Board Meeting Minutes
March 4, 2009

Start time: 5:10
Present: Dede, Beth, Anais, Noah, Sasha joined us at 5:30

Agenda:

1. Governance Committee Update
*The committee has finalized a job description for the executive director. Full board approval of job description.
*Governance committee is working on a Board community involvement policy. Current idea for involving more Latino community members is to have an open Board meeting on the same night as the community potluck, every other month. Meeting would be slightly abbreviated and conducted in Spanish and English. The hope is that some individuals would be motivated to become actual Board members. - maybe we will do this four times a year? (February, April, September, November)

2. Fundraising Committee Update
*There will be another "March Music Madness" fundraiser for Dollars for Scholars - March 28, 2009 at the Parrish Hall in Machias.
*Anais reports that we are down on business donations and have more individual and foundations donating in 2008.
*Final numbers on donations for 2008 are included in the Annual Report.

3. Mother's Day Event
*It is Sunday, May 10th this year.
*Without our After School Program it may be challenging to get student/youth participation.
*Our principal youth organizer is now in Mexico.
*What cultural program can we put together?
*Myrna is committed to helping coordinate the cultural program.
Tasks Involved:
-Planning program
-Publicity - newspapers, fliers, invitations to donors?
-Securing location and decorating
-Coordinating Food and Drinks
-Sound system
-Clean up plans
-Bounce house - get it, monitor it
ACTION PLAN: We will discuss the details after our meeting with Ron Beard (hopefully!) and then finalize things at our April potluck/board meeting.

4. Dollars for Scholar Update/tasks/fundraiser
*Washington County Community College has requested we give another $500 towards Leticia's studies for this semester. It is unclear why.
*Since we no longer have an Americorps volunteer, the tasks involved in administering the DFS program need to be taken on by a Board member.
*Applications must go out to local schools soon and we also need to gather the awards committee. We must also solicit a written report from our current awards.
*Dede will take this on.
*We should make sure that students currently in college apply for this fund as well.

5. Board Recruitment
*Governance committee needs to come up with a list of names (with input) to submit to the Board at the May meeting.

LIST- Myrna, Dana Johnson, Mark and/or Yessenia, long-time Milbridge residents - Lewis Pinkham?, Sarah Anderson (from Cherryfield), Melissa (the Milbridge librarian),
*Chloe will email the board asking for suggestions for Board nominees

6. Newsletter
*We all need to combine on helping to make the next newsletter which will come out in early April.
All content is due on March 24th. Chloe will get content to Noah by the 26th.
*Ideas:
-Sinai wins the spelling bee - Sasha
-story on Spanish classes - Chloe
-profile of scholarship recipients - Chloe
-Myrna's poem
-housing project update - Anais
-English classes - Chloe
-photos

7. Future/Strategic Planning
-Ron Beard from the UMaine Cooperative Extension can help us facilitate this process.
-He will give Board members a survey to fill out before the meeting.
-It would be helpful to find ways other than directly surveying people to identify community needs.
-We need to consider that many members of the Latino community don't want charity - they want to be involved in an organization.
-Anais and Chloe can focus on an idea of more specific needs - we think a 3-hour meeting will be sufficient.
-April 11th or 25th from 10-1. Anais will check with Ron Beard regarding his availability.

**WE will have an open board meeting/community potluck on April 29th at 5pm. The board meeting will start at 5pm. Potluck at 6:30. Beth will ask Mark and/or Yessenia if she would be willing to interpret for this meeting. Gabi can help get out the word to Latino families and hang fliers.