

Edgar County Homeless Organization
Minutes of regular monthly meeting
Tuesday, May 15, 2007
First Christian Church

Members and guests present: Dale Francis, Mary K. Bradford, Beth Edwards, Joe Gill, Mike Dixon, Jim Eveland, Barbara Moy, Rae Anne Smith, Dreama Wingert, Rosemary Hardy, Jenny Bellerud, Jamie Christianson and Missy Maharg. Board member Kathy Young was not able to attend.

The meeting was called to order by President Dale Francis at 6:00 p.m. The minutes of the April 17th meeting were approved as submitted. Motion by Bradford, second by Smith. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Beth Edwards submitted a treasurer's report reflecting a balance of \$14,850.22, down slightly from the April balance. Beth also reported that the value of the five CDs is \$10,226.16. Bradford moved to accept the report, second by Moy. Motion passed.

Manager's Report: Manager Missy Meharg reported on several house items including the status of the residents. Her report indicated that Dwight Waggoner is working nights at the old Morgan plant but has not yet been able to secure housing through ERBA. Keith Collier was laid off at Paris Metal at the beginning of the month. This is his fourth month at the shelter. Adam Inman is a new resident at the shelter and is doing odd jobs until he finds work. Nichole Jones is still unemployed but working with the temp agencies. After repeated warnings about drinking, Kevin Pearson moved out of the house. Missy reported that Jim Eveland installed the second floor doorbell and the hand assist rails in both bathrooms. He also repaired a leaky faucet and purchased some "Sea Foam" for the lawn mower. Billy Hopper installed the downspouts with the help of Andy White. The garden has been planted. Donations for the month included a Hoover carpet scrubber from Karen McCall and \$30.50 from Bob McClintock for Missy's antibiotics. The carpet scrubber is in need of new brushes. Jerry Kennedy tilled the new garden. Missy reported that she is continuing her work on the resident list.

Finance and Fundraising: Discussion of the May 19th Family Fun Festival centered on final details. Bradford moved that we offer to feed the "Sounds of Swing" and Scott and Madonna Imel, and provide a free drink coupon to the kids in the other performing groups. Second by Smith. Motion passed. Joe Gill will print coupons. Gill and Jenny Bellerud reported on publicity. There will be three ads in the Beacon-News. The first story published in the newspaper on May 9th contained the wrong date but has been corrected. Flyers have been posted on the Square and at local businesses as well as distributed to all local elementary schools. 285 flyers were submitted for the May Chamber of Commerce newsletter. First Christian Church sponsored ECHO and the submission was accepted at the reduced member rate. Mike Dixon sent flyers to the May meeting of the Paris Ministerial Fellowship. Joe emailed information to local ministers for inclusion in their church bulletins. Brian Murphy contacted Pepsi and had a banner made that will be displayed in the park later in the week. Mary K. reported that the entertainment for the Festival includes the PHS Jazz Band from 11-12, Tom Dolan's Tae Kwon Do at 12:30, the YMCA Dancers and Tumblers at 1:00, the Senior Center Line Dancers at 2:30, the Sounds of Swing Big Band from 3 until 5 and Judy Green's Coon Holler Kids from 5 until 6. Jenny Bellerud volunteered to make name tags for Festival volunteers. Volunteers were secured for the sale of the toys, running the raffles and manning the information table. Dale, Mike and Joe agreed to MC the event. Set-up at the park will begin at 9am.

Building and Grounds Report: Jim Eveland reported that the bathroom hand assist rails and the second floor doorbell have been installed. Missy reported that there is an occasional leak in the upstairs bathroom.

Officers Report: Joe Gill reported that the new all-in-one copier/printer for the Shelter has been purchased and installed. The Rotary grant could not be utilized for the purchase, but Rotary will be able to purchase ink, paper and supplies for the Job Seekers Kit. Joe reported that we now have a tax-exempt card at Staples. Joe also recommended that we look into upgrading the computer in order to get full use out of the new printer. Beth Edwards will ask Jay to look at the computer.

New Business: Jenny Bellerud reported that BJ and Sarah Collier recently lost their house to a fire. The couple indicated to her that they might be interested in renting the ECHO house at 609 S. Central. After some discussion Mike Dixon moved that ECHO rent the house on a month to month basis for not less than \$300 per month with the provision that if the house were to sell while being occupied by the Colliers, the Colliers would be given 60 days to vacate. Second by Bradford. Motion passed. Jenny will make the initial contact. Mike will follow-up with a house viewing if required.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m. at which time the ECHO board retired to a closed session. The next monthly meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 19, 2007 at 6 p.m. at the First Christian Church.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joe Gill