



MINUTES OF THE LEBANON VALLEY COMMUNITY CORPORATION (LVCC)
HELD ON October 24, 2023 at Town Hall

Present:

Erminia Rasmussen (President), Gregg Carroll, Danielle Kuffel, Sharon Powers

Advisors present: Tistrya Houghtling via Google Meetings

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 10:08am by Erminia Rasmussen

Holiday Gift Drive

Tistrya Houghtling explained the steps of the Holiday Gift Drive, which includes her reaching out to last year's families and soliciting any new families who may be in need. She has a group that goes shopping for the gifts once the money is received. She also works with Meg Evans at the High School to make sure all Junior/Senior high school students are covered. Also works with the New York Police where they are provided one toy per kid. Last year there were 52 families serviced. Depending upon the year, she has received about \$4-7000 in cash donations. Any money left over is put toward Price Chopper gift cards for the family or rolled over to the next year. If she has any from last year, she will use that for this year's Gift Drive.

We discussed the process for how to purchase gifts this year – Tistrya will do the shopping and get reimbursed from LVCC.

Deadlines – Tistrya does not usually put a deadline on donations (she'll take them any time) but for this year, we should work with what we have and purchase gifts about two weeks before Christmas, somewhere around December 10-15. Tistrya will give us dates. For families, the deadline to ask to be on the list is before Thanksgiving, but exceptions can be made if there is a need.

Playground Grant

Tistrya will send us a copy of the approved Barton & LoGiudice grant for the park.

Cypress Hill Grant

The Town Historian, along with the American Legion and Cemetery of the Evergreens is applying for a matching grant of \$3000.00 to help restore the Revolutionary War section (Cypress Hill) of the Cemetery of the Evergreens. Whatever they raise between now and the end of October is available for this match which can be up to \$10,000 in donations plus the grant's match of up to \$10,000 for a total of \$20,000. Since the Cemetery is not a Charitable organization, it is not eligible to apply and they would like to use the LVCC to do this. LVCC would be the fiscal sponsor.

MSC: That the LVCC would act as a fiscal sponsor for the grant that the Cypress Hill restoration people were applying for was made by Erminia Rasmussen and seconded by Gregg Carroll. Motion approved.

MSC: That the LVCC donate \$350 to the Cypress Hill restoration fund was made by Gregg Carroll and seconded by Danielle Kuffel. Motion approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

We have \$2354 in the general fund and \$1114 left for start-up money from the Taconic Grant. \$295 is not reflected that has already been collected for the holiday drive.

GoFundMe needs to transfer money to PayPal and we're still having issues getting the money for the School Supplies drive. Hope to get this received soon. Gregg has been given assurances by PayPal that they are working on it and don't know why we have not received it yet.

We discussed trying to raise money for the Food Bank – a program where kids are sent home with a bag of food for the weekend so they are fed. This is for children who normally get breakfast and lunch at school but have no means over the weekend. We agreed to put this as a category on our PayPal donation form.

Need to set up categories on the regular donation form. They will include.

Disaster Relief

Cemetery Fund/Cypress Hill (If they agree that we can raise money for them)

General Fund

School Supplies

Backpack Fund/Food Bank for the New Lebanon Central School District

Holiday Gift Drive

MSC: To approve the Treasurer Report was made by Erminia Rasmussen and seconded by Danielle Kuffel. Motion approved.

DISCUSSION:

We need to come up with ways to better communicate with the general public about what we are doing. Should put something in Grow the Valley about the Holiday Gift Drive. We need to put this also on our website.

Discussed sending out a quarterly newsletter to let people know what we're doing. Need to set one up. Can we send this through BlueHost? Erminia will check out doing this through MailChimp as well.

Seniors

We had hoped to speak with Sarah Conly during this meeting, who unfortunately couldn't make it. Seniors should have some things geared for them at the new Community Center. One problem is not knowing who the seniors are in town. How can we pull the information of who has needs. Seniors would like to have a third space (i.e. not home or the library) that they can meet – the Community Center would be great for that.

We talked about funding a monthly community lunch during the day that Seniors might attend, without focusing specifically on seniors, but holding it at a convenient time for seniors. Erminia will discuss details and if this is feasible with Tistrya. Date could be December 13 at the LVPA if it was available (date subject to change). We should send out our newsletter by December 1 so we could let seniors know about this.

MSC

: To budget \$250 for a community lunch in December was made by Gregg, seconded by Erminia. Motion approved.

Other ideas for the community (and a good fundraiser) – Bingo Night – make it a fun way to meet up and a good fundraiser for the work of the LVCC. This will be explored further, including how much it costs for Bingo setup.

MSC to adjourn the meeting at 11:42 was made by Gregg Carroll and seconded by Danielle Kuffel. Motion approved.

**Lebanon Valley Community
Corporation Statement of Assets
& Liabilities
As of 10/24/2023**

Assets			
	Cash in Bank		\$3,442.31
	Due From Paypal		\$1,850.01
	Due From Paypal		\$179.55
Total Assets			\$5,471.87
Total Liabilities			\$0.00

**Income
Statement**