

Black Diamond Foundation, Inc
Monday, March 2, 2009, 4:00 pm
Board Room, Black Diamond Country Club
Lecanto, Florida

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

Guests: Regina Fillinger and Melissa Lobe,
Nature Coast Football League

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm, March 2, 2009.

2. Nature Coast Football League

Nature Coast Football League is a 501(c)(3) organization that operates a youth recreational flag football and cheerleading league for approximately 250 Citrus County children, ages 5 to 14. It awards scholarships to league players, and supports other charitable causes, with the funds it raises from its concession sales at weekend games.

Ms Fillinger and Ms Lobe informed the Foundation that in January 2009, the league's trailer and all equipment were stolen. The total replacement cost for the trailer, sports equipment and fund-raising materials is \$7000.

Nature Coast Football League's campaign to replace the stolen items has just begun.

Chairman Joens thanked Ms Fillinger and Ms Lobe for their presentation.

3. Review of Minutes, February 2, 2009.

The Minutes were approved as distributed.

4. Treasurer's Report, February 28, 2009

Jim Briley distributed the Foundation's financial report, a/of February 28, 2009.

All Pro-Am expenses have been paid, resulting in net proceeds of \$37,543.00. With the exception of the current scholarship recipients, the Foundation has no outstanding liabilities or grants.

The Foundation has \$59,000 in unrestricted funds.

The bonus pool for "Birdies for Tampa Bay Charities" has been reduced from 20% to 10%. The final date for donations is March 19. Transitions Championship for Healthy Sight will distribute the bonus pool funds after the end of April, when all pledges are due.

5. Citrus Forward

Dave Burns and Bill Williams continue to formulate their proposal.

6. Old Business

Education - Sue Pratt circulated photos from one of the award-winning curriculum projects sponsored by the Foundation. The kindergarten curriculum project at Inverness Primary School was on career choices. The lead teacher is Rebecca O'Connell, "teacher-of-the-year" in Citrus County public schools.

Sue also indicated that a class is interested in making a presentation to the Foundation on their project, "What it means to be green."

Lecanto High School has received approval to offer the two-year International Baccalaureate Program, starting with the 11th Grade in the 2010 school year. IB program offers students an international standard of academic excellence.

The school district's first IB class consists of about 60 countywide 9th Grade students who are currently enrolled in IB-tweaked honors classes at Lecanto High School in order to prepare for the diploma program. In fall 2010, as juniors, they will be the first to enter the two-year diploma program; those who complete the program will graduate with IB diplomas in 2012.

The curriculum covers six categories: primary language, secondary language, math, science, art and social studies. Students must take one class at an intense, advanced level from each category.

In addition, IB students must write an extended essay, a 4,000 word, in-depth, critical research paper; take a metacognition philosophy class called Theory of Knowledge; and participate in projects for the community action and service portion of the curriculum.

Foundation 500 - Foundation members reported that reaction to the event was completely favorable, and that those who attended appreciated the fact that it was a celebration of success, rather than an overt fund-raiser.

Citrus County Food Network - Linda Youell reported that she had been asked to sit on a steering committee, which will look at ways to increase consistent access to quality food provided to community organizations serving the needs of Citrus County. Meetings are scheduled for March 10, March 12, March 26, with a report to the whole exploratory group on April 8.

She distributed a three-year summary of data from Daystar Life Center, e.g., that in 2008, it distributed 285,325 pounds of food to 26,817 Citrus County residents.

7. New Business

The Foundation agreed the request for financial support from Nature Coast Football League does not fall within the Foundation's mission statement. Also, the Foundation was concerned that donating to one youth sports or activity group might set a precedent for future grant requests.

ACTION: Mike Bays will inform the Nature Coast Football League that the Foundation is unable to provide financial assistance, and will suggest that the League apply to sports or athletic foundations such as the Mike Hampton Pitching-In Foundation.

Bill Joens asked if it would be appropriate for the Foundation to donate to “Birdies for Tampa Bay Charities” on behalf of the local charities that the Foundation supports historically.

Some Foundation members believed such donations would be outside the regulations of “Birdies”.

ACTION: Jim Briley will discuss the proposal with Jay Joines, local representative on the Transitions Championship board.

8. Next Meeting and Agenda Items

The Foundation’s next meeting is Monday, April 6, 2009, 4:00 pm at the Emergency Operations Center of the Citrus County Sheriff’s Office, 3549 Saunders Way, off County Road 491, just north of the traffic light at the entrance to the Lecanto school complex.

A tour of the EOC will commence at 3:45 pm, followed by the board meeting at 4:00 pm at the EOC.

Potential agenda items include:

- report on “Birdies for Tampa Bay Charities”, Transitions PGA Championship, March 16-22, 2009
- report on Citrus County Food Network

[Secretary’s Note: An article about the grand opening from *Citrus County Chronicle* is attached.]

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm, Monday, March 2, 2009.

Linda M Youell, Secretary
11 March 2009

Attachment: *Citrus County Chronicle* article, November 15, 2008: CCSO - EOC

**Emergency center up and running
Public invited for celebration today at newly completed
sheriff's office facility**

By Cristy Loftis, *Citrus County Chronicle* on-line, November 15, 2008

It's massive, high-tech and contains enough wiring to reach from Lecanto to Disney World.

The Citrus County Sheriff's Office is debuting the new Emergency Operations Center to the community.

"This facility was well thought out and well designed," Sheriff Jeff Dawsy said during the ribbon cutting ceremony Friday.

About 150 people from government, emergency and school agencies gathered at the new building on Saunders Way in Lecanto to tour the facility.

"It truly has been a long process," County Commission Chairwoman Joyce Valentino said, "but it has been worth the wait."

A few miles from the old EOC building, the facility remains centrally located in Lecanto. It sits on 15 acres of county-owned land.

The 41,000-square-foot EOC is the only case-hardened structure in Citrus and was built to withstand winds of up to 165 mph.

It's equipped with three 450-kilowatt generators, two of which can power the center for three days without refueling. The third generator serves as a backup for the other two.

"For communications purposes, the new facility utilizes 228,000 feet of voice/data cabling," sheriff's spokeswoman Gail Tierney said. "Add to that 350,000 feet, or 66 miles, of systems wiring for audio-visual support and security details. Extended as one continuous wire, the center's extensive wiring would reach from Lecanto to Orlando's Disney World door to door."

The building is 10 times larger than the old building, which is expected to accommodate 25 years worth of growth.

EOC director Capt. Joe Eckstein said the larger space was needed, because conditions in the current building were cramped, which made managing through emergency situations more difficult.

The new facility hosts shower and sleeping facilities, a kitchen, small gym and spaces for the media to operate out of in order to provide up-to-date information during emergencies.

Also housed in the new facility is the agency's criminal investigations division.

Personnel who work with major crimes, special victims, Internet crimes against children, sexual predators and offenders, Vice & Narcotics, intelligence, cold cases and crime analysis have all relocated there.

There's space in the new EOC to temporarily house constitutional officers and key county personnel in the event that government offices were to shut down due to severe weather or a catastrophic event.

The building's cost was reduced by nearly \$5 million because of several grants.

Officials began transitioning into the 911 center about a month ago.

Tours at the EOC have been going on all week. First sheriff's employees and their families were invited out, then Citizen's Academy alumni.

Today, the community is invited to come and celebrate the building that has been 10 years in the making.

The celebration is from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. today.

The building is at 3549 Saunders Way, located off of County Road 491, just north of the traffic light at the entrance to the Lecanto school complex.