

Amigos Center Advisory Board Minutes
St. Michael's Lutheran Church & School
October 30, 2006 - 4:00 PM

Members/Miembros: Bob Selle, Jon Zehnder, Veronica Culbertson, Eulalia "Lala" Troncoso,
Teleconference: Charles and Audrey Mueller, Denny Brown, Julio Estremera, Marve Ann Alaimo

Absent: Diego Grisales, Leonardo García,

- Opening prayer/oración de abertura: Led by Charlie Mueller
- Our Misión Statement / El propósito del Amigos Center
 - **Amigos Center's mission statement is to provide the Hispanic immigrant community and migrant workers of Southwest Florida with the tools necessary to succeed in the USA.**
- Minutes from last meeting / Acta de la última reunión: Not everyone had a copy of the minutes. Approval left until next meeting.
- Financial and Statistical Report / Informe financiera y estadísticas: Denny reported that we have served 23% more clients during first three quarters of 2006 than same period last year and 10% more than we had projected for '06. Most of this growth was in the two categories of Immigration and Referral/Informtion. One shortcoming is that our staff needs to be more careful about including the location code on their client intake form, half of the time the location code is not included. (Written report attached)
Our financials through Q3 indicate that we are \$158,427 to the good. This is mainly because of the support raised for Immokalee project, \$67,500 of this is designated for the down payment of the building in Immokalee. (Written report attached)
Selle reported that through efforts of Lutheran Foundation, we have received a second gift of \$67,500 for the purchase of the Immokalee building. Donor intention is that we use it to pay off the principle on the loan.

Past business

- **BIA accreditation and recognition of Fort Myers office and Golden Gate office.**
Marve Ann reports that all paperwork has been submitted for recognition of Fort Myers and Golden Gate office as well as partial accreditation of Christina Leddin in Fort Myers and Eulalia Troncoso in Golden Gate office. We expect a relatively speedy reply.
- **Board reorganization (see attachments):** Denny Brown provided a written analysis and recommendation concerning reorganization. Recent growth in budget, fundraising requirements and geographical expansion require us to reorganize our administration structure. The whole organization and administration depends too heavily on one person, Pastor Selle. What happens if Selle is hit by a truck? The board will study Denny's recommendations and we will take this issue up again at the next meeting.

New Business

- Banquet 2007: Selle has tentatively reserved St. Michael's gymnasium, Friday, March 23, 2007. Do we want to hire an event planner, (such as Andrea Smith). Veronica

thinks that an event planner is good however they can be costly. If there is a strong planning committee there may not be a need for a professional event planner. Jon thought maybe Andrea can volunteer as our event planner since she is just getting started in her new business, our event could serve as good publicity for the launching of her new career.

Selle asked Charlie Mueller if he could serve as our key note speaker. Charlie offered to discuss it with Selle.

There should be some effort to form two committees, one for Fort Myers and the other for Naples. Marketing and publicity for a Naples event is different than a Fort Myers event. Marve Ann will get a copy of Naples Charity Register to help us chose a good date for Naples area.

Selle will organize an initial meeting for organizing a banquet: Denny Brown, Jon Zehnder, Veronica Culbertson, Eulalia Troncoso (can help on limited basis).

Next Meeting / Próxima reunión: Monday, January 29 / Lunes, 29 de Enero, 2007