

McLennan County Hunger Coalition

Monthly Meeting

February 9th, 2017

Caritas of Waco Board Room

Meeting called to order at 12:10pm by Chair Mike Beheler

Introductions of members and guests present: Mike Beheler, Troy Maxel, Esther Morales, Eric Tyler, Pastor Irie Cuevas, Kara Prior, Katie Cook, Laura Ziemer, Andrew Bryngelson, Henry Byour, Tanya Tenberg, special guests; Daniel & Lindsey Camp from Shiloh Baptist Church, Crawford Tx.

Board Actions from Monday's, February 6th Meeting:

- Mike explained that much of Monday's meeting was used to discuss the coalition's finances, fundraising, vision, and mission efforts FY2017 and the coming years. Mike added that neither minutes, nor reports were approved and would be at our March meeting.
- Mike added that we need to get back to the Hunger Coalition original purpose of bringing awareness, education, and collaboration to our community in regards to food insecurity. This can only be done with community support for the Hunger Coalition with involvement from current members, and with new membership and monthly participation.
- Mike announced to members that Troy Maxel has submitted a proposal to the Board in regards to the redesign of the Hunger Coalition website, and added that Troy had offer his expertise, and services to utilize the current website to the Coalitions advantage, and that Chelle and Troy will be working together on this project.
- Mike also mentioned that meeting rules were suggested from the board so that our general meeting time would benefit our members as they attend the monthly meetings, and would allow time for networking and announcements from all present.

Member Announcements:

- Esther Morales said that 2017 membership dues are due, and encourage everyone to email her to see if your membership is active.
- Laura Ziemer announced that Meals and Wheels have officially changed their name to "Meals On Wheels Waco", and that in 2016 over 10,000 meals were distributed to seniors. Laura added that FY2017 a cap has been placed on the number of seniors that will be served this year through the program due to funding. Coalition member Tanya Tenberg, added that her ministry would like to partner with them to help fill the gap on the seniors not being served on the program.
- Laura also announced that on February 25th, Caritas of Waco, and Meals on Wheels Waco would be celebrating 50 years of service together with an after hour business event at MCC staring @ 6pm.

- Kara Prior, Central Texas Food Bank (CTFB) informed the coalition that more than three million pounds of fruits and vegetables were distributed in 2016 to families and individuals within the 21 counties service area, but most of the amount was served through McLennan County through Caritas of Waco. Kara added that a new pantry has open in Riesel for the rural area of McLennan County.
- Pastor Irie Cuevas of Faith Walk Church of Robinson food pantry “Yolanda’s Heart” is open once a month is serving the majority rural parts of Robinson off Hwy77 population, and added everyone is welcome that has a need.
- Andrew Bryngelson, Caritas of Waco Community Relations Liaison share that Caritas has received \$66,000 TXU energy grant to help assist with utilities payments to clients. Clients can be helped once a year, and would have to contact Ms. Tammy Stevens, Caritas Case Management Director
- Katie Cook, Seeds of Hope Publishing share that our very own Chelle Samaniego has written a documentary on food insecurity among college students that will be this month.
- Katie also added that Waco Regional Baptist Association (WRBA), Hunger Ministry will be hosting a Forum regarding hunger in the churches. This event will be on Saturday, February 25th @ Western Heights Baptist Church from 11am-1pm.

Meeting adjourned 1:00pm

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, March 9, 2017, at 11:45am at Caritas of Waco.

Minutes submitted by Esther Morales, MCHC Board Treasurer