pantry meeting was held on October 5th with Wayne from CAC. There was discussion on Habitat for Humanity Housing. The pantry will post that info down at the Pantry. Info includes how to go about becoming a recipient of a house. Also the group discussed programs like Healthy Food for All which attempts to get and repackage leftover food from restaurants, cafeterias etc. into the mouths of the needy rather than throwing it out.

Adjournment

Sandy moved to adjourn the meeting, Amy seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 2:55.