

MINUTES
CITY PEOPLE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
PHOENIX BOARDROOM
APRIL 21, 2008

The City People Board of Directors met Monday, April 21, 2008 in the Boardroom of The Phoenix Building on Gay Street. President Blake Valentine convened the meeting at 5:42 p.m.

Attending were directors Treasurer Jeffrey Gleeson, Kim Henry, Zibbie Kerin, Trisha McKinney, Debbie Roberts, Secretary Greg Sherrill, Vice President John Stancil, President Blake Valentine, and participating via telephone was Lisa Wiles.

Absent were directors Chuck Pierce, Anne Victoria, Robert Hubbs, Lorie Huff, and Patti "P" Smith.

Treasurer Gleeson provided a financial report, which showed total assets, liabilities and equity of \$9,867.07. Net income for the period March 17, 2008 through April 21, 2008 was \$475.23, mostly from membership renewals thanks to diligent invoicing by Director Kerin. Gleeson noted that the PayPal money from the previous month's Crown and Goose event was not reflected yet since that account has not been swept into our bank account. Expenses for the same period were \$689.77, mostly from Crown and Goose catering.

President Valentine asked the Board to first address grant funding issues, which had been postponed at a few previous meetings. There were five grant funding requests presented, all of which represented previous recipients of multiple years. In summary,

1. Old Gray Cemetery requested \$300 to offset costs of their annual Lantern and Carriage Tour. They have received a City People grant for the previous seven years.
2. Knoxville Holidays on Ice requested the purchase of advertising dasher boards similar to our purchase in 2007. \$1,500 was spent in 2007 as a first time expenditure.
3. The Market Square Farmers Market requested \$2,000 for advertising and promotion expenses. City People has provided a grant to this group for the past four years. From the group's financial statements, the Board members noted that it already appears profitable.
4. Tennessee Stage Company requested \$1,000 to offset expenses of providing the free Shakespeare on the Square series on Market Square each summer. They have received a City People grant the previous five years.
5. James White Fort requested up to \$5,000 to help with operating expenses. It was noted that the Fort is experiencing significant reductions in government funding this year due to economic conditions.

In discussion, Director Henry suggested that we identify the amount of grant funding that City People can afford, and then address how to divide that among the applicants. The Board referenced the financial statements, noting that the major fundraiser, Downtown Homes Tour, does not take place in 2008, and that the money raised from the 2007 Tour must last through 2009.

On a motion by Secretary Sherrill, seconded by Treasurer Gleeson, a grant in the amount of \$300.00 was awarded to Old Gray Cemetery. Motion carried.

On a motion by Director Kerin, seconded by Director Roberts, a grant in the amount of \$1,000.00 was awarded to Tennessee Stage Company. Motion carried.

On a motion by Secretary Sherrill, seconded by Treasurer Gleeson, a grant in the amount of \$1,000.00 was awarded to the Market Square Farmers Market. In discussion, Sherrill noted that while this was less than in previous years, the amount is more in line with other grant recipients and allows City People to serve more applicants. Motion carried.

On a motion by Director Henry, seconded by Vice-President Stancil, a grant in the amount of \$1,000.00 was awarded to James White Fort. In discussion, it was noted that the requested amount was left open, and the directors felt that the \$1,000 amount was in line with other grants provided previously. Motion carried.

Director Henry reported on efforts to contact with the City People business partners. She reported that many were not aware of any City People members patronizing their businesses, since so few members actually use their cards for discounts (or in some cases, the discounts are automatically applied). An idea was suggested that a map of City People business partners be developed. A few businesses which no longer exist were identified, and Secretary Sherrill was asked to remove these from the Web site, newsletter, and membership letter.

The Knoxville Ice Bears have asked to be recognized at the next City People Board meeting, and have suggested a City People Night at a home game next year.

Treasurer Gleeson reported that he will have all the necessary forms completed by the May meeting for obtaining an insurance policy to cover City People events.

Possible future event locations and service opportunities were discussed. An event aboard the Three Rivers Rambler was suggested, and it was noted that in September a wine car is available. Director Kerin asked about a possible service event with Second Harvest Food Bank, whereby City People could be listed as a source of volunteers. President Valentine suggested including a list of service opportunities for members in a monthly email and/or the newsletter. Finally, President Valentine reported that Gregg White will be recognized at the May meeting to discuss a service opportunity with the Downtown Relay for Life, which benefits the American Cancer Society.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned the meeting at 6:46p.m. Minutes submitted by Secretary Greg Sherrill.