

Black Diamond Foundation, Inc.
Monday, January 7, 2013, 4:00 pm
Black Diamond Ranch Club
Lecanto, Florida

Present: Steve Barnes, Mike Bays, Jim Briley, Dave Burns, Bill Joens, Jill Ludowese,
Susan Pratt, Sharron Rosenberg, Susan Savard

Jay Joines, Scott Johnson

Guests: Amy Meek, CEO, United Way of Citrus County

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm, January 7, 2013.

2. Installation of New Board Member.

Bill Joens introduced Steve Barnes as a candidate to fill one of the current vacancies on the Foundation's Board of Directors.

MOVED BY: DAVE BURNS
SECONDED BY: SUSAN SAVARD

That Steve Barnes be elected to serve a three-year term as a member of the Board of Directors, effective January 7, 2013.

APPROVED.

3. United Way of Citrus County – Withlacoochee Technical Institute (WTI) General Educational Development (GED) Support Program

Dave Burns introduced Amy Meek, and briefly reviewed Board dialogue over the past three months regarding a targeted partnering opportunity with United Way of Citrus County to help up to 25 Citrus County residents complete their GED studies.

Amy Meek described how United Way is focusing its funding strategy to get at the root cause of systemic problems leading to hunger, homelessness and joblessness. United Way of Citrus County is working to make lasting change by synergizing the activities of community charitable organizations through partnering opportunities.

One targeted area is adult education. Over 17,000 adults in Citrus County lack a high school diploma or GED equivalency. There are over 600 jobs open in Citrus County, with no educated/skilled workforce to fill the positions.

United Way of Citrus County is working with WTI to help selected students obtain their GED. Workforce Connection is already a partner in the project, and will pay GED tuition costs for these students. Amy Meek estimates the need for an additional \$25,000 (roughly \$1,000 per student) to help remove barriers to success, to include:

childcare/eldercare requirements, transportation needs, and developing job interview/networking skills. United Way of Citrus County staff is interviewing each student to determine “gap” needs. The initial group of GED students will attend classes from January through May, 2013.

If Black Diamond Foundation chooses to support this partnering opportunity, United Way will not charge an administration fee on funds provided, and will return unused funds at the conclusion of the program later this year.

Chairman Joens thanked Amy Meek for presenting this unique partnering opportunity.

4. Approval of Minutes, December 3, 2012

The Minutes of December 3, 2012 were approved as amended and corrected.

5. Treasurer’s Report, December 31, 2012

Jim Briley presented the monthly Financial Report, and noted that Black Diamond Foundation has reached an important milestone. Since its inception in 2002, the Foundation has granted over \$1,055,018 to Citrus County charities and organizations. At the end of December 2012, the Foundation had \$200,912.46 in unrestricted funds.

The Foundation received two gifts of publicly-traded securities in December 2012. Jim Briley noted that with the establishment of a new Cadence Bank account, the Foundation can now accept such gifts. Any publicly-traded securities gifted to the Foundation will be sold upon receipt. The Foundation will have to pay commission on each sale.

6. CASA – Citrus Abuse Shelter Association

Last month, CASA requested \$4,200 to replace six outdated computers. Jay Joines indicated that a local consultant might be able to help CASA replace their existing computers with reconditioned 24-inch iMacs, at a substantially lower cost. Susan Pratt reported that CASA was coordinating with the local consultant, and that they will initiate a follow-on funding request after re-assessing their needs.

7. Big Brothers, Big-Sisters of Pinellas County

Bill Joens reported there are 148 Citrus County children taking part in programs coordinated by Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Pinellas County. Funds are needed to create and sustain “Big-Little” matches for other Citrus County children on the waiting list. The cost to create and sustain a “Big-Little” match has increased from \$1,000 to \$1,200. Black Diamond Foundation has provided annual funding for 10 “Big-Little” matches over the past three years.

MOVED BY: DAVE BURNS
SECONDED BY: SHARRON ROSENBERG

That Black Diamond Foundation, Inc. grant \$12,000 (Twelve thousand dollars) to Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Pinellas County to create/sustain "Big-Little" matches for Citrus County children in 2013.

