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February 22nd 2021 BOD Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Henry Brutus - Executive Director

Alana Bradley - Secretary

Anna Ransom - President

Kellie Dinsmore - Treasurer

Colleen Pullen - BOD at large

Katy Noll - BOD at large

Tyson Kay - Pending BOD

Jeanette Wisner - Pending BOD

\*Deanne Rocha - Pending BOD

Chantelle Yazzi-Martin - Pending BOD

Robert Sharpe - BOD Attorney

1. Anna calls meeting to order at 6:05PM
2. Bob, Lani and Kellie shared a mission moment.
3. Katie motions to approve January minutes pending Chantelle’s name fix. Kellie seconds Vote as follows: Katy-Aye, Colleen-Aye, Anna-Aye, Lani-Aye, Kellie-Aye. Motion passes.
4. Kellie presents financials. Colleen brings up NSP long-term maintenance cost, BOD is informed that three of the homes were vacant so LCI was able to retile and repaint them. Colleen motions to approve, Katy seconds. Vote as follows: Katy-Aye, Colleen-Aye, Lani-Aye, Anna-Aye, Kellie-Aye. Motion passes.
5. Board Building Committee did not meet due to adding new members (we are at 9 BOD members). Instead, a discussion was held to finalize the Executive Director contract paperwork. Anna and Pamela met with professors and such regarding development of our App project. To meet again March 1st at 6PM. Lani discussed the Development Committee and what it looks like going forward since the end of the Guild. As the BOD reorganizes, we need to set a date and invite community members to join the Development Committee. BOD needs to reach out to Nancy Barnes about getting the committee rolling. Board Orientation is set for Monday March 29th from 6-8pm via Zoom.
6. Recap of dates: (at 6PM unless otherwise stated) March 1st- App, March 4th- Bazaar, March 8th-Tara Winters/Edward Jones, March 15th-Finance (1 PM), March 22nd-BOD meet, March 29th-BOD Orientation with Nancy. ALL BOD is encouraged to join at all meetings as most members are new and the planning season for our landmark event has begun. Board Building Committee did not meet due to adding new members (we are at 9 BOD members). However, an “Executive Director” discussion was held to finalize paperwork. Anna and Pamela met with professors and such regarding development of our App project. App Committee will meet again March 1st at 6PM. Lani discusses the Development committee and what it looks like going forward since the end of the Guild. As the BOD reorganizes, we need to set a date and invite community members to join the Development Committee. BOD needs to reach out to Nancy Barnes about getting the committee rolling. Board Orientation is set for Monday March 29th from 6-8pm via Zoom.

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1. Henry presented the ED report. He discussed the possibility of the need for a full time bilingual attorney. Henry has put in for funding that might come to fruition in July. This is a HUGE gap in what services LCI is able to provide currently. Also the desire for a development department which would comprise at least 3 people. Legislative would be a great add on as we grow the organization. He expresses that he would love to have a grant writer on staff as we have 30 grants currently. Our Fiscal Director has plans to retire in a few years so we need to start looking for a replacement as well as someone who possibly is an Executive Assistant who would work with both the Executive Director and the Fiscal Director. He let us know that our Fiscal Director is the only person who handles the finances of LCI and it is a large job.

LCI has been nominated by the Greater Chamber of Commerce as one of their best Non Profit Organization in Las Cruces! LCI also has a non-res case manager, child therapist, adult therapist and a children and youth case manager in recruitment. They have filled 2 other positions and only have 2 positions open as of today. LCI is bidding for the painting project for the Las Cruces location, the city would fund this but it would be for next year. LCI has already been funded for new floors but it has not been granted to anyone yet or started. The independent annual Audit is ongoing and will be presented at the March or April BOD meeting. LCI applied for PPE. Henry let us know that we are $281 away from his $50K letter campaign goal! Yoga has been introduced virtually to both children and adults by local community members. 100% of employees were tested last week and everyone tested negative! In conclusion, LCI has a former client who has just graduated with honors from the Nursing Program (CONGRATULATIONS!).

1. BOD Orientation was covered under committee reports.
2. Luna County-Deming is looking for someone to absorb their organization. They own all of their buildings, two of them being older but with many renovations, they could staff 12 but currently staff 6 and their ED is leaving on Friday. They do have an emergency shelter but can only house 10 clients. It is currently under the leadership of the County Manager. They currently have funding for the next 5 years and no debt. The advocates are paid minimum wage and the ED not only runs administration but also the shelter. Bob raises questions about crossing over into other counties and all of the issues that may arise. Anna reminds us that we technically only operate in Doña Ana County. Colleen questions the urgency of a decision needing to be made. General consensus is that LCI is unable to take this on at this time.
3. Lani motions to enter into the Executive Session to discuss personnel matters at 7:51PM, Colleen seconds. Kellie moves to leave the Executive Session at 8:19PM.
4. Lani motions to approve the Executive Director’s contract as is with the 3% merit increase and a $1000 consideration. Katy seconds, vote as follows. Katy-Aye, Colleen-Aye, Anna-Aye, Lani-Aye, Kellie-Aye. Motion passes.
5. Old business
6. Lani motions to adjourn at 8:33 PM Kellie seconds. Meeting Adjourned.