



Children's Shelter of Hope Foundation
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Minutes - March Board Meeting
March 15, 2004 Monday 10:30 AM
Jim Boland's condo - Puerto Vallarta

Next Meeting: End of April 2004 – 9:00 AM Sudy Coy's condo

Board Members Present: Christine Amo, Carmen Berkowitz, Jim Boland, Sudy Coy and Amy Welch.

Board Members Absent: None.

Guest: None.

There being a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 10:51 AM by Board Chair Christine Amo. Amy Welch took minutes.

Treasurer's Report – Amy Welch

A Foundation financial statement was distributed which shows a balance of \$14,800, not including a donation of \$2,000 from Jaynce Coy, Sudy's sister. The present account is being changed from a Money Market account to a no fee checking account, in part to be able to have an ATM card. The money market account costs more to maintain in fees each month, and interest was not enough to cover the monthly fees. The new web site, www.childrens-shelter-of-hope-foundation.org lists each donor and the general amount donated.

Minutes – February 3, 2004 – Amy Welch

The February minutes were reviewed.

Jim Boland moved, and Sudy Coy seconded to accept the February 3, 2004 board meeting minutes.

PASS: 5 YES, 0 NO.

President's Report – Christine Amo

New brochures and newsletters were distributed. Amo is working with Ken and Alfonso on the new logo. Amo will ask that the eyes be softened and that the logo be elongated more and the lettering be more balanced in appearance.

Web site – Christine Amo

Amo is working with Mike Mackay and is still making changes to enhance the web site. Much of the web site will be constructed so that the Foundation web manager, presently Amo, will be able to make changes herself without having to go through Mike Mackay. <http://www.childrens-shelter-of-hope-foundation.org>

The newest addition to the web site is "Featured Child." Antonio is the first child to be featured. It is anticipated that the featured child will rotate every three months.

Business Cards – Christine Amo

Amo suggested that business cards would be a good idea in order to lend an air of legitimacy. They would also be helpful in distribution regarding contacting businesses in the Puerto Vallarta area.

Sudy Coy moved, and Carmen Berkowitz seconded to order business cards for all board members.

PASS: 5 YES, 0 NO.

Computers – James Boland

Jim now has a volunteer to teach computers to the Madres and children. The Refugio has also received 3 new computers from “Compassion4Kids.” Upon completion of the second floor, the computers will be installed in a computer room.

PVNet has offered a free internet connection.

Satellite TV – Amy Welch

The Welches have donated a complete satellite TV system for the Refugio. It is currently being stored at the Amos. Upon completion of the second floor, it will be installed. Foundation funds may be necessary to wire and install the unit.

Article VII Grants and Contributions

Bill Welch, Foundation attorney, has suggested changes to the bylaws to come into compliance with IRS regulations. In effect, the new bylaws give complete discretion to the board to accept earmarked funds with the stipulation that the board may decide to award funds differently. Concern was also expressed that in compliance with IRS regulations, the Refugio is not to be the sole grantee of the Foundation.

Jim Boland moved, and Carmen Berkowitz seconded to accept the bylaw changes.

PASS: 5 YES, 0 NO.

Fundraising and Grant Request

Coy reported that the Refugio Auction was a great success. Approximately \$30,000 USD was raised.

Grant Requests – Sudy Coy

Coy requested that \$2,000 USD for cribs be donated to the Refugio.

Jim Boland moved, and Carmen Berkowitz seconded to request \$2,000 USD be donated for new cribs.

PASS: 5 YES, 0 NO.

Coy requested that \$5,000 USD for remodeling the kitchen at the Refugio. A total of \$11,000 USD is needed for the total remodel. The Foundation funds are to be used for new plumbing, moving out the kitchen walls to expand the dining room, new electrical wiring, and to build cabinets and a pantry for dry goods.

Jim Boland moved, and Carmen Berkowitz seconded to request \$5,000 USD be donated to remodel the kitchen.

PASS: 5 YES, 0 NO.

Welch handed Carmen Berkowitz a Foundation check made payable to the Refugio for \$7,000 USD to cover these grant requests.

Communication Strategies – Christine Amo

Amo will create and maintain an email listserv in order to update contributors, and potential contributors, about the mission of the Foundation, fundraisers, web site updates and future newsletters.

Dental Work – Amy Welch

SUNY Buffalo 3rd year dental students and accompanied by one of their professors, spearheaded by Welch’s niece Rachel Sherfey, will come to Vallarta the end of July or the first of August to give out free dental care. Children and Madres of the Refugio will be first accommodated, and as time permits, more poor children will be given free dental cleanings, fillings, pulling teeth, sealants and fluoride. Welch and Amo will secure a dental clinic for the students/professor to work with while in PV. It is hoped that Foundation board members will open their condos/homes for the students/professor to stay in their place while in PV for the week.

Sudy Coy moved and Amy Welch seconded that the meeting adjourn at 1:30 PM.

Next Meeting: Next meeting week in late April 2004, 9 AM, at Sudy Coy’s condo. Amo to poll board members for a best day. All board members, except Welch, anticipate being in attendance.