APPROVED.

8. United Way of Citrus County

Dave Burns summarized the targeted partnering opportunity presented earlier in the afternoon. Before the vote, three points were clarified. First, that Foundation funds allocated to the United Way would not be assessed an administrative fee. Second, that funds provided would be used specifically for the GED support program at WTI. Any unused funds would be returned to the Foundation. Third, that Amy Meek would return later in the year to report how the funds were used, and provide feedback on the impact/results.

MOVED BY: DAVE BURNS
SECONDED BY: SUSAN SAVARD

That Black Diamond Foundation, Inc. grant \$15,000 (Fifteen thousand dollars) to the United Way of Citrus County to partner in funding the WTI GED support program during 2013.

APPROVED.

9. Foundation Celebration Dinner Update

Jill Ludowese, representing the Dinner Committee, discussed the Foundation celebration on February 8, 2013, commemorating the award of one million dollars in community grants to Citrus County charities and organizations.

Eighty letters of invitation were mailed on December 28, 2012, to local elected officials, community leaders, grant recipient organizations, and past Black Diamond Foundation board members. An information flyer/invitation for Black Diamond community members will go out via email on January 16th.

The dinner will be no-host function at the Black Diamond Club, preceded by a cocktail hour with cash bar. Menu selections include: New York Strip (\$24), Salmon Waterford (\$20), Chicken Picatta (\$20), and Eggplant Parmesan (\$20). Dinner includes salad, bread, vegetable, rice pilaf, and dessert.

A trio from the Citrus Youth Educational Symphonic Orchestra will perform during cocktail hour from 6:00 to 7:00 pm. The post-dinner program will include brief remarks from three guest speakers describing the positive impact of Foundation grants on people and programs in Citrus County. The Chairman will present a check to WTI, representing the millionth dollar in Foundation grants. Walmart has graciously agreed to donate a flat-screen HDTV for raffle. The Foundation will offer raffle tickets for purchase throughout the evening, with proceeds to be donated to one of the Citrus County charitable organizations with a representative in attendance.

10. 2013 Fund Raising

Posters and donation cards for “Birdies for Tampa Bay Charities” are available. Last year, the Foundation earned an additional \$7000 through the “Birdies” bonus pool. Jay Joines reported that “Birdies for Charities” thus far has not received the same local support as in past years.

Bill Joens reported that the 2013 Black Diamond Foundation Pro-Am Golf Tournament, scheduled for January 23rd, is expected to generate more net funds than in 2012.

Susan Savard reported that the Foundation’s Annual Appeal letter is in final draft, and will be available for distribution at the celebration dinner on February 8th.

11. Old Business

Dave Burns researched whether the Black Diamond staff provides any information about Black Diamond Foundation to new members. They do not at this time, but are willing to include information the Foundation provides in the New Member Kits.

ACTION: Dave Burns recommend appropriate Foundation information/items for inclusion in Black Diamond’s New Member Kits.

12. New Business

None reported.

13. Articles for 2013 Club Newsletter – “Happenings”

Copy is due to Dena Leahy (dleahy@escalantegolf.com), by stated suspense.

February	CREST/River Project/CCEF	Susan Pratt	due Jan 15
March	Big Brothers, Big Sisters	Jim Wood	due Feb 15
April	BDJVC	Susan Pratt	due Mar 15
May	Nature Coast Ministries	Sharron Rosenberg	due Apr 15
June	Daystar New Building	Steve Barnes	due May 15

14. Next Meetings and Adjournment

In 2013, the Foundation will meet at 4:00 pm on Monday, February 4, March 4, April 8, and May 6, in the clubhouse boardroom. Dena Leahy will post notices on Ch 19 and in the community newsletter, and will reserve the boardroom.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm, Monday, January 7, 2013.

Jill Ludowese, Secretary
Black Diamond Foundation, Inc.

Monday, 28 January 2013