

Civic Engagement Committee Minutes November 17, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 PM by Chairperson Sarah Reincke. The following members and guest were present: Sarah Reincke, Tom Bushar, Ken Cooper, Carol Culler, Laurel Jernigan, Jerry Jordon, Carol Lorts, Kathy Rouse, and Jacob Cohen. Carol L. recorded the minutes.

The minutes of the October 20, 2015, meeting were approved as submitted.

OSC News – Jacob discussed the OLLI Strategic Plan for 2017-2022 that was currently in the planning stages with the OLLI Steering Committee. He noted that the Steering Committee would be in contact with Sarah to discuss the Plan and receive input from the CEC. He then stated that Steve Kagin, the chair of the Inclusion Committee, was asking that all of OLLI's committees make inclusion one of their goals going forward. A discussion ensued.

New Volunteer Initiative – Sarah and Jerry discussed the ongoing work to determine future Call to Action initiatives. Jerry discussed Greenworks and RiverLink, including volunteer orientation training and the types of volunteer opportunities that would be available to OLLI volunteers at each organization. Jerry and Sarah responded to questions regarding the types of commitments available – event- or program-oriented – and CEC's criteria for choosing volunteer opportunities for OLLI members. A discussion ensued regarding the criteria and the potential for multiple volunteer agency opportunities, depending on OLLI member interest. Sarah noted that she and Jerry would be meeting with the four agencies being proposed – Greenworks, RiverLink, Homeward Bound and Habitat for Humanity – and it would be determined following these meetings which and how many of these agencies would be proposed to the CEC. Sarah added that the size of the CEC would continue to grow as the coordinator/owner of each relationship or Call to Action (e.g., environment) would become a member of the CEC.

Jerry and Sarah will report to the CEC on these meeting at a future meeting of the CEC.

Communication/Marketing Update – Sarah noted that she and Ken had met and were proposing an event to recognize MANNA and ACS volunteers and asked the CEC to choose a date for the event. A discussion ensued and Thursday, April 14, 2016, was chosen as the date for the event. Sarah noted that food would be served.

Ken then discussed efforts to get more OLLI members to volunteer. He proposed that CEC provide current volunteers the opportunity to tell about their volunteer experiences through various medium, including the Website and the weekly OLLI newsletter emails. These individuals, or "ambassadors", would also be invited to share their experiences at volunteer and recruiting events.

The CEC communication in the November 15 OLLI newsletter, which included a link to the CEC website, and the ability for ongoing updates to the CEC website was discussed. Laurel described the limitations and requirements for a dynamic website or blog.

Sarah and Ken will meet to discuss the CEC website and bring back their findings at a future meeting. Sarah will also send out a request for volunteer stories using a letter drafted by Ken.

Call to Action for ASCF Update – Kathy provided an update to the CEC, noting that information regarding OLLI volunteers in the schools is not accurate. She stated that she will be working to update the information. A discussion ensued.

Kathy will work to get updated information and provide it to Sarah.

Call to Action for MANNA – Carol C. Provided an update on the OLLI teams at MANNA. She noted that she knew of members who could be potential ambassadors, as Ken had described. She added that MANNA is not looking for additional volunteers at this time.

Due to the late hour, Sarah noted that additional information regarding other agenda items would be sent to CEC members with the November minutes. Thereafter, the meeting was adjourned at 5:15

Respectively submitted by Carol Lorts
Happy Holidays and see you next year!