

Black Diamond Foundation, Inc.
Monday, January 5, 2015, 4:00 pm
Black Diamond Ranch Club
Lecanto, Florida

Present: Steve Barnes, Mike Bays, Dave Burns, Bill Joens, Jill Ludowese, Susan Pratt, Kent Rinker, Susan Savard

Absent: Jim Briley, Charlotte McKim, Sharron Rosenberg

Guests: Joanna Castle, CEO, YMCA of the Suncoast – Citrus County Branch
Sara Bargiel, Program Director, YMCA of the Suncoast – Citrus County Branch
Chris Knife, Executive Director, CF Foundation, College of Central Florida
Jay Joines, Past Chairman, Black Diamond Foundation

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm, January 5, 2015.

2. Presentations

YMCA of the Suncoast – Citrus County Branch

Joanna Castle and Sara Bargiel gave a presentation that outlined how the 2014 Black Diamond Foundation community grant had been used to support the YMCA's EPIC Teen Summer Camp activities last summer. The YMCA provided summer activity programs for 396 Citrus County youth, 29 of which were teens. Fifty-seven percent of those children served needed financial aid to participate. Camp activities included several community service projects, to include serving meals to the homeless, cleaning cages at the Homosassa Wildlife Refuge, and assisting in the clean-up of King's Bay in Crystal River.

This year, the YMCA of the Suncoast is requesting a community grant to help support the YMCA Summer Camp Learning Loss Initiative. Mrs. Castle pointed out that studies show all young people experience learning loss when they do not engage in educational activities over the summer. Low income children are especially susceptible, and can lose more than two months in reading achievement each summer. The YMCA is adding 30 minutes of reading per day in its summer camp activities to help prevent this type of learning loss for Citrus County participants.

A Foundation grant would continue to provide financial assistance to low income families to help make summer camp activities affordable. And, it would provide literacy materials that will help give children access to books, materials and experiences to help them maintain reading levels over the summer, and positively impact reading skills.

Chairman Joens thanked Mrs. Castle and Ms. Bargiel for their presentation, and untiring service to our local community.

CF Foundation

Chris Knife, the new Executive Director for CF Foundation, supporting the College of Central Florida (CCF), gave an update on how Black Diamond Foundation funding was being utilized to support college scholarships at CCF. He was joined by Ms. Jessica Sweihart, a past recipient of scholarship funding from Black Diamond Foundation, who is now a graduating senior at St Leo's University.

Mr. Knife reflected that the total relationship between Black Diamond Foundation and CCF was now over \$170,000. There are six students currently benefitting from Foundation scholarships, with funds on hand at CCF to support scholarships for two additional Citrus County students during Spring 2015. Mr. Knife noted that an additional grant of \$24,000 would allow CCF to award three more scholarships in the fall of 2015, helping several deserving students from our community achieve their dreams of obtaining a college degree.

Finally, Chris reported that on December 31st, 2014, CF Foundation obtained all the funding needed to fully grant two "Steps to CF" Scholarships each year at every elementary school in Citrus and Marion counties. Black Diamond Foundation provided funding to support three of the Citrus County scholarships over the years. CF Foundation will continue to take donations to expand the program.

Chairman Joens thanked Mr. Knife for his presentation, and wished Ms. Sweihart our best in her future endeavors.

3. Approval of Minutes, December 1, 2014

The Minutes of December 1, 2014, were approved as written.

4. Treasurer's Report

Chairman Joens presented the Monthly Financial Report on behalf of Treasurer Jim Briley. As of today's meeting, the Foundation has \$248,677.53 in unrestricted funds.

As of January 3rd, Jay Joines had received \$35,945 for submission to Birdies for Tampa Bay Charities on behalf of Black Diamond Foundation. Assuming January contributions equivalent to those collected during the same period last year, we should see roughly \$80,000 donated in this manner.

Since Birdies for Tampa Bay Charities increased the amount they are accepting per charitable organization for matching funds (from \$75,000 to \$100,000), the Board agreed that we needed to submit an email update to members of the community requesting their support. The goal is to submit all contributions by the end of January to better ensure the availability of matching funds.

5. Community Grant Requests

Citrus County Blessings

The Citrus County Blessings program provides weekend food for primary school students from low income families who receive subsidized meals during the school year. The Black Diamond Junior Volunteer Corps (BDJVC) mobilizes once a month to pack food items in backpacks for these children to take home. The BDJVC also plays a big role in helping to execute the Citrus County Blessings Annual 5K/10K race and 1 Mile Walk/Run to benefit this valuable community program. The BDJVC has asked the Foundation to continue its annual Platinum-level (\$5,000) sponsorship of the Citrus Blessings 5K/10K Race and 1 Mile Walk/Run.

