

City of Stoughton  
Minutes of the Food Pantry Committee

Date/Time: April 27, 2017  
Location: Hall of Fame Room  
Members: Mike Heger, Judy Olson, Amy Winters, Sandy Fleming  
Absent: Karol Castle  
Guests: Mayor Donna Olson  
Staff: Kelli Krcma, Deputy Clerk

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mike Heger called the meeting to order at 8:37a.m.

**Approval of 2-16-17 minutes**

Amy made a motion to approve the minutes of the 2-16-17 meeting as written. Judy seconded the motion. All in favor, motion approved.

**Review of financial form**

The food pantry is in great shape financially, and the outlook continues to improve. The pantry gives out approximately \$40,000 in vouchers alone. That is a marked increase from even 2 years ago, when that amount was \$10,000-\$12,000 in vouchers. The pantry is serving about the same number of families, but has been able to increase the amount of help. There is the ability to do even more.

**Civil Rights Training/Confidentiality**

Most of the volunteers have received the civil rights and confidentiality training. There are about 10 volunteers remaining to be trained. Sandy offered to do one on one training, or to lead one more group training session. Sandy will lead a group training on Tuesday May 9 at 12:30pm. Mike will contact the volunteers and let them know.

Sandy and Mike also worked to update the volunteer contact list. This was sent out to everyone so they could review their information.

**Upcoming Post Office drive**

The Post Office food drive will be held on Saturday May 13. Rita Johnson will organize this event.

**Summer food program**

Area churches and the Stoughton School District, spearheaded by Ann Marie Oakland, are organizing a summer food program to offer prepared bag lunches to children in the school district for the summer months of June, July and August. This program is aimed at children that normally receive breakfast and/or lunch at school. The plan is to

prepare the lunches at area churches, deliver the lunches to the three elementary schools, and have children come to one of the schools to pick up a lunch each day, Monday through Friday. Nearly 1/3 of the children in the school district qualify for free or reduced fee lunches and this program is geared to filling the gap made during summer break.

The food pantry is also going to help fill the gap by offering extra food items during the summer months. Amy will create a handout of the extra items families with children may take. These items will include: UHT milk (shelf-stable), eggs, cereal, yogurt, snacks, peanut butter, jelly, cans of fruit, hot dogs and juice. The volunteers will also be notified of this change. Sandy made a motion that the food pantry should offer these extra food items in the summer months, seconded by Amy. All in favor, motion passed.

A general discussion on donations was held. Amy asked if the pantry should be asking for specific items to be donated (or not donated). Mike stated that the pantry can use most anything, other than canned vegetables, as those get donated through the government programs.

### **Flea Market at Madison Speedway**

There will be flea markets held at the Madison International Speedway, with a suggested entry fee of a \$5 donation. The food pantry has been chosen as the charity recipient for the market on May 27. They only ask for volunteers to be at the flea market from 10am-3pm. Mike would like to have brochures about the pantry available to hand out, with updated information on the new summer expansion program.

Amy made a motion to delineate the money received from this event for the summer expansion program. Discussion was held; motion failed.

### **Correspondence person for handling donations**

Lois Quale has stepped down from the position after many years. We thank her for all the time she spent in this position. Linda Lane will be taking over, with Sue Heger as back up.

Mayor Donna Olson joined the meeting at 9:45am.

### **Walmart**

Mike spoke with the manager at Walmart and asked if they would accept the pantry vouchers. After speaking with corporate, the manager said no. Based on their corporate policy, all food donations go to Second Harvest.

Mike noted the continued generosity of Cummins, Inc. which provided the shelving in the pantry and will be providing a new, improved ladder that will be more stable.

Donna shared that Cummins received a Business of the Year award from the City at the recent Volunteer Appreciation reception.

There have been several tours given at the Food Pantry to local youth groups. This is a great way to spread the word about the pantry.

Sandy left at 9:55am.

### **Involving new subs**

Welcome to our newest volunteers:

- Cheri Belz
- Holly Tangeman
- Jan Ham

It's important to get the new volunteers/subs involved right away. They should be asked whenever a sub is needed, invited to participate in food drives, etc.

### **Miscellaneous**

Donna spoke about the recent health summit she attended. One of the biggest issues affecting health today is obesity, and she shared at the summit about how the pantry is trying to help and the difficulties the pantry has - helping clients choose healthy foods, offering recipes and cooking tips, etc.

Donna left at 10:05am.

The next meeting of the Food Pantry Committee will be held on Thursday June 22 at 1pm.

### **Adjournment**

Amy moved to adjourn the meeting, Mike seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 10:10am.