Nonprofit Council Meeting - Meeting Minutes – July 31, 2025

Council Members Present: Jennifer Ainsworth, Bryan Cambra, Angel Diaz, Cecilia Evans, Tracy Gardner, Kathi Grace, Jenny Halstead, Dr. Dan Hoppe, Tina Hunter, Kathy Jenkins, Shawn Kelley, Jack Lutz, Lauren Mazurkiewicz, Stephen McPeake, Brian Schmidt, Stephanie Sebring, Melinda Tavernier, Stephanie Warren, Todd Wood, Patty Younts.

Staff Present: Shannon Furtick, Amanda Bailey, Isabella Cenatiempo.

Meeting called to order at 3:03 p.m. by Shannon Furtick.

Welcome & Introductions — All

Civic Dollars — Stephen McPeake

Stephen got this idea after Covid because he wanted to get people out and moving again. The app doesn't focus on how many steps you make similar to other tracking fitness apps. It focuses on time spent outdoors; for every thirty minutes spent outside, you get a Civic Dollar into your wallet on your app. This app is downloadable on all platforms. The goal is to get people moving, get them outdoors and to become healthier. They want to improve individual's physical and mental health overall. Civic Dollars allows you to engage with nonprofits, schools, sports groups and more. The way it works is a geo-fence is put around a specific area and marked as an earn zone. It is an interactive app and user initiated in order to earn Civic Dollars. It is based on GPS location so there is no hardware to install anywhere. There are thirty-five areas already marked as earn zones in Horry & Georgetown counties. Stephen can add a location onto the app if they aren't currently listed. You can earn rewards yourself or you can donate it to nonprofits. Rewards can be created specific to your organization or nonprofit. This app provides a heat map to the city to have data on high trafficked areas. Businesses that participate will have a social impact dashboard for reporting. Free to users and businesses. You can earn a maximum of five civic dollars per day.

Leadership Grand Strand Projects — Stephanie Warren

The volunteer hours are split into different categories and the students have to volunteer a certain number of hours for that specific area. Stephanie encouraged the nonprofits to notify Shannon of any volunteer opportunities they have or will have going on in the future. Shannon will share with the class. Every year the current LGS class does a legacy project to leave a mark on something from that class. It is a bigger project that the class works on all year together. This year's legacy project is at Barnabas Horse Foundation. A lot of time will be spent there working on the specific areas needed to be updated. Stephanie encouraged the nonprofits to share any big projects they may have

going on that could be considered for the LGS legacy project for future years to come. The review is done in April and May.

Fall Nonprofit Expo — Shannon Furtick

Shannon confirmed with the council that they would still like a fall nonprofit expo. They all agreed that it is beneficial to them and their nonprofit. She is currently working with WonderWorks to secure that location for fall. There have been some staff changes, so it's taken longer to secure the location. The fall expo usually takes place around October; Shannon will work to finalize details.

Waccamaw Nonprofit Summit — Shannon Furtick

Tuesday, October 7, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., HGTC Grand Strand

$25 per attendee

This summit is combined with a few different foundations and organizations. This will be a full day summit, the other three are half days. This summit is very beneficial, and we highly encourage all to attend that can! The emphasis will be on trust and change; trusting nonprofits, change within organizations and board members, policies, helping with strategic planning, etc. Stehanie and Dan will be a part of the educational sessions. More information will be out in the middle to the end of August. $25 covers the entire day, breakfast and lunch.

Resident Advisory Taskforce — Robert Whitehurst

Robert spoke about the resident advisory taskforce and that they will be launching this to involve community stakeholders to provide the chamber with insight into specific concerns around that community. There will be fifteen residents representing each community throughout Horry County. Looking for people engaged in their communities that can understand and bring those concerns back to the advisory council. Applications are on our website and Facebook.

Strategic Planning: A Nonprofit Roadmap for Success — Dr. Dan Hoppe

Adjourn — Shannon Furtick

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m. by Shannon Furtick.