



Minutes

HP Gives a Hoot Committee Meeting

2/16/22 **8:40** **Held over zoom conferencing**

Meeting called by **Michael Buchman, Chair**

Type of meeting **Regular Meeting**

Attendees **Michael Buchman, Kamara Russo, Evelyn Sedehi, Marilyn Pruce**

1. The virtual meeting came to order at 8:40 pm.
2. The finance report was reviewed. HP Gives a Hoot has a balance of \$29,763.01. Deducting unavailable funds and expected expenditures, we project an end of year balance of \$9,018.45 without further donations.

	12/15/2021	1/1/2022	2/1/2022
Current Total Balance of the account:	24,407.25	28,459.95	29,763.01
Remaining Balance of the Fire Relief Fund*	5,321.00	5,321.00	5,321.00
Est Summer Camp (20 campers) for year**	0.00	6,400.00	6,400.00
Est Global Grace costs for year***	0	0	0
Less Mayor's Event donation	3000	3000	3000
Refund to Feeding Middlesex County	523.56	523.56	523.56
Available Gives a Hoot Fund	15,562.69	13,215.39	14,518.45
*Using the Fire Fund	20,883.69	18,536.39	19,839.45
**Excluding Summer Camp	15,562.69	19,615.39	20,918.45
***Excluding Global Grace	15,562.69	13,215.39	14,518.45
Available Gives a Hoot Fund (above)	15,562.69	13,215.39	14,518.45
Est Purchases (\$500/month)	500.00	6,000.00	5,500.00



Minutes

	12/15/2021	1/1/2022	2/1/2022
Est end-of-year bal. (without donations)	15,062.69	7,215.39	9,018.45
Expenditures on groceries (prior month)	\$1,697.94	overlapping	\$689.94
Deposits prior month			\$3,518.00

Hoot received \$3,518 in donations in January. To end the year with enough for a full year's expenses (our standard buffer), there's a need to raise about \$5000 before next winter's 2022 solicitation.

3. **Food distribution** is running smoothly. This average has been between 37 and 40 families served each week since the new year.
4. **Possible additional distribution opportunity.** Evelyn Sedehi contacted the borough housing department and learned that some residents could use food. Discussion about how to do this. Evelyn will pick up additional food from Replenish and drop off in the building. She will follow up also.
5. **Flier distribution and coordinating with school food initiatives.** Mike met with school Superintendent Kristina Nicosia who agreed to include our flier to parents in the virtual backpack. She will also talk with her nurses, counselors, and principals about identifying kids in need. She directed Mike to HPHS Vice Principal Jason Richardson who is running a food backpack program. Mike is in the process of setting up a meeting with him.
6. **Seeking New Potential Donors for a Second Mailing.** The anticipation is that spending will be about \$16,000 a year (\$500/month groceries x 12= **\$6000** + \$320 x 30 camp scholarships = **\$9600**). So Hoot will need another \$8,000 over the course of the year. By the end of the month, committee members were asked to forward names and contact information of new potential donors to Kami (cc Mike) who will prepare a second mailing list.
7. **Releasing sequestered funds.** Motion was made and passed to recommend to the Borough Council that Hoot use the money in the fire fund and the money that was offered to refund to Feeding Middlesex County. Hoot has held the fire fund money for about two years and FMC has not responded to our multiple requests to "bill" for the refund. Mike will follow up with the Borough.

Old Business:

8. **Web page and Facebook revision.** Monica has offered to post any changes to our online presence. Mike will make recommendations before the next meeting.



Minutes

- 9. **Publicizing Hoot in public places.** Evelyn volunteered to get additional fliers from Monica and post them in public places around town.

New Business:

- 10. Discussion about expanding the Hoot committee by one or two people, one of which to take over minutes. Marilyn has asked to pass that job onto someone else. Mike will contact Ashton to see if any of his volunteers want to join the Hoot committee.
- 11. Discussion on the increase of families served over the past year. from the low 30s to close to 40 families a week. Evelyn will check to see if the Food Pantry has seen a similar increase.
- 12. Our next meeting will be via Zoom at 8:30 pm on 3/16//22.
- 13. This meeting was adjourned at 9:16.

Action Item	Who	Due	Status
Follow up with Housing Authority on food needs	Evelyn		
Send additional names for donor mailing	Everyone on the committee		
Meet with high school VP about backpack program	Mike		
Follow up with Borough about release of sequestered Funds.	Mike		
Distribute Hoot flyers around town	Evelyn		

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Pruce
Secretary