



IFM Meeting of the Board and Member Churches, February 26, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

Board Officers Present

Phil Alonso, Executive Director
Kate Laferriere, Development Director
Bob Thurman, President
Rick Kahil, Vice President
Maxine Palmer, Secretary

Board Members Present

Marnie Ratkovsky, Emmanuel Episcopal
Gaye Rogers, Grace Lutheran
Cheri Eckholt, Grass Valley United Methodist
Jim Schroeder, Peace Lutheran
Diane Chang, Seventh Day Adventist
Pam Sufleski, Sierra Presbyterian
Jeff Hebert, St. Canice Catholic
Nancy Koring (Jeff Hebert), St. Patrick's
Connie Wright, Unitarian Universalist

Absent

John Brusher, Treasurer
Janet Kelley, Christian Science Church
Tim Gizzi, Calvary Bible
Debi Johnson, First Baptist, G.V.
Eleanor Kenitzer, Nevada City United Methodist
Joan Denzler, Sierra Pines Methodist
Sharon Ross, Sierra Center for Spiritual Living
Judi Wade, Twin Cities
Karen Holt, Assistant Treasurer
Rita Kahil, Assistant Treasurer

Kate Laferriere led the group in prayer.

It was confirmed we had a quorum.

A motion was made by Jeff Hebert to approve the January minutes as presented. Diane Chang seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Suite A Door Project - Phil Alonso

- For the safety of volunteers moving food to Suite A, it was suggested to Board members that the Suite A Door Project go ahead with additional funds from the food budget—instead of waiting until July for the Teichert grant results. The new doors will also allow Ray Moore to make low-cost purchases of pallets of food that he is not able to make now because the access door is too small.
- The total cost of the door project is approximately \$7,000. \$3,000 has already been budgeted for the project. It was suggested an additional \$4,000 be taken from the food budget to get the project completed as soon as possible.
- Kate will still submit a grant application to Teichert for the full amount of the project (\$7,000).
- A motion was made by Jim Schroeder to approve an additional \$4,000 from the food budget for the Suite A Door Project. Pam Sufleski seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Confidentiality Policy - Phil Alonso

- Phil was approached by an investigator from the DA's office regarding possible welfare fraud by one of our clients. The investigator wanted to know the client's address and number of people on the account. After consulting with Bob and Diane, Phil told the investigator he would need a subpoena.
- IFM has had an informal confidentiality agreement with clients.
- At Phil's request, Diane Chang wrote a formal confidentiality policy that was presented to Board members for approval.
- A motion was made by Cheri Eckholt to adopt the confidentiality policy as presented. Marnie Ratkovsky seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Weather Closures - Phil Alonso

- After consulting with Kate and others, Phil decided to close IFM on Monday, February 18th, because unsafe, icy conditions were forecast. Several cars struggled on the roads that day.
- There was discussion by the group about what protocol should be followed.
- It was suggested Phil contact Hansen Brothers regarding a spray for the parking lot that prevents the formation of ice. IFM currently puts sand and salt on areas of ice.
- IFM might consider school closures as a guide.
- Some Board members felt staying open on snowy/icy days may mean fewer volunteers but would probably also mean fewer clients.
- It was suggested we have more back-up supervisors for days like this.

Status of Development Director Search - Phil Alonso

- Five candidates have submitted completed applications and resumes.
- Phil has had initial phone interviews with 3 of the candidates and will conduct 2 more tomorrow.
- All the candidates have non-profit experience and Rick Kahil (after viewing their applications/resumes) felt all five of the candidates are worthy of sit-down interviews.
- An interview team is being formed with the goal of having interviews the first two weeks of March.
- It is hoped the new Development Director will be in place by mid-April. This person will then have a month with Kate to become acquainted with the job.

Matching Funds Campaign - Kate Laferriere

- \$42,000 in matching funds has been pledged.
- Bulk mailing (2,000 letters) went out Friday, February 22nd.
- Kate was on KNCO today publicizing the campaign.
- Board members were given posters to hang and there will be larger posters at IFM during March that members could pick up to display.
- All members are asked to share information regarding the Matching Campaign with friends.

Gala - Kate Laferriere

- This year's theme for the gala is "Bon Voyage to Hunger".
- It will be at the Vets Building on May 18th with open seating at long tables for \$35/person and round, reserved Captain's Tables for 8 for \$400. The Captain's Tables will have more decorations, more attendants and be up front. Packets for these tables are available from Kate and Phil.
- It is hoped 250 tickets will be sold.
- Kate is still looking for sponsors for the Gala. Kate has packets with information for potential sponsors.
- The event is being catered by Kwong Chew for only \$3.00 per person.
- There will be a Guac-Off, Corn Hole Competition, Wine Tasting, Dessert Auction, Silent and Live Auction Items, and displays of food we buy with donations.
- There will be entertainment by four different dance groups.
- Gidotti High School volunteers are helping.
- Mary Jane Brusher is looking for desserts for the dessert auction.
- Volunteers to help set up the morning of May 18th would be appreciated.

Grant Opportunity #1 - Phil Alonso

- The Emergency Food & Shelter Program (EFSP) which provides federal money to a 6-7 county region for food and emergency shelter, has a Board that oversees the administration of this program. Nevada County hasn't had a representative on this Board since 2009. Nancy (ED of Hospitality House) recently became a member of the Board for Nevada County.
- Phil (IFM), Hospitality House and the Salvation Army are submitting a group proposal requesting \$100,000. The amount awarded would be divided equally between the three groups. IFM would use its portion (up to \$33,000) for food.
- The application is due March 8th. Phil is working on it.

Grant Opportunity #2 - Phil Alonso

- Phil is currently exploring the possibility of IFM partnering with the Homeless Coordinated Entry Program. This program tries to connect the homeless with services through a network of agencies that work together.
- 211 Connecting Point is the agency that would coordinate the services. Homeless clients would call 211 and they would direct them to the appropriate agencies. If we choose to participate, 211 would direct clients in need of food to IFM.
- If IFM decides to participate, we would have to be willing to share the personal information of our homeless clients with other agencies. Since our new confidentiality policy prohibits this, we would be required to have our homeless clients sign papers allowing us to share their information
- Other agencies in the network could use IFM to get messages to homeless clients regarding other services.
- Phil's administrative time for this program and any fees or license fees required would be paid by the Homeless Coordinated Entry Program. Phil estimated he would need to request \$15-20,000, should IFM decide to participate.

At the March meeting, Phil will bring a 2019 action plan outlining goals and action items.

Phil would also like to remind everyone to bring in paper and plastic bags since our current supply is low. He would like the drivers to know he is still working on driver mileage since the new tax law changed the program as it was. Phil will also be meeting with the volunteer coordinators in March/April to update information regarding volunteers.

The 2025 Project strives to increase the amount of nutritious and locally-sourced food. Ray Moore and Bob attended a meeting regarding potential food sources. Sierra Harvest and the 2025 Project are bringing people together. It is hoped the River Hill Farms Program will also be expanded. The Garden Gals also provide free, locally-sourced organic produce. The Food Committee is looking at new sources. There is currently \$20,000 in budget to buy local food.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Maxine Palmer
Secretary