

May 18, 2017
4:00 – 6:05 pm

Meeting Place: Newfield Conference Room
4 Waterway Ct.
Spring, TX 77380

Attendance: BOARD MEMBERS – Denny McGuire, Gary Packer, Patrick Flaherty, Todd Bryant, Peggy Boyce, Martin Evans, Connie Goers, Mike Maher, Chris Osborne, Nel Somarriba, Nancy Kosh, Holly Gruy, Kathy Tabor STAFF – MG Tindall, Sheila Greaver, Krista Carroll-Venezia, Michelle Bellaire GUEST – Marcel Lue, Anthony Boulet and Austin from MCYS

4:12 pm Call to Order/Opening Prayer – Denny McGuire

4:15 pm – Education Series: Equine Assisted Learning: Krista Carroll-Venezia and Marcel Lue (MCYS)

- Krista introduced Marcel Lue – Director of Center Services at MCYS, his assistant Anthony Boulet, and Austin, a resident of the Montgomery County Youth Services center.
- The facility is a 90 day first step emergency center for children 10-18 years old that have to be removed from their home due to abuse, or other horrible instances that need to be investigated.
- The residents learn social skills, independence, and academic skills. They receive a lot of therapy.
- Anthony praised the ranch for the huge optimal level of service that we provide. He told the story of a girl at the facility and how she was stand offish, showed no affection or interaction with others and that when she came to the ranch her horse just wrapped himself around her and she just melted. He says he sees huge leaps and bounds with the residents after they have been out to the ranch and tells those that are just arriving at the facility to hold on until Wednesday for ranch day. They will be better for it.
- Austin shared his story and what it means to him to be able to participate in EFL and the impact it has had on him.
- Krista presented slideshow on MCYS and Redeemed Ministries.
- Nel suggested that we share MCYS/Redeemed at the Gala.

5:00 pm – Approval of April Meeting Minutes

- Minutes approved by Martin Evans and Holly Gruy

5:05 pm – Questions on reports and committees

Financials

- Nel will oversee financials and make observations. Over the past 4 months everything looks good. We are a little over on expenses and a little under on income. Next meeting she will have more of the historical information so that she can make comparisons.

- Mike Maher – noted difference in bank statement last year vs. this year - \$100,000 difference in monies raised in 2015 gala vs. 2016 gala and \$100,000 in flood monies that came in in 2016 vs none in 2017.

Development – Sheila Greaver

- Difference between 2016 & 2017 numbers – due to flood monies received
- Breakfast with the Champions – 84 in attendance, should have a net gain of \$13,235
- Jay Mannell with Texas Children’s PT department – big tour coming out – wants to bring his 30 person team to observe and learn benefits of horse therapy -wants to bring monitors to see how movement of the horse and rider transitions to the body of the rider.
- Gala sponsorship packets are ready – honoring Newfield Foundation/Newfield – thanks to Nancy and Casey Kosh for the VIP party again this year
- Sheila will email Insperity Golf contacts, Gala Save the Dates, and Sponsorship packet to the board
- Encouraged the board to get sponsors and attendees for the Gala
- Discussed upcoming events – Let’s Unwind events, Elaine Turner, etc.

Flash Report – MG Tindall

- Twenty-four clients on the waiting list
- 100% of our volunteers slots are filled
- EAL program growing with Krista full time – MCYS and Redeemed – multiple days and larger groups
- Thirty-three clients registered for summer lessons
- July summer camp session
- Intern – Jaye – helping this summer working on her PATH certification – hopefully in the fall we can add to our number of clients
- Number of clients we are limited to is based on number of horses we have and staff limits. In a perfect world, we would have up to 125 clients and 20 horses. We cannot do that now due to the safety of evacuating. We are limited to the safe evacuation of 15 horses at this time. Seventy clients max at this time.

5:30 pm – Board Committee Structure – Denny McGuire and Gary Packer

- Denny noted that board attendance has been down
- Looking to reorganize committee structure –
Internal Affairs Committee – made up of staff, property, programs, strategic planning committees
External Affairs Committee – sustainability and marketing committee
Governance Committee – currently nominating committee -health and function of the board – new recruits – orientation – Gary Packer will head this committee
Executive Committee – current executive committee plus committee chairs
Advisory Committee – critical champion for Inspiration Ranch – no governing function
Prayer Committee – current committee – prayer
- Todd likes the idea of breaking into committees before or after current meeting that way two groups can interact with each other if needed
- Pat likes that we can utilize our time more efficiently by having both committee and board meeting on the same day – either before or after like Todd suggested
- Mike suggested an earlier rather than later time to start due to commute from Houston for some members
- MG suggested having every other meeting at the ranch

- Gary – 45 minute presentation (Educational), 15 minute financials, and final minutes at end
- Agreed on when to gather – every month as usual for board meeting and educational series, quarterly for more in-depth meeting, every other month break down into committees
- MG will put together new calendar to reflect these changes
- Gary talked about self-evaluations – they will be confidential – rate yourself as a board member – where you can help more – ways to get involved – review at board level – things to do to enhance board experience – what can we do better
- MG asked that everyone on the board fill out Board Member Profile

5:45 pm – President’s One Page Report

- MG – hopes to have the audit report next month
- United Way photo shoot – pictures will be used for their brochure – we get excellent feedback from United Way; this is a big deal for future potential funding of our programs
- Greg starts June 1 as Equine Manager
- Volunteer Appreciation Dinner is coming up – thank you to Amerigo’s for catering
- Board Head Shots – encouraged board to schedule these
- Expanding our vision – MG has been invited to Belarus by Our Legacy to help them facilitate a new program
- Property update – a lot of interest in the property – we will continue to reach out to potential buyers
- Conversations continue with Virgil and Johnson Development for new property
- MG and Todd are graduating from LMC – discussed Henry’s Home as their project
- Gary asked the board if there is anything they would like to learn about – Sheila suggested how to give tours and feeling comfortable doing so, how to give “elevator speech” to potential donors, Todd suggested role play when going through “how to give tours”

6:05 pm – Closing Prayer – Krista Carroll-Venezia

Minutes respectively written and distributed by Michelle Bellaire, Administrative Assistant, email: michelle@inspirationranch.org

Board Approval _____
