

Black Diamond Foundation, Inc
Monday, January 9, 2012, 4:00 pm
Black Diamond Ranch Club
Lecanto, Florida

Present: Mike Bays, Jim Briley, Dave Burns, Bill Joens, Sue Pratt, Sharron Rosenberg, Art Thomas, Jim Wood, Linda Youell

Jay Joines

Guests: Sandra VanDervort, Withlacoochee Technical Institute
Elisabeth Moore, Laura Ronzo and 9 students, representing Black Diamond Junior Volunteer Corps: Valerie Anderson, Andrea Dela Cruz, Roy Dela Cruz, Tucker Henderson, Gabi Moore, Lexi Moore, Crissy Ronzo, Danielle Ronzo, Joey Ronzo

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm, January 9, 2012.

2. Withlacoochee Technical Institute

Sandra VanDervort thanked the Foundation for its continuing grants for scholarships for Citrus County residents. WTI awarded scholarships to 30 students, out of an enrollment of about 300. Education costs at WTI have risen about \$100 per year for each student. Ms VanDervort distributed information about the educational progress of each of the Foundation's five scholarship recipients last semester. From the current BDF grant, WTI will award eight, \$1000 scholarships in the January 2012 semester, and seven in the August 2012 semester.

Also, the Foundation's \$1000 grant for GED preparation and exams is valuable because the Department of Education now charges \$30 per semester for GED preparation classes. WTI charges \$70 to sit the exam (\$15/section). WTI will invite the Foundation to the GED graduation.

WTI has started the selection process for the Foundation's two scholarships for the Criminal Justice Academy.

Chairman Joens thanked Ms VanDervort for her presentation.

3. Black Diamond Junior Volunteer Corps

Nine members of Black Diamond Junior Volunteer Corps, joined by their parent advisors, presented a plaque honoring the Foundation's contribution to last year's 5K walk/run which BDJVC supports for Blessings in a Backpack. The event, which had 250 participants, netted \$20,000. Blessings in a Backpack has added four Citrus County schools (400 more students) to its program.

BDJVC circulated information about this year's walk/run, and asked for support. The event occurs on Saturday, February 25, 2012, in Citrus Hills.

BDJVC also displayed a photo montage of their more than 400 volunteer hours in 2011,

including packing for Blessings in a Backpack, clearing litter from a 2 mile stretch of CR 486, holding a bake sale. Bay News 9 has recognized BDJVC as "Everyday Heroes".

The Foundation praised the youths' commitment to Citrus County, and Chairman Joens asked permission to display the photo montage in the Foundation's clubhouse display.

4. Foundation Minutes, December 5, 2011

The Minutes of December 5, 2011 were approved as distributed.

5. Treasurer's Report

Jim Briley reported that 2011 was the Foundation's most successful year ever, with total revenue of \$233,443. The Foundation's expenses are only 1.3% of revenue. All approved grants other than to Take Stock in Children have been paid. TSC's award will be presented in February. At the end of 2011, the Foundation has \$189,439 in unrestricted funds, which is the greatest year-end carryover.

Jim Briley reported that registration and sponsorship for the Foundation's pro-am golf tournament are at much the same level as 2011. He anticipates the net proceeds will be approximately \$50,000.

6. CASA Request

CASA (Citrus Abuse Shelter Association) foresees a potential decrease from some of its funding sources, and requests \$15,000 to make up any shortfall.

The Foundation tabled the request, because CASA has not experienced any reduction in its traditional funding sources, and its financial status is good. The Foundation will inform CASA that it is reluctant to award funding based on potential needs, but CASA may re-apply when its financial situation is clearer.

7. Election of Officers, 2012

MOVED BY: Jim Wood
SECONDED BY: Sharron Rosenberg

That the current Officers be re-elected: Bill Joens, Chairman; Jim Briley, Treasurer; Linda Youell, Secretary; and

That the position of Vice-Chairman be unfilled for the time-being.

APPROVED.

8. By-Laws Revision

The Foundation last reviewed its by-laws in April 2008. Bill Joens walked the membership through proposed changes, including a minimum three-year commitment from potential members, a maximum of two at-large members, moving the annual meeting to January from December, and attendance requirements. Members agreed that all proposed changes were generally acceptable.

Al Coogler, an original member of the Foundation and a lawyer, has volunteered to draft the revisions.

ACTION: Bill Joens will ask Al Coogler to rewrite the relevant paragraphs to reflect the agreed changes.

