

Sonoma Valley Fund
Community Foundation Sonoma County
Minutes of Meeting of Directors
March 12. 2015

Present: Kimberly Blattner, Suzanne Brangham Beth Brown, Richard Dale, Ted Elliot, Katherine Fulton, Art Grandy, Barbara Hughes, Maite Iturri, Valerie Pistole, Joshua Rymer, Scott Smith, Peg Van Camp, Mandy Weltman, Judy Young

Excused Absence: Dennis Collins, Penney Magraine

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 by President Joshua Rymer

Agenda –additions to the agenda include conflict of interest forms – Scott, Penney, Valerie and an update on the community conversation with Bolling – Joshua and Katherine

President’s Report: Joshua spoke to the new development approach moving from just legacy support to how we advertise to the community and share our love of the valley, how the Community Fund helps move the conversation forward. Many outcomes are available for SVF beyond just legacy. We need to share the belief that a Community Foundation can improve where we live.

Minutes of the 3/12/15 were approved: motion by Richard Dale, seconded by Art Grandy

Financial Report – Barbara Hughes. \$34,600 was available at the beginning of the year and \$45,000 at the end of year. Board contributions to the annual appeal were \$18,500

Committee Reports

Grants committee: the first meeting was held. Mandy, Judy and Maite got organized and educated. Jen Lewis from the county spoke on the Portrait of Sonoma Valley. Three more meetings are scheduled. Oct – Nov look for the grants’ applications. Grants will be made at yearend. Approximately \$125,000 will be granted this year..

Over 3 years, 1.1 million will be granted – making SVF/CFSC one of the largest grant making organizations in the valley. Focus for the grants is on the sick, the elderly and the needy, underfunded government services, land acquisition and open space, trail acquisition. This year the focus will be health and human services.

Nominating – Peg Van Camp reported on the committee’s goals: 1.conformity of best board practices, 2.developing a bench list 3. Governance, 4 Process for developing a board bench.

Community outreach: Kimberly distributed the board/liaison list and calendar of events.

Katherine distributed a handout on the Community Conversation with David Bolling and a discussion followed. The effort is to actively engage the audience and paint the picture of the current situation, current trends and what happens if issues aren't addressed. Who is going to address the wide issues if we don't? We can play an important leadership role.

Community investment: Beth Brown introduced the Community Foundation's Early Childhood Education Initiative. Which issue to tackle began formulating at a 2013 retreat, criteria were determined to choose an issue, a process was developed for designing an initiative, data from the 2011 Portrait of Sonoma County was used. Other programs to be developed by the Community Foundation, include: the need for Latino integration 1. Support Latino leadership, 2 Build the next generation of Latino leaders, 3. Develop community foundation's cultural competence.

Board Activity - Grow philanthropy – Peg and Kimberly presented 2 different styles of an elevator pitch to discuss the SVF in the community

Development: Scott led a discussion on how to widen our impact. We need to collect a list of potential donors, collate the list, discuss how to approach people and develop an individual plan to approach. A discussion followed concerning how, why and what do we approach them for – not just money, but maybe ideas, energy, board membership and influence.

Scott requested that each board member send him a list of potential donors or contacts and list how the board member knows the contact.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Kimberly Blattner
Acting secretary