

McLennan County Hunger Coalition

Monthly Meeting

January 12, 2017

Meeting called to order at 12:06pm

Introductions of members and guests.

Board meeting was canceled for this month.

2017 membership dues are due. See Esther to make sure your membership is active.

Review of the 2017 Board ballot.

New members on the ballot:

Vice Chair – Laura Ziemer, LCSW with Meals & Wheels of Waco

Treasurer – Esther Morales, Program Director of Caritas SNAP Program

Secretary - Currently open

Board Member – Troy Maxel, Feed a Family Mission

Board Member – Chelle Samaniego, Social Media Consultant

*You must attend 3 meetings in 2016 to be able to vote for the 2017 board and your 2017 membership must be renewed and active.

Ballots were counted by Paula Grisham with Lone Star Legal Aid.

Agenda Items:

Esther Morales – HELPINGS:SNAP Outreach – Esther reviewed the history of the program for members.

Health and Human Services is undergoing a lot of changes. “Flex Interviewing” – the client is given more responsibility to keep their benefits.

If you are in need of information about the program, please contact Esther Morales.

Buddy Edwards – Advocacy Committee – Has been active throughout fall looking at issues that the community should be aware of regarding the federal and state legislators.

Working on a format for presentations. Working with Craig Nash with Texas Hunger Initiative. Currently, Buddy has contacted Waco’s current mayor regarding a presentation before the Waco City Council.

Meetings are open to all members The next meeting will be on Friday, February 10, 2017 at 10am at Caritas of Waco.

Matt Hess – Veggie Van will be starting a new route next week. They will have new flyers to send out. Working on a site on Baylor Campus. They have really been successful at retirement communities.

Eric Pritt – MLK – the FARM, UGC and Campus Kitchen are doing service projects all over Waco. 19 different sites this year! 2 on Saturday and 17 on Monday. 11am-12pm work 12pm-1pm – Lunch 1pm-2pm Work. Eric will send the info to Esther to send out to the membership.

MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Pack of Hope – February 18 – 907 backpacks go out each week. Want to expand Summer Food Bag program. They reached over 200 children per week during the summer. MAJOR FUNDRAISING – Spaghetti Dinner at Poppa Rollo's is coming up! February 25, 2017.

Waco Street Ministry – Prepare 150 sack lunches on Saturdays. Discussion of homelessness in Waco. Discussion of Project Homeless Connect. This will be on Thursday, January 31, 2017.

Feed a Family – Troy Maxwell – Each box feeds a family approximately one week. Not a food pantry. Short-term help for families in need. Started in March 2016. Gave out 12.6 tons of food last year.

MLK EVENTS THIS MONDAY!

Matt Hess announced that he and his family will be moving Colorado. He will be missed!

Caritas – Produce Distribution Day – Wed., Jan 25, 2017. Produce from Central Texas Food Bank in coordination with HEB. Open normal hours.

Waco ISD- Homeless Outreach is working closely with The Cove. Three set days where groups provide meals. Fundraiser at Panera on January 19 from 5:30pm-8:30pm. Unbound – STARPLEX – 7:30pm

Meals and Wheels is starting a dietary course for seniors. USDA created program. Food safety. Debbie will teach it. 5-week course on every Friday at 10:45am. Still doing their heater drive.

Shepherd's Heart Food Pantry – 3300 Franklin – 2nd Saturday of every month. Mobile Food Distribution. The pantry has been renovated to include facilities for case management and an empowerment center. He is need of instructors to start classed. Cooking classes will also be offered. The pantry turns 7 this month!

Lonestar Legal Aid – SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT NEXT MONTH!

Esther Morales – Lois and Esther are revising the Resource List. Lakeshore Baptist Pantry is closing. Carver Baptist Church will be opening soon. Pastor Andrade has asked to be removed from the Resource List temporarily.

Meeting adjourned 1:02pm

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