

Minutes for NUHFGP January 5, 2024
Glide Fire Station - Conference Room

The board signed all the thank you letters, then the meeting was called to order by President Ted Damewood at 6:30 pm. In attendance: Ted Damewood, Ian Quimby, Jeannie Black, Chris Nicholls, Nancy Tague, Nancy Kreger, Dianne Muscarello

Treasurer's Report - Nancy T

Financial report of income and expenditures to date was handed out. Income to date is \$51,800. Expenditures to date are \$54,197. Current funds remaining is \$2,113. Additional financial items were reported: A check was picked up at the post office for \$500. Gift purchases were reimbursed for \$257. Ted reported left over gift cards totaling \$2,400, and a check from Glide Revitalization for \$4587 to reimburse the Costco hams. Those items bring the carryover to next year to \$9,342. Nancy T will send a complete financial report after including all remaining items.

Ted requested we go around the room with comments about how the event went.

Dianne explained it is hard to discuss and record minutes at the same time. She said that she and Nancy T had discussed the program and was in agreement with what she would say.

Nancy T Reported that Sherm's said the spreadsheet was much easier to work with and liked it. Felt there were too many groceries because of the boxes' weight. She will try to determine why so many onions and apples were left over. The lists generated from the database after signup need to be checked against sign-up forms, as one sign-up mistake was discovered at pickup time.

She said Jill handled the sign-ups well. She suggested we should discourage food boxes as they are more difficult and recipients come out ahead with gift cards. Conversation regarding food boxes vs gift cards followed. Nancy K said that many recipients strongly prefer food. Several people agreed that food boxes were more personal and emotional for the clients than the gift cards. There could be a bigger food box response next year, so we will need additional space. We discussed various locations and their pros and cons: middle school gym, hallway of the Glide Revitalization building, high school gym, and later in the meeting, the GCC hall. Ian and Ted both volunteered to talk to school personnel about using the gym. No final decision was made.

The weight of food boxes and difficulty packing this year was discussed. Most everyone agreed that having standard size boxes, such as from U-Haul, was worth the price.

Nancy T said there was confusion around the hams, and discussion ensued. Glide Revitalization had wanted to give 200 hams, the number of households. There was much discussion and confusion about Costco hams versus the small hams that had been ordered for the senior households. A lot of hams were left over at the conclusion of the event.

Nancy T said that as a 501(c3) program, board members should not be receiving hams, as that is personal profit or gain. She also questioned whether giving volunteers hams is in accordance with the organization's mission. There was discussion about non-profits that budget for volunteer gifts, which we have not done. We agreed as a group that hams would not be given to board members

or volunteers in the future. The group said the providing lunch is “thank you” for the workers.

Nancy T felt we were raising too much money, as the amount of groceries made the boxes too heavy and the value of medium and larger gift cards was far more than food boxes. She would like to see us set appropriate grocery purchases, determine the value of that and gift cards, then set a budget based on those numbers. This prompted much discussion. Suggestions included buying brand name products where it would be perceived as better and planning the grocery list around complete menus rather than random items. The conversation resulted in the group agreeing to each person review the list of groceries. This year’s shopping list will be sent to each board member, who will make suggestions for changes. Nancy K commented that we should not run out of animal food, which we did, as people will feed their food to their animals. Nancy T suggested we gather information at sign-up about animals so we can know how much to order, which we had decided to do when planning for this year, but it did not happen.

Nancy T said we need to remember to plan in advance next year for the toothbrush and tooth paste donation.

Jeannie said consistent box sizes was critical and the different boxes caused a problem. She felt that if the group packed one box at a time it would have been easier. She suggested that the groceries could be obtained one day earlier. Ian suggested the groceries be delivered Thursday evening or very early Friday morning and he would be willing to organize the boxes for easier retrieval. Jeannie reported that the gifts went very well and the community is extremely generous.

Chris said standardized boxes would be advantageous and space to assemble them would be needed if we had more boxes. He reported that food rather than gift cards feels more personal to the recipients he delivered to. He also said delivery people had enough time that we could handle additional deliveries. If we need help packing more boxes, he suggested former BSA members and other community members to help assemble boxes. He also suggested Lowes or Home Depot for alternative box purchases.

Ian said he needed more help loading boxes into cars. He suggested that if all we ordered were cases, a handful of extra items would not be spread around in partial boxes. He said we need to make extra small-sized boxes to have on hand. He also suggested the veggies be included in the perishable boxes. Ian suggested we provide larger bags of animal food. He suggested that the boxes not be so organized that there is no “wiggle” room in the boxes. He made the proposal of using Google Drive as a way of communicating. He got everyone’s email address to set it up.

Nancy K opted not to comment at that time.

Ted said we got a lot of stuff out to people. He agreed more meetings would be beneficial. He raised an issue about better communication among us and said correcting fellow workers while in line was wrong. This turned into a very long and stressful conversation. No resolution was reached.

Ted said this program reaches a lot of people and is very rewarding.

Ted wanted to know if the board might want to remove Carolyn Standish as director and replace her with Kendal Melvin of Glide Revitalization. Jeannie said Carolyn had told us at the beginning that she might have difficulty attending meetings because of her new job this year, but Jeannie did not know whether that would continue. Nancy T suggested that Jeannie ask Carolyn if she is interested in staying on the board or not. We also asked if Kendal could be invited to speak to the board on her qualifications and then leave. No decisions were made at this time.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Dianne