

Board of Directors Minutes
March 13, 2012
8:00 – 9:45

Members Present: Marilyn Canavan, Doug Carnrick, Sally Harwood, Mike Heavener, Elery Keene, Mike Roy, Bonnie Sammons (guest), Dick Thomas (guest), Linda Woods

Mike R motioned to approve the minutes from the February meeting. Sally seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Financial Report:

The city account has \$1040.55

There is \$3791.43 in the checkbook. This reflects a grant of \$1,500 from New England Grassroots Environment Fund. This is to cover materials to create two community gardens (Fairfield & the Alford Center) as well as support existing gardens (no specific location). Some funds may be used for administrative services.

Linda received a bill from REM. We can become a REM Collaborating Partner for \$75. or a REM Affiliated Partner for \$125. We did not act on this last year but were Collaborating Partners in 2010. Mike R motioned that we join REM as a Collaborating Partner. Doug seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Linda checked with Kennebec Federal Savings about establishing an automatic deduction. That process is not done through the receiving bank but through the giver's bank. There is a way to establish automatic withdrawals through Paypal, but we would have to upgrade our account. Doing that would cost more money. This was tabled.

Fund raising Report:

The finance group will meet after this meeting.

SMMC will be holding a raffle. The confirmed prizes are a week at a camp on Great Pond, an energy audit, a \$100 membership to Barrels, a truckload of compost (not delivered), 20 *Kennebec Explorer* tickets. Tickets will be \$10 a piece/ 3 for \$25/ 5 for \$40. We will be printing a thousand tickets, and each member will be asked to sell 2 books of tickets. The front will list the prizes as well as the SMMC logo. The back will advertise SMMC's residential energy program. We hope to have the tickets available for distribution by March 30 and the drawing on Waterville's Earth Day, April 28. We will be asking Karen Heck to draw the winners.

The group is working on a comprehensive grant submission to the Alfonds.

Coordinator's Report:

Recent activities to support the Board's action plan:

Public Outreach:

Linda distributed a copy of the Chamber of Commerce's *In-Touch* newsletter that has a "Money Savings Tip" written by Ross Nason. It features the SMMC logo.

Action Item:

Linda: Ask Ross to send the tip to her prior to submission. This will be forwarded to the Board for review.

Linda: Tell Ross that others from the writing subcommittee are willing to write these if he needs help

Elery revised one of the objectives to now read: implement these objectives so as to provide sustainable employment opportunities. These are listed on the web site and will be printed in REM's upcoming newsletter.

Linda will be tabling at various upcoming events. She needs help staffing the SMMC table at the Chamber's Business to Business on April 11 from 2 to 7 at the Alford Center. Please let her know if you can help. Board members might be interested in joining in for Women's Wellness on March 31 and Waterville Earth Day on April 28.

Linda will be attending the REM luncheon later today. She will have the opportunity to speak about the activities of SMMC.

Communications:

Linda met with Jimmy Bannen of the Education Team. He is looking into the possibility of establishing a SMMC message board.

Education:

The Education Team will meet later today. They are planning Earth Day (April 28) as well as various public educational awareness events. Ten people attended the first book club session. This is an on-going event. The team continues to evolve to establish its mission.

Energy:

Members of the Energy Team toured Colby's biomass facility. They are continuing to work on the district heating feasibility study. They are looking into another EMT grant.

Garden:

The Alford Youth Center Garden is making good progress thanks to a partnership with the Winslow Agway. The Fairfield Community Garden is still in the discussion stage.

Rethink, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Team:

The RX4 Team is hoping to create a recycling book for children. They agreed to partner with the American Lung Association to help with green activities during the Trek Across Maine. If you are interested in volunteering on June 16, Linda could use your help.

Transportation Team:

Jim Wood reported that Go Maine, the commuter van program has been discontinued. We might be able to get some of their used buses for a reasonable price.

Old Business:

A discussion about Dick Thomas's idea to create a series of articles about SMMC occurred. Dick spoke of his plan to submit to *The Town Line* articles about each team. His hope is to submit selected writings to the "Maine Compass" section of *The Sentinel*. If SMMC is mentioned in the article, the Board needs to approve the piece before submission. Consensus needs to be established before publication that refers to SMMC can occur. This can be done electronically. The SMMC affiliation would be indicated at the end of the article.

Individuals may submit separately as long as they don't refer to SMMC.

The sequence for articles is writer to Bonnie & Marilyn, to Linda, to Board

Key e-mail addresses for this to occur:

Marilyn's: <mcanavan@myfairpoint.net>

Bonnie's: <lunamoth829@yahoo.com>

Dick's: <richard.thomas@mainegeneral.org>

Action Items:

Doug: Write about Transportation Team & send to Dick by April 1

Bonnie & Marilyn: interview team members and leaders to get article ideas

Marilyn, Dick, Tom T, Bonnie, Elery: go to *The Sentinel*

Dick: Send Linda the revised copy of your article

Linda: Forward Dick's article to Lyn

Marilyn's article to *The Sentinel*

Dick: send articles to Bonnie & Marilyn

A discussion occurred about trying to find a student to do an independent study project to assist us. Linda presented a flier from The Chamber of Commerce for an Intern Fair to be held in conjunction with the Business to Business Event. It was decided that since we have no specific project in mind and no money, we will not be attending.

A review of connecting with other towns occurred. Linda reported that she has a partial list of other towns working on similar projects. Dana Fischer says there are 137 towns who received EECBG grants. He will try to get a list of contact info to Linda. Linda has been invited to speak in Vassalboro in April with a group interested in sustainability.

Action Items:

Linda: continue to try to find a list of area towns who are working on sustainability

Linda: contact Dana Fischer for a summary of activities & accomplishments from EECBG applicants & contact info

Mike H reported that he hopes to arrange a meeting with the sustainability coordinators' from area colleges. He will invite members of the Board as well.

Action Item:

Mike H: include Alice Elliot

New Business:

Linda presented a flier titled “Social Power: The Emergence of Social Media as a Force for Social Change.” The cost is \$140. It was agreed not to attend this event.

Sally suggested inviting Alder to a Board meeting at a future date.

Doug suggested the following: “SMMC working for you today to make our community sustainable for all of us tomorrow.”

The next regular meeting will be **Tuesday, April 10 at 8:00 AM** in the **Mayor’s Conference Room.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Woods, Coordinator

Elery Keene, Secretary