

Minutes: March 22, 2021

Time: 7:00 PM

The following were in attendance at the meeting:

Matt Slater, Katharine Frase (C) , Cindy Secor-Smith(C), Marcie Passarella, Nicole Fervan , Lisa Rodriguez, Noreen O'Driscoll,

Update:

- Food Distribution on March 20th from Yorktown. It was a cooperative between Feeding Westchester and Lakeland School District. The drive went well. All food was handed out. Penny Jones is the leader of the school committee and will join us in the next meeting if we are interested. A letter went out for Yorktown about the distribution. Might make sense to coordinate the efforts of the two districts. Local fire department have been helpful as have other agencies
- Kudos to Knights of Columbus/ St. Pats and various other community- based organizations for their support in the 40 can food challenge.

Next Food Drives for Lakeland are April 7th, May 5, June 2 at JV mall at 3:30-5:30

Yorktown Drives; 4/17 and 5/1 at Middle School, 8:30-10:30

- Letter went out to grocery stores about the excess food. No response as of yet.
- In answer to the question how does Town Pantry get its clients? Have to live in Yorktown and then you have to be referred to the Pantry by another organization.
- What happens in the Summer? Does Yorktown offer food distribution all summer? It is believed that Lakeland may distribute food all summer. That needs to be confirmed.
- Food Pantry personnel are getting vaccinated.
How do we get our clients to know about getting the vaccine?
- Numbers are going up at Cindy's pantry. They have been over 200. Katherine said they have stayed consistent. This week will be the Easter distribution so this will be a big distribution.
- 388 Easter baskets age 2-12 were given by of the Food Pantry.

Marcie did research on other sources of funding. Do we want to pursue getting funding?

- First define what we need the money for. Money would have to come through the pantry or possibly the town. A number of local organizations do fund this kind of work. A few different organizations could help fund.
- Besides production cost for a flyer, do we have any other costs? Can we find examples of what other organizations do with other monetary sources to support our clients.

NEXT STEPS

- Are we interested in creating a health clinic within the pantries over the summer?
Yes on the clinics in June.
- How do we communicate? Need a volunteer to be focal point for this communication and flyer. Nicole and Lisa will work together on the flyer. Flyer needs to articulate need. Did you know? Give ourselves a target of May to get the flyer. Include: If you are in need of support here are resources. If you want to support here are the ways you can do that. Also include facts i.e. *20 % of the people in Yorktown live Paycheck to Paycheck.*

- Next Month: Faith Ann Butcher , head of United Way , put out an Alice study, and may speak with us
- September/October is hunger month. Have booth at Grange Fair and Street Fair.
- Think about other things we can do to make people aware about hunger.
- September 10 is Hunger action day. Hopefully we can talk about the pantries but also how to reduce the households to reduce the number. Possibly create a series of webinars to help reduce Alice households.
- November and the turkey trot, donations to food pantries.

Next Meeting 4/19 at 7PM