

NON-PROFIT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 18, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

Conference Room 2

Present: Karen Dixon, Jeff Sasse, Mark Evans, Bob Garza, Mark Burgdorf

Others Present: Mayor Jamie Clary, Tamara Ingersoll, Terri Goodwin, Janna Garton, Don Ward, Rachel Collins

Called to order by the Mayor at 5:01 pm

Mark Evans was nominated by Jeff Sasse and Bob Garza as the Chairman of the committee. He accepted the nomination.

Karen Dixon was nominated by Jeff Sasse and Bob Garza as the Vice-Chairman of the committee. She accepted the nomination.

Motion to Accept the March 18, 2025 Non-Profit Committee Agenda

Motion: Jeff Sasse

Second: Karen Dixon

Vote: Approved unanimously 4-0 with Mark Burgdorf absent for the vote.

Public Comments

Julie Meriwether spoke on behalf of Elevate 50 and indicated that it is the newly reimagined senior center. She expressed appreciation for the funding provided by the City and noted that they are requesting the same level of support as in prior years. She indicated that the number of members continues to grow, and they currently have 1730 members the majority of which are Hendersonville residents.

Sam Gilbert spoke on behalf of Rock Castle and expressed appreciation for the funding provided by the City. He provided an overview of what Rock Castle does and the events take place there that draw many people from out of the area. He also explained that the funding received for the construction project is not used for operations or events. He also noted that the construction is having an impact on revenues as they are not doing tours and many events are being held off-site. However, once completed, they should see a benefit.

Ryan Baker spoke on behalf of the Sumner County Museum. He indicated that this funding request is for the Traveling Trunk program that they take to all elementary schools in Sumner County, so students learn the history of where they live. They currently provide this to kindergarteners and 5th graders. He expressed his appreciation for the funding provided this year.

NON-PROFIT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 18, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

Conference Room 2

Other Agenda Items

FY2026 Non-Profit Application Packet Review

Chairman Evans invited the agencies that were in attendance to take a few minutes and explain what their agency does in order to help the committee understand what is being funded.

Steve Brown spoke on behalf of the Hendersonville Samaritan Association and ask that the City continue its funding. He discussed various things this agency does to assist the citizens of Hendersonville such as pay mortgage payments, utility bills and feed people. Alderman Evans asked him why the fund balance is going down. Mr. Brown indicated that they are paying for a new roof.

Sam Gilbert spoke on behalf of Rock Castle. He indicated that the construction should be completed in late summer or early fall. He is hopeful that when complete it will result in increased income. Alderman Sasse asked what they intend to use the funding for. Mr. Gilbert indicated that it is used for education, field trips, school engagement, and music series such as the singer songwriter series. Alderman Evans asked why they didn't receive any revenue from the County. Mr. Gilbert noted that they received funds from Sumner County Tourism. Alderman Dixon noted that last year Rock Castle funding was paid from the Hotel-Motel Fund.

Desneige VanCleve spoke on behalf of Grace Place. She explained that they are requesting \$10,000 which is more than approved last year due to their expansion. Alderman Evans asked what their cash on hand is for. Ms. VanCleve responded that it is for capital expansion. She was also asked where the remaining operating revenues come from and how much is used for salaries and benefits. She responded that they receive grants and private contributions. Less than 12% are used for salaries and benefits.

Roger spoke on behalf of STARS for Beech, Station Camp and Hendersonville High Schools. He noted that they are requesting the same level of funding as prior years. He explained that they provide mental health support in middle and high schools. Alderman Dixon asked if this was a statewide organization. Roger indicated that it was middle Tennessee only. The whole budget is \$15m. Alderman Garza asked what other cities provide funding. Roger responded that Gallatin also provides funding. Alderman Dixon asked if the school board provides assistance and he responded that they do help. Alderman Burgdorf asked where the \$15m is from and Roger replied that it is from school contracts, grants, United Way and private contributions. Cynthia explained that the funding is allocated based on the number of days at the school. The funding covers staff salaries, benefits, and training as well as IT support, liability insurance and other operating expenses.

Fran Marcou and Beth Pickle spoke on behalf of the Hendersonville Chamber of Commerce. They indicated that the Chamber helps build businesses and community events. They also provide education; anyone with a membership can send staff to classes such as Excel. The Chamber also

NON-PROFIT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 18, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

Conference Room 2

assists during emergencies such as tornados, especially helping businesses to recover. Alderman Dixon noted that currently the allocation for the Chamber is in the form of a membership paid out of the Executive budget and that to maintain the same membership level the City would have to pay more than the \$5,000 that is requested.

Christine Martin spoke on behalf of Community Life Bridge. She explained that they provide transportation within Sumner County for those 60 and older that do not drive. They are primarily funded by grants. She also indicated that Gallatin also provides funding. Ms. Martin noted that 52% of those they serve are Hendersonville residents and that they have a waitlist. Alderman Burgdorf confirmed that they only provide transportation within Sumner County and Ms. Martin responded yes. Alderman Garza asked if there is cooperation with other agencies. Ms. Martin indicated that they often transport people to Elevate 50, and they refer people to the other agencies as resources are needed. Alderman Burgdorf asked if they are local or part of a larger organization. Ms. Martin confirmed that they are only Sumner County.

Ryan Baker spoke on behalf of Sumner County Museum. Alderman Dixon stated that she is impressed with the program. Alderman Burgdorf asked if there has been an increase in visitors. Mr. Baker stated that there has been roughly a 10% increase. About half of the visitors are from out of the area either visiting or relocating here. He also noted that they have increased their events and have just finished the trunk for this year. In the fall they will be taking the program to the 5th graders. When asked how many are from Hendersonville Mr. Baker responded that 10% of museum guests are from Hendersonville.

Julie Meriwether spoke on behalf of Elevate 50. She stated that they do collaborate with other agencies. There are not a lot of organizations that support the older population, so they work together. Elevate 50 has all the resources listed to let people know what is available. Ms. Meriwether indicated that last year they had 178 new members and 96% of them are Hendersonville residents. Alderman Evans asked who owns the building that is listed as in-kind rent and Ms. Meriwether responded that the building is owned by the City.

The committee expressed appreciation for the agencies providing information and answering their questions. They indicated that this will make it easier when recommendations for funding are made at the next meeting.

Set Next Meeting

The next meeting was schedule for March 24, 2025 at 6:00pm.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion: Jeff Sasse

Second: Mark Burgdorf

Vote: Approved unanimously 5-0

NON-PROFIT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 18, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

Conference Room 2

Adjourned at 5:46 pm

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mark J. Evans". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Mark Evans, Chairman