

Meeting Minutes of the  
Ozark Foothills Regional Community Foundation (OFRCF)  
January 29, 2019, 4:00pm  
Ozark Foothills Regional Planning Commission  
Poplar Bluff, MO

PRESENT

Marie Obourn, Reverend Annette Joseph, Janet Brown, Susan Skaggs, Sr. Anne Francioni (via phone), Russell French, Rebeca Pacheco, Staff – Crystal Jones

ABSENT

Greg Kirk, Scott Preslar, Dr. Scott Dill, Felicity Ray

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Russell French at 4:07 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

The meeting minutes from December 4, 2018 were reviewed. Susan Skaggs made a motion to approve the minutes, Marie Obourn seconded, all approved.

FUND BALANCES

Crystal Jones reported the assets of the OFRCF as of 1/24/2019 as \$1,372,879.50.

NEW SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Crystal Jones informed the board of a potential new scholarship fund to benefit Ripley County students in the approximate amount of \$200,000. The donor is working with CFO currently to establish the fund.

DONIPHAN R-1 SCHOOL DISTRICT – CENTER FOR DISASTER PHILANTHROPY AWARD

Crystal updated the board on the status of the Center for Disaster Philanthropy grant to OFRCF for one outreach and one counselor position for the Doniphan School District. Dr. Jennifer Snyder requested an extension on the timeline of the grant project to January 31, 2020. This was approved by CDP. The first request for funds was submitted to CFO for reimbursement. There is \$77,402.64 remaining out of \$94,385 in grant funds.

Crystal contacted The Prospect News requesting a news article on the grant award and the benefits of an organization like the Doniphan R-1 in partnering with a Community Foundation. Editor of the newspaper said they would follow up with a story. Russell had not heard

**ACTION:** Russell will contact Ron Smith with The Prospect News to inquire about the news article.

COOVER GRANT – SUPPORT LETTERS

Three organizations are interested in applying to the Coover grant program through CFO. The Bread Shed is requesting \$16,500 for basic support for their food program, the Harviell Community Center is requesting \$15,000 to begin a senior and low-income supplemental food program, and the Goodwill Excel Center is requesting a support letter. Applications are due February 15, 2019. Support letters for two of the applications, Bread Shed and Harviell Community Center, was approved at the 12/4/18 board meeting. The Goodwill support letter has not been approved. Crystal requested approval from the board

for signing and submitting this support letter. The board asked what, specifically, the Goodwill Excel Center is requesting in their application before providing approval of the support letter.

**ACTION:** Crystal will contact the Goodwill Excel Center to ask for a copy of the application. An email explanation will be sent to the board for electronic approval of the support letter.

#### RURAL OPPORTUNITY HEALTH INITIATIVES GRANT

Crystal Jones provided the board with a draft application to this program. The application focused upon two goals; access to healthcare and opioid prevention. The data forwarded by Sis. Anne was used as justification of need. Crystal requested the board to review the draft application and suggest revisions. No revisions suggested. Board approval to submit the application was received at the December 2018 meeting; therefore, no approval is needed at this time.

**ACTION:** Crystal will submit application as presented prior to the February 2, 2019 deadline.

#### REGIONAL HOUSING STUDY UPDATE

Crystal Jones provided an update on the regional housing study and CFO Disaster Prep grant award. The Ozark Foothills Regional Planning Commission (OFRPC) submitted an application to MACOG for an additional \$15,000 to put with the initial \$10,000 award from CFO for a total of \$25,000. The RFP was reissued and we are anticipating the receipt of two proposals. Proposals are due February 1, 2019.

#### LOAN PROGRAM FOR FEDERAL WORKERS

Crystal Jones provided information to the board regarding a program headed by CFO that provides zero interest loans to federal workers impacted by the government shutdown. CFO partnered with their local credit union to provide the loans. While the government has reopened, this program could be beneficial in the OFRCF region should another shutdown occur. The board like the program and would like to explore the possibility of offering something similar in the future if needed.

**ACTION:** Crystal will contact CFO to learn the details of their program in preparation for organizing such a program in the OFRCF region should another shutdown occur.

#### INFORMATION CARD FOR PROSPECTING

Crystal Jones distributed printed informational cards as approved by the board at the December 2018 meeting. Sis. Anne requested a few to be mailed to her.

#### OPEN DISCUSSION

Susan Skaggs mentioned that Catholic Charities contacted her and suggested there still may be some individual needs related to the 2017 flood. Susan asked if they had reached out to anyone else. They have not.

Crystal assessed the board's interest in reaching out to the Ripley County Community Foundation to explore the possibility of joining forces. The board agreed it would be good to initiate a conversation.

**ACTION:** Crystal Jones will contact Randy Maness and set up a meeting with Felicity Ray and Crystal Jones.

Next meeting set for March 5, 2019 at 4:00 pm at the Holy Cross Episcopal Church in Poplar Bluff, MO.

ADJOURN

Susan Skaggs made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Marie Obourn seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:03 pm.

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Russell French, Chairman

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Date Approved

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Sr. Anne Francioni, Secretary

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Date Approved