



Hillcrest Committee Meeting Minutes September 13, 2021 5:00 PM Zoom Meeting

The September 13, 2021 Hillcrest Committee meeting was called to order by President Kate Empasis at 5:05 PM via Zoom. There were 20 members on the Zoom call. Kate expressed her disappointment that Hillcrest could not meet in person but with Covid numbers in Jackson County high, it was important to remain safe.

Old Business:

Minutes from the June 2021 Meeting:

Cathy Theen moved to approve the June 2021 minutes. Tiffany Graeber seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Mary Jo Hoftiezer reported for Judy Gambia. The report covers July 1, 2021 to September 13, 2021. The report was sent out by email earlier today. Hillcrest currently has \$29,286.88 in the bank. Activity for the last two and a half month includes donations from various sources (Costco, Fred Meyer, Amazon Smile) totaling \$299.31 and member yearly dues of \$1,749.95. An extra \$200.00 came from the Summer Member Party which was cancelled. Rather than returning these funds, three members (Dana Smith, Helen Koenigsman, Karen Porschet Miller) and one Excalibur (Shirely Huycke) made a donation.

If you have not paid your dues, there are three ways to pay: PayPal, Venmo or mail a check to Judy Gambia, Treasurer. Dues are \$50.00.

Expenses include \$795.00 Greater Giving, Accounting Fees \$350.00 and Quickbooks \$430.00. Other expenses include: flowers (\$15.00), mini-storage rental (\$240.00) and postage (\$3.33). The total expenses beginning of the fiscal year total \$1,923.33.

New Business:

Correspondence:

Kate read a thank you note from Jim and Cathy Theen for the beautiful “Farm to Table” gift basket received. Cathy said the baskets were a new version of a Hillcrest party allowing distance but still allowing to keep in touch with others. She acknowledged the committee put a lot of work and thought into the baskets. A few of the buyers got together for dinner with their baskets.

Party Report:

“Farm to Table” Rebekah McAnally (chair) along with her committee delivered meals in a basket to the buyers. The baskets included local farm items: Fresh figs with Rogue Blue Cheese, Fresh farm salad in a Mason jar (Ayano Istel), Spiced pork loin with cherry thyme sauce (Rebekah McAnally) Butternut squash ravioli (Anne Jantzi), Vegetarian stuffed acorn squash (Cindy Bottasso), Bourbon Peach Hand Pies (Skye Flora), wine donated by Bryan and Stephanie DeBoer, flowers donated by Penny and Lulu (Cindy Prewitt). Local farms included: Pennington Farms, Family Nurturing Center Farm, Valley View Orchard, Rogue Creamery, Simply Bee Farm and The English Lavender Farm.

“World of Wine” Stephanie DeBoer (chair) and Tiffany Graeber reported on the “World of Wine” party held in mid-June at Bryan and Stephanie DeBoer’s house. Other members of the committee were: Elizabeth Peard, Rebekah McAnally, Lynn Hammond. The buyer, Carolyn Lesley, invited seven friends who were transported to and from the party. The guests traveled from various rooms in the home with each room celebrating a different country: Japan (poke salad bites), France (escargot/caviar), Spain (Spanish cheeses/meats), United States (Happy Meal complete with prize), and Italy (linguine/squash). The “travelers” received wines at each country’s stop. The meal was completed with a birthday cake. Stephanie said she received many thank you notes for the wonderful party, and she has posted many pictures on the Shutterfly account.

“Moveable Feast” dinner. Micki Palpant and Judy Gambie (co-chairs) are planning a similar basket party idea for the buyers. At this time, the October date will remain the same.

Data Base Management Report:

Edie Chezick is the current manager of the data base. However, Sue Martin asked to rescind her resignation from Hillcrest as the data base management is more than one person job. She will be helping Edie this year. They will be sending an email out at the end of the month to update any new invites for the Ball.

Kate reminded members all the positions can be found on the Hillcrest website. If you are handing over your position to another member, please be sure to

share your tips. A reminder, Helen has passed the torch to Ayano Istel who is the new website manager.

Hospitality:

Nancy Suvoy, Hospitality Chair, did not deliver any yellow roses this month.

New Member Introductions:

Kate reintroduced the new members present on Zoom: Maggie Mayers and Vanessa Thompson. This would be their first official meeting.

Kate explained the Hillcrest Board met and decided it would be important for members who nominated a new member within the last two years to mentor their new member. "Pink Folders" are being put together so each member has all Hillcrest documents on hand. These will include: By-Laws, member contact information, member list of first/second half, committee lists, storage unit inventory.... Mentors are asked to get together with the new members and go through information and answer any questions. Again, our focus is to not just raise funds for cancer research but to build relationships.

Ball Update:

Kate announced the Ball Chairs (Paden Voget and Lara David) along with the Board agreed the Hillcrest Ball needs to be cancelled because of the Covid pandemic and a direct donation "Ask" letter would be sent. Paden mentioned they feel they've come up with some good language in asking for a donation. A big piece of the letter would be announcing Hillcrest's 75th Anniversary. The letter would also include: Hillcrest's Mission statement, amount of funding in the past and projects Hillcrest has funded, goals for the following year. It was also recommended the letter include the total amount Hillcrest has raised over the last 75 years. The letter will have both a mail in option and a QR Code.

Paden has called the Rogue Valley Country Club and cancelled this year's event. It was decided the deposit should be rolled over for next year's Hillcrest Ball.

Tiffany Graeber suggested Hillcrest members could get together in small groups and have their own style of Hillcrest Ball. In addition, perhaps some members may want to recognize Excaliburs who have long supported Hillcrest in a fun and/or mischievous way (Doorbell Ditch). Kate explained Christin Sherbourne and her committee have worked on parties to auction off at the Ball and are now looking into how these parties could possibly be small settings with social distancing allowed.

Future Meetings:

Kate asked the members for recommendation on having meetings in the future. Dunbar Carpenter Farms was suggested because of its outdoor covered area with the ability of social distancing. Sue Nolan-Olsen said Dunbar Farms is closed on Monday and the owners would possibly be opened to allowing Hillcrest to meet. Kate will consider sending a Survey Monkey to the group to see how they feel regarding meeting in person.

Kate also reminded the group to make a good effort to attend meetings. The invitation to Hillcrest Committee states members need to make a certain number of meetings yearly.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:53 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Anne Jantzi
Hillcrest Recording Secretary