9. New Foundation Board Members

The Foundation can have from seven to 15 board members. It has had 12. At the end of 2011, three members resigned – Nancy Manafort, Anil Ram and Bill Williams. Art Thomas and Linda Youell announced their intention to resign at the end of 2012, and Jim Wood is considering resigning.

Through the Club's "Member News", Bill Joens asked members and residents who were interested in joining the Foundation to contact him. Seven individuals have expressed solid interest, and two others are considering the opportunity. Members offered names of other potential candidates.

ACTION: Members will direct all expressions of interest to Bill Joens.

ACTION: Members will forward their suggestions for interview questions to
Linda Youell, who will compile them for the selection committee.

ACTION: The selection committee shall be Bill Joens, Dave Burns, Sue Pratt, and Sharron Rosenberg.

10. Nature Coast Ministries

In November 2011, Nature Coast Ministries requested funding for items such as a refrigerated truck and handicapped lift. Nature Coast Ministries has not submitted an application form, and Mike Bays was unable to get clarification from Tom Slagle.

The Foundation agreed there would be no action on the request.

11. 2011-2012 Project List

Linda Youell presented the list of all requests - approved, table and denied – that the Foundation dealt with in 2011.

ACTION: Linda Youell will arrange to have the list posted on the Foundation's page of the Club's "Member Only" website.

12. Old Business

Due to financial difficulties, Big Brothers Big Sisters has suspended new matches in Citrus County, but continues to support existing matches. *Citrus County Chronicle* (Dec 18 2011) reported that Sheri Chancey, then director of development for BB-BS in Citrus and Hernando counties, would remain with BB-BS in a volunteer role, rather than as an employee. (The full article was e-mailed to members on Dec 18, 2011.)

The Foundation's support of BB-BS has been specifically to support new matches. In light of the suspension of new matches, the Foundation questioned continuation of its support.

ACTION: Jim Wood will meet with Sheri Chancey, and make recommendations to the Foundation in February 2012.

Dave Burns confirmed that Harold Seckinger, representing the Citrus Youth Educational Symphonic Orchestra, will appear at the Foundation's February meeting.

Bill Joens received a thank-you note from The Path, which used the \$5000 seasonal funding to purchase a water tank truck for the farm.

13. New Business

MOVED BY: Susan Pratt
SECONDED BY: Sharron Rosenberg

That Black Diamond Foundation award \$5000 (Five thousand dollars) as a Platinum Sponsor for Blessings in a Backpack 2nd Annual Run/Walk, to honor BDJVC's volunteer efforts with the organization.

APPROVED.

Charlie Barbarisi suggested some improvements to the Foundation's communications and fund-raising.

ACTION: Linda Youell will work on implementing the suggestions.

Mike Bays has spoken with Paul Cash, CPA, who is treasurer of "Feed Citrus County", about the capital project of "Homosassa We Care Food Pantry" – two, 7200 square foot storage and distribution buildings under construction at 5259 W Cardinal Street in Homosassa. A private citizen donated 4.8 acres to Homosassa Civic Club, which in turn deeded the land to We Care Food Pantry. One building is dedicated to Homosassa We Care Food Pantry and the other building will be operated by Feed Citrus County.

Ms Diane Toto, of We Care Food Pantry, made a presentation at the Foundation's January 2011 meeting.

No action by the Foundation is required at this time.

Black Diamond Foundation has honored the memory of Dr Randall Jenkins with a hole sponsorship at the Randall Jenkins Memorial Golf Tournament, held on Black Diamond's Quarry Course, March 5, 2012.

MOVED BY: Bill Joens
SECONDED BY: Jim Wood

That Black Diamond Foundation grant \$275 (Two hundred seventy-five dollars) for a hole sponsorship at the 2012 Randall Jenkins Memorial Golf Tournament.

APPROVED

Jim Wood aims to have the 2011 Annual Report ready for approval by the end of February.

Jim Briley announced that Black Diamond Foundation must use the new address of 3125 W Black Diamond Circle, Lecanto, FL 34461. Jim has stationery with this new address.

Dave Burns will request photographs from *Citrus County Chronicle* for the Foundation's display case in the Clubhouse lobby.

Art Thomas will ask Take Stock in Children to update the presentation plaque, or provide a current plaque.

14. Next Meeting and Adjournment

The Foundation's next meeting is Monday, February 6, 2012, at 4 pm in the Clubhouse boardroom.

The meeting adjourned at 6 pm, Monday, January 9, 2012.

Linda M Youell, Secretary
Black Diamond Foundation, Inc

January 17, 2012