

Livingston County CARES Inc. Board of Directors Meeting

Zoom

Approved Minutes

Monday, January 23, 2023

Call to order of Board Meeting: Meeting was called to order 5:04 pm

Attendance: Bailey, DeRider, Dolce, Donohue, Ellis, Herman, Kallio, Lee, Matthews, Obad Palumbo, Rivera

Excused: Bolesky, Chilcatelli, Colon, DiGiovanni, Dracup, Harvey, Lehman, Natoli, Wilson

Guests: Christa Barrows

**Approval of Minutes of November 21, 2022 Meeting:**

Bailey moved and Kallio seconded a motion to approve the draft minutes of the board of directors meeting on November 21, 2022. Motion passed without dissent.

**Officer Reports**

**President Matthews**

Livingston CARES donations through the November SEFA campaign for the calendar year 2023 are \$1,780.00. Phil Natoli will be stepping down from his role with Livingston CARES; we asked him to make it effective at the annual meeting in April. Matthews was asked to do a presentation on Livingston CARES for the Geneseo Rotary. Members responded positively and are interested in our work and our service trips. Matthews asked board members to share email addresses of community organizations and send them to DeRider so they can be added to our Constant Contact mailing lists for the newsletters. Kallio agreed that Livingston CARES should reach out to other organizations. Matthews suggested creating videos of our trips for publicity and putting them on the website with links in our newsletters. DeRider will convene the marketing committee to work on the project.

**Vice President Palumbo**

Palumbo reported various updates to the website. Palumbo noted that some trip participants have signed up for the Livingston CARES Service Learning class that helps students reflect on their learning and integrate applied to their majors.

**Secretary Derider**

The Volunteer Fair will be on 2/15 from 1:00 to 330 pm. Livingston CARES will have a table and would love to have some board members and students staff the table. Matthews and Lee volunteered to help.

## **Treasurer Bailey**

Bailey reviewed several highlights from the December 31 financial report. She indicated that Gumbo to Go income and expenses are reported on the Fundraising line with a net profit for the fall dinner of \$2,020.78. These funds will be used for trip scholarships and grants. The allocation of \$300.00 for Geneseo Goes to Town will be taken from the general unrestricted fund. Bailey noted that the Livingston CARES Endowment Fund continues to reflect the fluctuating stock market.

## **Executive Committee Report:**

The executive committee met on January 5th at Mama Mia's with Chef George Hochbruckner to make final plans for the Corn Chowder fundraiser scheduled for Monday, January 30 from 4:00-7:00 pm. The committee approved the price of \$12.00 for a quart of chowder and two garlic knots. Although there were some requests for vegan options, the committee decided to limit the prep and not offer vegan or other options.

## **Service Trip Updates: Palumbo & DeRider:**

Trips are filled, and students are excited. Final payments for the March trip fees are due on February 4th. All the students have completed the required paperwork and forms.

## **Scholarship & Grants Committee Report:**

This year, we have had an unprecedented amount of financial need. Nineteen scholarship grants for students and three grants for alumni trip leaders were approved. Livingston CARES will be covering approximately 53% of the trip expenses. In the future, we will need to explore additional ways to expand our scholarship funds because it seems likely that more students will need grants for our service trips.

## **Discussion of Corn Chowder Soup or Scholarships and Gumbo to Go:**

The fundraiser is planned for a maximum of 100 orders, and we fully expect the dinner will be sold out. There will not be any tickets for this event, and all chowder orders will be online. Customers will be able to pay by Venmo or PayPal or by cash or check at the door.

## **Home Away from Home Respite Program:**

Christa Barrows participated in the meeting and reported that the Respite Program will resume again for the second semester on either February 2nd or 7th. There will be approximately twenty students involved in the program and nine families. Barrows is working with Professor Bashard on the application process for students. She reported great feedback on the fall program from the caregivers with comments like, "knowing my wife is safe and having fun away from me has

dropped my stress,” and “gave me a sense of relief.” Barrows indicated that the Respite Program is very grateful to Livingston CARES for covering the cost of the venue and supplies.

### **SEFA Campaign in November:**

Livingston CARES will receive \$1780.00 in donations from SUNY Geneseo employees during the calendar year 2023.

### **Roc The Day on November 29, 2022:**

Livingston CARES had nine donors who gave \$1,388.00. Lee and Matthews matched the donations making a total of \$2,776.00 for 2022 Roc The Day.

