

Black Diamond Foundation, Inc.
Monday, November 7, 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: Gloria Bishop, Director, Withlacoochee Technical College
Jim Ludowese, Foundation Pro-Am Committee Chair
Clare Rhodes, Black Diamond Resident

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm, November 7, 2016.

2. Presentations

Withlacoochee Technical College (WTC)

Ms. Bishop thanked the Board for its past support of WTC, and gave a presentation outlining the College's current scholarship needs. The Foundation's 2015 community grant helped 63 deserving Citrus County students pay for tuition, books, certification fees, uniforms, and other school-related expenses. As of this month, WTC has depleted all funds in the Black Diamond Foundation scholarship account. Scholarship needs remain steady across all programs of study at WTC.

With the unexpected passing this summer of Phil Royal, a treasured member of our community and former Captain in the Citrus County Sherriff's Office, members of the Board of Directors indicated an interested in establishing a WTC scholarship in Phil's name. Dave Burns asked Ms Bishop if she would research the cost to train one student at WTC's Law Enforcement Academy. She reported the cost for the 10-month program, to include tuition, lab fees, and uniforms, is \$4,000.

Chair Jill Ludowese thanked Ms Bishop for her presentation.

3. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of May 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 October 31st, the Foundation had assets totaling \$281,783.93; of that total \$261,783.93 are considered unrestricted funds. To date in 2016, the Foundation has provided \$133,250 in community grants.

Susan reported that Black Diamond Foundation had received the 2016 Birdies for Charity donations and matching funds from Tampa Bay Charities in late May. This included \$17,250 (\$15,000 donation, plus 15% match) given by Crystal Automotive Group for title sponsorship of the 2016 Black Diamond Invitational Car Show. The Invitational Car Show Committee needed these funds over the summer while the Board was on hiatus to pay up-front costs in preparation for the early-November event. She noted the Board needed to formally approve allocation of these funds for use by the Invitational Car Show Committee.

Additionally, two families that donated funds through Birdies for Charity in 2016, asked that their contributions be designated to the YMCA of the Suncoast. The Barnes family requested their funds be used to support the YMCA's Building Fund. The Ludowese family asked that their contribution be designated to support the YMCA's General Fund.

MOVED BY: SUSAN SAVARD
SECONDED BY: JON RADABAUGH

That Black Diamond Foundation, Inc. allocate \$17,250 (Seventeen thousand, two hundred fifty dollars) donated as Title Sponsorship Funds to the Black Diamond Invitational Car Show Committee. And, that Black Diamond Foundation, Inc. grant \$2,300 (Two thousand, three hundred dollars) to the YMCA of the Suncoast - Citrus County Branch as designated by the Barnes and Ludowese families.

APPROVED.

5. Community Grant Requests

Early Learning Coalition of the Nature Coast

In early November, the Board of Directors voted electronically to provide a community grant to the Early Learning Coalition (ELC) to ensure funds were available to present at their annual fundraising dinner held on November 4th. The E-vote requires formal confirmation at the meeting today.

ELC facilitates school readiness and child development programs for Citrus County youth. Each dollar donated enables ELC to receive \$15.67 in federal matching funds. For every \$300 donated, one Citrus County child receives educational services for a full year. The Foundation has provided \$58,000 to ELC since 2006, to support early childhood education initiatives.

MOVED BY: JILL LUDOWESE
SECONDED BY: KENT RINKER

That Black Diamond Foundation, Inc. grant \$10,000 (Ten thousand dollars) to The Early Learning Coalition of the Nature Coast to fund school readiness and child development programs for Citrus County children.

APPROVED.

Withlacoochee Technical College

WTC provides high quality academic and technical education for current and emerging careers in a local, competitive work force. With over 20 areas of concentrated study, as well as a robust GED study and testing program, WTC is helping Citrus County residents prepare to enter, or re-enter, the work force and earn a living wage. Since its inception in 2002, Black Diamond Foundation has donated \$142,500 to scholarship programs and other educational needs at WTC.

Rather than designate a single \$4000 scholarship in the name of Captain Phil Royal to support one Law Enforcement Academy Scholarship, the Board agreed that it would be more effective for WTC if a larger amount was granted in Phil's name to be used as needed for scholarships across all programs of study.

MOVED BY: FOSTER LAMM
SECONDED BY: DICK RAGATZ

That Black Diamond Foundation, Inc. grant \$15,000 (Fifteen thousand dollars) to Withlacoochee Technical College in the name of Captain Phil Royal for individual student scholarships, fees, industry certifications, books, instructional materials, and equipment to benefit Citrus County students, depending on need.

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, and has received its first registrants and sponsors. Planning is in place to host a pre-Tournament Dinner and Live Auction at the Club on January 22d.

Help is needed in two areas: volunteer coordination and sponsorship solicitation. Mary Jane Bower and Clare Rhodes agreed to serve as 2017 volunteer coordinators. Board members are stepping forward to solicit Pro-Am sponsors to share the responsibility of this important fundraising activity. This excludes Mark Yerman, who is prohibited by his Judicial duties, from taking part in such activities.

7. New Business

Chamber Concerts

Jill Ludowese reported that the Citrus Youth Orchestra was sponsoring a chamber music concert at the Black Diamond Club on December 10th, featuring cellist Beverly Brown-Elo and pianist Cheryl Rutledge. Tickets are \$25, which includes coffee and dessert after the performance. Jill has 40 tickets for sale. Proceeds will benefit the Citrus Youth

Orchestra. Black Diamond Foundation will sponsor the return of the Florida Chamber Music Project String Quartet to the Black Diamond Club on March 5, 2017. The Board will need to designate a benefit organization for proceeds from this performance.

Pro-Am Sponsorship Solicitation

Board members, not including Mark Yerman, went over a spreadsheet provided by the Pro-Am Committee containing sponsors from the 2016 Pro-Am, and identified those businesses and individuals they would solicit for support in 2017.

8. Articles for Club Newsletter – “Happenings”

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

December	Birdies for Charity	Foster Lamm	due Nov 15
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9. Next Meeting and Adjournment

The Board will meet next on Monday, December 5, 2016 at 4:00 pm in the Black Diamond Ranch Club Board Room. Additional meeting dates for 2017 are: January 2, February 6, March 6, April 3, and May 1.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm, Monday, November 7, 2016.

Charlotte McKim, Acting Secretary
Black Diamond Foundation, Inc.

Friday, December 2, 2016