

## **Strive Foundation Board Retreat**

***January 18, 2022***

**Attending:** Jim Simons, Georgann Jouflas, Karen Davis, Jeff Franklin, Nate Cook, Kevin McChesney, Jeff Franklin, Steve Grisier, Stan Orr, Sandra Weckerly, Sandy Thies, Dee Ramsel, Doug Sorter, Cindy Willms, Grant Jackson

**Absent:** None 😊

Georgann was presented with a plaque as a token of our appreciation for her leadership as our 2021 Foundation Board Chair. **Thank you Georgann!**

**Jim Simons called the meeting to order.**

**Dee Ramsel and Sandy Thies were introduced as new Board members.**

**Grant Jackson gave a brief State of the Union report for Strive.**

- Discussed staffing shortages;
- The closing of one group home and potentially a second.
- A funding crisis with the state is a big part of the problem in terms of Group Homes. Individuals are also better served in a Host Home environment.
- Revenue from day programs is down because attendance in those programs has been down since the start of the pandemic.

### **Election of Officers**

- Jim Simons moves into the Chairman seat.
- Nate Cook agreed to serve as Vice Chairman. (m,s,p)
- Kären Davis will serve as Secretary. (m,s,p)

### **Goal Setting**

- Jim started by reading the mission and vision statement for the Foundation Board.
- Kären expressed concern that “the why” for what we are doing is not covered in our statements.
- Sandra, Doug and Jim agreed to form a committee to work on new verbiage. Further discussion to be added to the next meeting’s agenda.
- The results of the survey were discussed. The top four programs of work were identified as; Community Outreach/STRiVE Awareness, Event Sponsor Support, and a tie between Major Donor Introductions & Establishment of an Endowment.
- Kären was discouraged that Advocacy for Inclusiveness was not included. That was voted 5<sup>th</sup>. We hope to address this in the new mission & vision/why

- The Board agreed that our efforts in Outreach and Event Sponsor Support are being achieved with our STRiVing for Success events and Tulips & Juleps. The focus was turned to recruiting major donors.
- Cindy suggested that the Board write thank you notes to major donors. The group agreed they would be happy to help. Cindy will have those available for distribution at the next meeting.
- A marketing document for use with fundraising in the form of a FAQ was discussed. Doug and Cindy will work on having that available at the next meeting.
- Jim suggested that an interactive Google doc with donor contact information would be helpful to avoid making duplicate “asks”. Doug will provide Jim with the donor information and Jim will create this.
- Poor ratings on the survey suggested that staff are unaware of the activities performed by The Foundation Board. Ideas were discussed related to improving the Board’s relationship with staff and improving staff’s understanding of what the Foundation Board is charged with. A staff liaison to the Foundation Board was suggested. Cindy will help facilitate and invite Leadership Team members to attend Foundation Board meetings.

### **Consent Agenda**

- Stan presented on the benefits of transitioning to a consent agenda. An emphasis was placed on the importance of coming to meetings prepared in the interest of time. This encourages knowledge-based decision making. The Board agreed to move to this format.

### **2022 Proposed Agenda**

- Doug explained that we are going to try to bring back the Easter Egg Hunt and JUCO Picnic, depending on the status of the pandemic.
- After some discussion about the Harvest Illuminated event, the Board agreed to approve the proposed calendar through August, with the exception of a possible date change for the April meeting as Jim will be out of town.
- The remainder of the calendar was tabled for the next meeting.

**Jim adjourned the meeting.**