Board Meeting: January 13th, 2010

Present: Chloe, Sasha, Noah, Eric, Arthur, Terrie Anne, Beth and Anais

1. **Fundraising committee update** is great. Raised 15k this year. Of the $8500 of the goal that we set in Nov. we are only $250 short.
2. March 13th Parish Hall- Spring Fling event- fundraiser for the scholarship fund
3. We have a list of major business donors in the area- ask the board for people who have connections to people and if you are willing to ask them for money either by yourself and alone. Start by sending a letter and asking for a meeting. Cherryfield Food, Whitney, ISF Trading, Cherry Point Products, Gays Wreath, Helens, Bluebird, Merrills, and Northeastern Blueberries.
   Cherryfield Food- Sasha and Anais
   ISF- Terrie Anne
   Whitney- Chloe
   Cherry Point Products- Eric & Terrie Anne
   Gays Wreath- Chloe- Terrie Anne
   Helen's- Sasha- Chloe
   Bluebird-
   Merrills- Terrie Anne-Beth
   Northeastern- Terrie Anne
   In terms of the letter, it's good to let people know what we do, because people know of us but don't know what exactly we do and how it benefits their business.

   Hiring Committee Update

   Beth- We have had a few interviews since we re-opened the search. One by phone we are waiting to contact his references and waiting for this meeting to decide whether we should do a second interview.
   The hiring committee decided to throw the net a little more broadly...consultant said not to just interview anyone, but look more broadly at who we have as applicants.
   With that in mind we wanted to bring the list of qualifications back to the board to re-evaluate the list.

   *Experience in non-profit management
   Fundraising
   *Social justice understanding
   Spanish
   Admin. Experience
   *Rural understanding
   * Are most important.
   *Decision making and leadership skills, given the housing project

   Do we need an interim plan? What does that mean? We as a board carry the org? Idle programs down?

   Marc Swann- ED from Preble St. – See who he knows in terms of possible applicants.

So, we are doing a second interview in person or via web? If by web who would be there? Consultant thought it was important to meet with staff and board, can we do that via web?

Career center for doing the interview? Sumner adult Ed? Machias HS?

Board Secretary: Bethany resigned from the board so we need a secretary.
Noah- nominates Beth to become secretary until the September annual meeting.
Eric seconds, Unanimous vote. Beth accepts the nomination.

Board Manuals:
Bring them back – we will store in the office for reference at each meeting.

Housing Update:
At last planning board meeting we were hoping to get final approval through the subdivision ordinance. We did not get approval but were told that we will get final approval at the January meeting at which point a final public hearing will be held.
We now have to go through the land use ordinance process with the planning board due to the new zoning laws, which could take 1-2 months.
Public hearing – 6:30 on January 20th.
Two residents have filed a complaint against the town on the land use ordinance, but that will not affect our project, except it seems to be slowing down the planning board's process. This group may be incorporating as a 501c3 which may try to target MeM. We need to pay attention to what they may be doing.
Working Waterfront will publish a follow-up article on the housing project in February.
We are waiting for the final approval for funds to be released to us, and our purchase and sales agreement is up February 28.
We expect contractor's bids to come in low due to economy, hopefully to save money to pay for the costs that we have incurred.
IN THE CASE that we cannot find a competent ED, we may need to halt the housing project

Drive-by shooting – being investigated as a hate crime. As a Board we need to consider the safety of those who would live in the housing project.
Center for the Prevention of Hate Violence will hopefully come up to do some work in local schools and in the church.

Potluck the 27th from 6-8

Next meeting: Monday Feb 8th 5-7pm
Facilitation: Beth
Snack: