

Sonoma Valley Fund (SVF)
Community Foundation of Sonoma County (CFSC)
Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee

December 11, 2014

Held at the home of Dennis Collins, Second Street East, Sonoma, CA 95476

Present: Kimberly Blattner, Dennis Collins, Harriet Derwingson, Barbara Hughes, Joshua Rymer

CFSC Staff: Miguel Ruelas

Absent: Barbara Young (ex)

Joshua Rymer called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM. Minutes of the October 9, 2014 Executive Committee Meeting were approved. (DC/HD)

Budget: Rymer briefly discussed the budget for 2015, noting no significant changes from 2014. It will be presented at the January board meeting for approval.

Planning Discussion

Board Engagement: The committee reflected on the November board discussion on board engagement and agreed on the importance of board member participation on committees and as part of the board leadership and succession.

Initiative Focus: Rymer discussed the possibility of creating a Sonoma Valley Fund initiative to address a significant community issue. Presently the Community Foundation is focused on early childhood education and, secondarily, Latino leadership. In March, representatives from the Napa Community Foundation and Marin Community Foundation will join the board meeting to discuss their approach to initiatives.

Community Investment

SVF Grants Committee Update: The newly formed grants committee will meet in January/February with Karin Demarest from the Community Foundation. It is anticipated the grants will be presented for endorsement at the Sonoma Valley Fund November board meeting, approved in December by the Community Foundation board, and disbursed by year-end 2015.

Community Conversations with David Bolling: The inaugural conversation is planned to take place in March. Logistical planning is underway. The initial idea for a topic is “What do we need to do to make the myth of Sonoma Valley a reality?” Potential speakers are Jen Lewis from the County of Sonoma and a representative from the Latino community.

Grow Philanthropy

Annual appeal: Rymer discussed the results of the annual appeal to date, anticipating full board participation by year-end.

Governance

Leadership: The following officer positions will be presented to the board for election in January:

Joshua Rymer – President

Kimberly Blattner – Vice President

Dennis Collins – Secretary

Barbara Hughes – Treasurer

Rymer also discussed expanding the executive committee with several at-large members. The board president appoints such positions.

2015 Board Orientation: Orientation will take place on January 8 from 2:00 – 3:30 PM. The orientation agenda was discussed and roles were assigned to each committee member.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM.