



# Board Meeting Minutes

Greenville Forward Office

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March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009

**Present:** Jim Burns, Mark Cothran, Rebecca Crown, Allen Hamada, Phyllis Martin, Alfred Middleton, Mellone Long, Deb Richardson-Moore, Sally Sarratt, Liz Seman, Gene Smith

**Absent:** Chandra Dillard, Angela Halfacre, Curtis Harkness, Ben Haskew, David Johnstone, Josh Lane, Kent Satterfield

**Staff:** Russell Stall, Brock Koonce,

**Quorum Present: 61% attendance**

## Current Business

- Jim asked that the Board briefly review the minutes from the February meeting. There were no questions so a motion was asked to be made.  
Motion: Gene Smith  
Second: Liz Seman  
**Action:** Minutes approved unanimously.

## Finance

Russell reviewed the current budget and finances for Greenville Forward.

- Recently found out a Foundation reduced their pledge to us from \$5,000 to \$2,500. This is the first time that this has happened and very likely will not be the last. This does not put us in a bad situation, but Russell wanted to let the Board know.
- We are currently "doing fine" on our annual giving and our expenses. We are under on our Insurance and Rent, but this is solely a timing issue.
- We remain under on our expenses, and Russell and Brock are working to make sure that spending is streamlined through these economic times.
- We currently have \$335,000 in the bank, and \$425,000 in pledges. We are about a 1.25 year of our budget.

## Task Force Strategies

Liz Seman and Russell discussed a potential strategy involving the GF Task Forces. Russell explained that, although the Task Forces have been doing some tremendous work, it is not time to start shifting to more of an implementation focus. So, Greenville Forward is beginning the process of "re-evaluating" the structure to make them function this way.

There is also a slight disconnect between the GF Board and the Task Forces. Because of the scope of work that Greenville Forward is in charge of, the Board cannot be experts on everything, so they need to rely on the information coming up from the Task Forces.

Sally pointed out that, as we look at this "re-evaluation", we should not forget that we, as an organization, should still be focused on the long-term. The Task Forces should begin to develop some tangible projects moving forward, but the

overall organization needs to figure out ways to make those worthwhile for the future.

One of the plans is to have the Task Forces focus on 2 – 3 things per year. This will streamline the efforts and help clarify the purpose of each Task Force. The Board agreed. Brock has already begun reaching out to Task Force Chairs to gauge interest in meeting together to discuss this possibility. Within this meeting, the plan would be for each Chair to work with other Task Forces to clearly define some projects to go back to their Task Forces with.

### **Advisory Board**

Russell and Jim discussed the updated Greenville Forward Advisory Board list. Russell, Jim and Allen Hamada met recently to begin developing a clear list of potential members. They reviewed this list with the Board and asked anyone to make comments, additions, etc.

- No representation from Northern Greenville County. Rebecca suggested Ben Cleveland.
- Jim noted that there was no representation from the Latino community. Rebecca suggested Olivia deCastro with GHS.
- Gene suggested Carlton Owen.
- Deb mentioned that there was no Arts representation. B.J. Koonce was mentioned as the representative. (NOTE: she has accepted to serve)
- Russell asked if there were representatives in the faith community that should be on the list.
  - Curtis Johnson
  - Phillip Baldwin
  - Vardry Flemming
- Scott Badley with the YMCA was also mentioned as a potential member.
- Russell noted that Pam Mills would be added as a link from the School District.
- Brock asked if there were any younger people being considered.
  - Ty Houck
  - Tiffany Santagati
  - Rebecca Ellefson
- Russell added Jim DeMint to the list.

The Advisory Board will meet 3 times a year for 1 ½ hours each. The first meeting will be on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, which is the roll out date for the Annual Report. The meetings will revolve around the Vision.

Russell asked all Board Members to note those people on the list that they have relationships with and, if they wouldn't mind contacting them, please let Russell or Jim know.

### **Program Report**

- Brock briefly reviewed the updated Program Report. There are mainly highlights moving into 2009, some of those being, Headstrong, the Education Survey (CLASS), International and Environment.
- In February, Greenville Forward Task Forces contributed 112 Volunteer Hours, for a total commitment of \$2,185.012.
- Momentum in February went very well. Beth Templeton served as the "Visionary" and the event was very well attended and discussion was wide-ranging and very engaging. One take-away, as always is the continuation of the conversation.
- Upcoming Meeting Date:
  - Momentum (Public Safety with Carol Reeves) – March 26<sup>th</sup>, 11:45-1PM @ Innovate Building
  - Parks and Green Spaces – April 20<sup>th</sup>, Noon @ GCRD

- International – March 24<sup>th</sup>, 8AM @ Greenville Forward
- Education – March 18<sup>th</sup>, 3:30PM @ University Center
- Arts – May 5<sup>th</sup>, 4PM @ MAC

## Executive Director Report

Russell reviewed the Looking Forward report with the Board. Russell has continued to be very busy lately.

- The Greenville Forward Community Calendar is moving along well and is being used by many people in the community. **If you have any events to add to the calendar, please send them to Russell or Brock.**
- Russell was the key note speaker at the **Rooster Booster** meeting in Owensboro, KY. He spoke to over 350 people and they are bringing over 40 people down next month to visit Greenville.
- Continue to follow GF on Twitter and Facebook.
- Russell announced that the Greenville Forward Board of Directors will have a cocktail party. Details are:  
**Greenville Forward Cocktail Party**  
**March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009**  
**5:30PM**  
**Russell's Home**  
**17 Riverside Dr.**  
**Greenville, SC 29605**

## Upcoming Events from Board

- Triune Mercy Center is having Virginia Uldrick play on March 29<sup>th</sup> at 3PM and 7PM as a fundraiser. Contact Deb for details or tickets.
- This month is March for Meals and next Wednesday, the 18<sup>th</sup>, is National March for Meals Delivery Day. If you are interested, contact Liz.

On Monday, the 23<sup>rd</sup>, MOW is bringing in the President of MOW Association to present the findings on the Senior Hunger Study. She will also present state-wide and local statistics. This will be at The Zentrum at 3PM.

All the Upstate Meals on Wheels organizations have formed the Upstate Meals on Wheels Alliance.

- GCRD recently had a public meeting in Cedar Falls. Great turnout. And, the parks idea was well received.
- The Human Relations Commission in April, May and June will have some partnerships with the Hospital.
- There is a planning meeting tomorrow at Carolina Academy at 6PM. And, the last one at County Square. Contact Mellone for details.

Mellone is having a house-warming on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. She will send out details.

- The Swamp Rabbit 5K is continuing to grow into a great event. It will be in Gateway Park and is slowly becoming a "block party" and will feature Howell Clyborne's band. Rebecca will have more information at the April meeting.

## Meeting Adjourned

**Next Meeting**  
**April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009**  
**8:00AM – 9:30AM**

**Location: Greenville Forward Offices**