MOVED BY: JILL LUDOWESE
SECONDED BY: DAVE BURNS

That Black Diamond Foundation, Inc. grant \$5,000 (Five thousand dollars) to Citrus County Blessings to help provide weekend nourishment for Citrus County boys and girls from low income families.

APPROVED.

Serving Our Savior (SoS) Ministries

SoS submitted a community grant request to help purchase food items for their pantry, supporting 100-160 Citrus County families each week. SoS fully utilizes food items available at the Citrus County Food Bank. However, there are weeks that needed food items are not available at the Food Bank, and must be purchased elsewhere. In 2014, SoS distributed 298,654 pounds of food to low income families in Citrus County.

MOVED BY: DAVE BURNS
SECONDED BY: SUSAN PRATT

That Black Diamond Foundation, Inc. grant \$7,500 (Seven thousand, five hundred dollars) to Serving Our Savior Ministries to support food pantry operations serving Citrus County residents.

APPROVED.

YMCA of the Suncoast – Citrus County Branch

YMCA of the Suncoast submitted a community grant request to help fund their 2015 summer camp program, to include funds for the Learning Loss Prevention Program Initiative described during today's presentation. We are reminded that the YMCA seeks to give all children, regardless of race, religious preference, athletic ability, familial status, or income, the same recreational and social experiences that help them develop in spirit, mind and body. No one is turned away due to an inability to pay.

MOVED BY: DAVE BURNS
SECONDED BY: SUSAN PRATT

That Black Diamond Foundation, Inc. grant \$15,000 (Fifteen thousand dollars) to YMCA of the Suncoast to help fund youth summer camp activities for Citrus County children, to include the Y's Learning Loss Prevention Program Initiative for 2015.

APPROVED.

College of Central Florida

The College of Central Florida (CCF) provides access to high quality, high value baccalaureate degrees, associate degrees, certificates and diplomas to residents of Citrus County, thereby promoting the economic, social and cultural development of our local community. Black Diamond Foundation has provided scholarship funding to CF Foundation to support the education of Citrus County students since 2007.

CF Foundation has noted a community grant of \$24,000 would support three additional \$8,000 college scholarships that would be available for presentation to deserving Citrus County students during 2015.

MOVED BY: JILL LUDOWESE
SECONDED BY: KENT RINKER

That Black Diamond Foundation, Inc. grant \$24,000 (Twenty-four thousand dollars) to the CF Foundation to support college scholarships for deserving Citrus County students who require financial assistance to initiate or complete their studies at the College of Central Florida.

APPROVED.

6. Old Business.

Community Food Bank of Citrus County

Chairman Joens reported that the Community Food Bank staff is working on the year-end financial documents needed for their community grant request. The Board should see it soon for consideration.

Foundation Annual Report

Susan Savard noted the 2014 Annual Report is on track for publication and mailing in mid-February.

7. New Business.

Election of New Board Members.

The Board of Directors reviewed the resumes of three candidates who volunteered to fill positions on the 2015 slate. Chairman Joens reported he will coordinate an orientation meeting for new Directors to acquaint them with Foundation mission, history, community activities, fundraising, and Board processes/procedures prior to the February 2015 meeting.

MOVED BY: KENT RINKER
SECONDED BY: SUSAN SAVARD

That Joan Plunkett, Jon Radabaugh, and Foster Lamm be elected to serve three-year terms as members of the Board of Directors, effective January 5, 2015.

APPROVED.

8. Articles for Club Newsletter – “Happenings”

Copy is due to Beverly Partain (bpartin@blackdiamondranch.com), by stated suspense.

Feb	Pro-Am Tournament	Charlotte McKim	due Jan 15
Mar	YMCA	Sue Pratt	due Feb 15
Apr	Big Brothers/Big Sisters	Steve Barnes	due Mar 15
May	Early Learning Coalition	Bill Joens	due Apr 15

9. Next Meeting and Adjournment

The Board will meet next on Monday, February 2, 2015 at 4:00 pm in the clubhouse boardroom. Additional meeting dates for 2015 are: March 2, April 6, April 27, November 2, and December 7.

The meeting adjourned at 5:44 pm, Monday, January 5, 2015.

Jill Ludowese, Secretary
Black Diamond Foundation, Inc.

Monday, January 19, 2015