### **Open Discussion:**

Matthews suggested using information from the archives at the college as a way to promote Livingston CARES service trips. Herman will reach out to colleagues on the faculty to recruit students to create student projects with programs such as museum studies. Members of the board agreed that Livingston CARES should archive documents to preserve our history.

The Puerto Rico trip in May will be in central Puerto Rico, and students will be working on community development projects. Geneseo Goes to Town is scheduled for April 22; all board members are welcome and encouraged to participate. Board members are also invited to participate in the April 1 Poverty Simulation.

### **Adjournment**

Kallio moved, and Herman seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion was passed, and the meeting was adjourned at 4:57 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
MacKenzie DeRider, Secretary

### **Upcoming Meetings and Events**

Board Meeting: Monday, March 6, 2023, at 4 pm  
Monday, May 1, 2023, at 4 pm (including the annual corporation meeting)  
Gumbo to Go: Thursday, March 30  
Service Trips  
March 12-18 trip to Sulfur, LA  
March 12-18 trip to Orlando for Give Kids the World  
May 14-20 trip to Puerto Rico

### **Committee Assignments for 2022-2023**

Executive Committee: Matthews (Chair) Bailey, DeRider, Lee, Chincatelli, Palumbo,

Governance: Palumbo (Chair), DeRider, Dolce, Drapala, Lee, Matthews, Wilson  
Events and Marketing: DeRider (Chair), Bolesky, Harvey, Drapala, Henry, Herman  
Finance and Audit: Bailey (Chair), Colón, Ellis, Kallio, Lehman, Obad, Rivera  
Fundraising: Lee (Chair), Colón, Matthews, Palumbo, Dolce  
Gumbo to Go & Annual Dinner: DeRider (Chair), Bolesky, Obad, Donohue, Kallio, Lee  
Scholarship: DeRider, Matthews, Palumbo  
Trips: Harvey (Chair), Chincatelli, Colón, Henry, Martin, Matthews, Palumbo  
Ad Hoc Committee to Review Livingston CARES  
Donations: Kallio (Chair), Dolce, Ellis

**Livingston CARES President's Report**  
**Tom Matthews**  
**01-23-23**

**All the best for 2023:** We hope everyone had a good holiday season! Are you ready for a great New Year with Livingston CARES activities?

**Update on Service Trips:** Our three 2023 service trips are filled. The March trip to Sulfur, Louisiana, on March 11-18, includes six students and trip leader Mackenzie DeRider, LC Secretary and Class of '20. The March trip to Kissimmee, Florida, on March 12-18 includes five students and two alumni leaders, Shea Donohue, Class of '18, and Jenna Geraghty, Class of '20. Our May 14-20 trip to Puerto Rico includes six students and Dan Martin, Class of '16. Plane tickets, van rentals, and accommodations have been booked for the March trips. Scholarships and grants (\$8,000.00) have been awarded for all three trips. DeRider & Palumbo will provide more trip details at the board meeting.

**Corn Chowder Soup for Scholarships:** Thanks to Mama Mia's owner Eddie Caruso, and Chef George Hochbrueckner for hosting and preparing Corn Chowder on Monday, January 30, from 4-7 pm. Thanks also to Mackenzie Derider, Nick Palumbo and Eddie Lee for organizing the marketing and promoting ticket sales for the event. The 25 gallons of soup will be prepped at Mama Mia's and sold in quart containers (gumbo size) with two garlic knots for \$12.00 to the first 100 online customers on the Livingston CARES website. Since this event was suggested by board members, please order soup in advance and promote sales to faculty/staff/alumni/community. We need the income to fund future service trips.

**Gumbo to Go:** Our next Gumbo dinner is scheduled for Thursday, March 30. Marketing for this event will begin later in February. Please carve out some time to help with this event and promote sales to faculty and staff, and the community.

**Poverty Simulation:** Amy Sheldon from the College Senate and the Geology Department is organizing a SUNY Geneseo poverty simulation on Saturday, April 1. The event is funded by a grant, but they will need volunteers and participants, and Livingston CARES agreed to recruit people for the event. I had the opportunity to participate in a poverty simulation two years ago,

and I strongly encourage board members to take advantage of this opportunity. More details to follow.

**Annual Meeting:** Please save Monday, April 24, at 4 pm for our Annual Meeting of the Corporation. We will also elect board members and officers at that meeting. In past years, we also hosted a Thank You Pasta Dinner for service trip volunteers at the Interfaith Center. Should we revive that traditional event?