

City of Stoughton
Minutes of the Food Pantry Committee

Date/Time: September 28, 2017
Location: Ed Overland Room
Members: Mike Heger, Judy Olson, Sandy Fleming, Karol Castle, Amy Winters
Absent: None
Guests: None
Staff: Kelli Krcma, Deputy Clerk

Call to Order:

Mike Heger called the meeting to order at 1:10pm.

Discussion and possible action on what new pantry items should be purchased for the pantry

The committee agreed that we have the financial ability to distribute more food. Discussed changing the yogurt that is purchased. Yoplait brand is very high in sugar. Aldi's yogurt was researched and it was found that the regular yogurt has only 14 grams of sugar with no artificial sugars added. The committee voted to approve the purchase of Aldi's regular yogurt.

Much discussion was had on what healthy items to stock at the pantry. The comment was made that no one on the committee is a nutritionist and therefore we do not have the expertise to make decisions on what is healthy. Committee should look at using community resources (Senior Center nutritionist, volunteer Linda Lane who is a nutritionist, UW-Extension) to help.

The following is a list of items that will be added or increased to the current offerings at the Food Pantry, per motion made by Karol, seconded by Judy:

<u>Purchased at Aldi's</u>	<u>Purchased at Kwik Trip</u>	<u>CAC</u>
margarine	milk (increase)	hamburger (increase)
butter	butter	
canola oil		
olive oil		
cheese, in blocks		
oatmeal - quick oats		
oatmeal - old fashioned		

Clients will be offered the choice of butter or margarine, olive oil or canola oil, quick oats or old fashioned oats.

Discussion and possible action on replacing any existing pantry items

There was discussion on ramen noodles – not a very healthy item, but clients like the fact that it is quick and easy to cook. Amy suggested looking at other brands, possibly sourcing from Asian markets that might offer healthier alternatives.

Clients don't like unknown brands of canned goods like soup, such as what comes from Aldi's. Hopefully this will change once Aldi's opens in town and clients shop there and see what the brands are. The anticipated open date for Aldi's is November 2.

There was some concern about the space available for more food in the cooler. It was agreed to remove the boxed milk from the cooler and place on shelf, as this does not need to be kept cool.

Discussion and possible action on providing signage for healthier food items

The committee agreed that more signage was needed at the Pantry. Signage will be changed to note the increased offering of milk.

Discussion and possible action on new equipment

Discussed the need for a freezer, computer/laptop, and possible storage. Talked about moving the computer to fit an upright freezer. Mike believes he can get a free freezer from Jim. Karol made a motion, seconded by Sandy, to explore obtaining a freezer and purchasing a laptop and storage units. Motion was approved. Mike will talk to Jim about the possibility of getting a freezer. Karol and Judy will look into the computer.

Discussion and possible action on the Stoughton Area Foundation grant, and idea of replacing the City's Holiday Fund with another voucher from the pantry

Mike wrote a grant requesting \$3000 to fund a voucher program similar to the Thanksgiving vouchers we currently provide. This grant request will be for a Holiday voucher. After discussion it was decided to be more liberal in the items that may be purchased – specifying any meat or frozen entrée, baking goods, fruits, vegetables, etc. as acceptable items a client may purchase. This was done knowing that the City Holiday fund has been eliminated.

Kelli left the meeting at 2:30pm. Mike took the remainder of the minutes.

Discussion of meeting Karol, Amy and Mike had with the Mayor and Finance Director regarding creation of a Friends Group to support the pantry through grants and possible Second Harvest Membership

The possibility of creating a Friends group 501c3 was discussed. Mike, Karol and Amy attended a meeting with the Mayor and Finance Director. It was explained that this would not change the relationship between the city and the pantry. That the city could continue to provide us with the current pantry location, provide us with collecting

donations and paying most payable bills, etc. The Friends group could create a relationship with Second Harvest and apply for grants that we are currently not allowed to do.

Amy has drafted a set of by-laws and other documents. She will contact the state AG office to clarify some issues and the city attorney.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:15pm.