

Black Diamond Foundation, Inc.
Monday, December 5, 2016, 4:00 pm
Black Diamond Ranch Club
Lecanto, Florida

Present: Mary Jane Bower, Dave Burns, Foster Lamm, Jill Ludowese, Charlotte McKim, Sue Pratt, Jon Radabaugh, Dick Ragatz, Kent Rinker, Susan Savard, Mark Yerman

Absent: Joan Plunkett

Guests: Roger Ross, Executive Director, Community Food Bank of Citrus County
Walter Wynn, Executive Director, Citrus Youth Orchestra
Marty Hoffman, Director of Community Relations, Citrus Youth Orchestra
DuWayne Sipper, Executive Director, The Path of Citrus County
Kathryn Sipper, The Path of Citrus County

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm, December 5, 2016.

2. Presentations

Community Food Bank of Citrus County (CFBCC)

Mr. Ross gave an update to the Board regarding current Community Food Bank activities and initiatives. The Food Bank is projected to distribute over 2,067,240 pounds of donated and purchased food products during 2016. They are now serving 50 local agencies, and have over 90 volunteers committed to sorting and preparing products daily for local distribution.

Future program initiatives include a Mobile Food Pantry and a “Veggie Van” designed to support “food desserts” in Citrus County. Those special food programs would need approximately \$25,000 in community grants to originate and execute. Mr. Ross also provided a list of major expense items for current operations and future capital equipment needs for Board consideration in 2017.

Chair Jill Ludowese thanked Mr. Ross for his presentation.

Citrus Youth Educational Symphonic Orchestra (CYESO)

Dr. Wynn presented a review of Citrus Youth Orchestra accomplishments over the past year, and handed out an outline of their organizational goals for 2017. The youth orchestra is up to 43 members. Parents are taking responsibility for more of the organization’s administration, accounting and fund raising activities. They are presenting quarterly recitals, with group and individual performances. Of the total number of students, 30 (70%) are home schooled, 4 (9%) attend private schools, and 9 (21%) attend public schools.

In 2017, CYESO is working to increase their grant funding to double the hours of student instruction, and add new and used instruments to include a bassoon, oboe, french horn and clarinet. The new instruments will cost between \$4,000 and \$5,000. Families are

also being asked to increase their financial contributions to the program in 2017.

Chair Jill Ludowese thanked Dr. Wynn for his presentation.

The Path of Citrus County

Mr. and Mrs. Sipper presented two videos, outlining how Black Diamond Foundation's 2016 community grant to The Path had been used to support their program that helps provide shelter to the homeless in Citrus County. Items purchased with the Foundation's funding included a new storage shed, and new appliances for the shelter homes. The Sipper's also presented a list of capital equipment needs for 2017.

The Path Family Rescue Mission Building Fund Campaign is nearing the end of its first year, and has \$700,000 in pledges. The Path needs \$1.1 million to purchase the hotel facility in Beverly Hills, and a total of \$3 million to purchase and complete facility renovations.

Chair Jill Ludowese thanked Mr. Sipper for his presentation.

3. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of November 7, 2016, were approved as submitted.

4. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Susan Savard forwarded the Monthly Financial Report prior to today's meeting. As of November 30th, the Foundation had assets totaling \$256,859.37; of that total \$236,859.37 are considered unrestricted funds. To date in 2016, the Foundation has provided \$160,550 in community grants.

5. Community Grant Requests

Citrus Youth Orchestra

The Orchestra provides the opportunity for Citrus County youth, ages 5 to 19, to study classical music and learn how to play string, woodwind and brass instruments. The program is focused on Citrus County children who would not otherwise have access to these studies and opportunities. Of note, there is no classical music program in the Citrus County schools. CYESO has five instructors supporting the program. They are requesting a community grant to help pay their instructors over the coming year, as well as purchase new and used instruments that are not currently on hand in the orchestra's inventory.

MOVED BY: DAVE BURNS
SECONDED BY: MARY JANE BOWER

That Black Diamond Foundation, Inc. grant \$10,000 (Ten thousand dollars) to the Citrus Youth Educational Symphonic Orchestra to fund classical music instruction for Citrus County children (\$5,000), and

support the purchase instruments to be maintained by the Youth Orchestra (\$5,000).

APPROVED, by vote of 6 for and 5 against.

Take Stock in Children (TSIC)

Take Stock in Children (TSIC) helps local youth escape the cycle of poverty through education. The program provides college scholarships to deserving, low income Citrus County students, volunteer mentors who provide motivation and support, and college readiness coaches to oversee progress and support academic endeavors. Black Diamond Foundation funds are matched dollar for dollar by the State of Florida.

MOVED BY: DAVE BURNS
SECONDED BY: KENT RINKER

That Black Diamond Foundation, Inc. grant \$10,000 (Ten thousand dollars) to Take Stock in Children to fund college tuition scholarships for deserving, low income Citrus County students.

APPROVED.

6. Old Business

Pro-Am Update

Jim Ludowese gave a presentation regarding the preparation for the 14th Annual Black Diamond Foundation Pro-Am Golf Tournament, sponsored by Crystal Automotive Group and the Black Diamond Club, to be held on January 23, 2017. The Tournament website is up and running, registrants are signing up at the same pace as last year. Coach Steve Spurrier has agreed to serve as the guest speaker at the pre-Tournament Dinner and Live Auction at the Club on January 22d. The golf committee has coordinated for a DJ, as well as a professional sound team to support the dinner event.

Most of last year's sponsors have indicated continued support, though some are not at the same dollar level. Jill Ludowese met with the Chronicle and submitted an article for publication in January. The Pro-Am event was also highlighted in the Club's Happenings Newsletter in November, and the community POA's quarterly newsletter in December.

7. New Business

Nominations for 2017 Officer Elections

Jill Ludowese noted that the Board will need to hold annual officer elections during the January 2017 Board meeting. The current officers are willing to stand for nomination to serve for another year, with the exception of Joan Plunkett, who will not be able to continue her Secretarial duties in 2017. Mary Jane Bower will accept nomination to serve as the Foundation Secretary moving forward.

8. Articles for Club Newsletter – “Happenings”

Copy is due to Sally Ince (since@blackdiamondranch.com), by stated suspense.

January	Birdies for Charity	Foster Lamm	due Dec 15
February	Big Brothers Big Sisters	Mary Jane Bower	due Jan 15

9. Next Meeting and Adjournment

After it was determined the Board would not have quorum present to conduct a meeting on January 2, the Board elected to meet next on Monday, January 9, 2017 at 3:00 pm in the Black Diamond Ranch Club Board Room. Additional meeting dates for 2017 are: February 6, March 6, April 3, and May 1.

The meeting adjourned at 5:57 pm, Monday, December 5, 2016.

Jill Ludowese, Chair
Black Diamond Foundation, Inc.

Sunday, January 8, 2017