



## Play it Again - Future

November 5, 2003

**Present:** Cliff Hillebrandt, Cynthia Hanna, Mary Alice Ford and Vickie Rocker.

**Staff:** Jeri Alcock, Jodi Davis, and minutes by Natalie Horne

Jeri Alcock welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:05a.m. Introductions were made around the table.

### Recap of last meeting

Jeri reviewed the purpose of the committee and basic information about how the program operates currently.

Cliff provided an update on the dramatic increase in need triggered by the on-set of cold weather. He added that the location we have now is an asset and attracts higher quality clothing donations.

Cynthia and Vickie were invited to share their impression from the tour last month. Both commented favorably on the 'shopping experience' provided by the program.

Jeri wrapped up with the reminder that there is a cost to operating the program, even when we've had free spaces and volunteers to staff it. This cost is absorbed by the Development department's unrestricted dollars that are so important to supporting other services as well.

### Possible Future Directions

Jeri outlined three *possible approaches* for continuing to meet the need, then opened for discussion.

- a.) Identify another group to host with space
- b.) Set up a clothing voucher system
- c.) Transform the program into a clearinghouse for other clothes closets in the county

Discussion about the possibility of a voucher system resulted in the following list:

#### PROS

- Wider variety
- Need for space
- More stores/choice
- Better than "nothing"
- Costs less
- Reduce abuse

#### CONS

- Wider variety
- Barrier to service
- Limited dollar amount
- Eligibility requirement
- Bureaucratic
- No volunteer experience
- No client socialization
- Not able to serve as many clients
- Keeping donors connected?
- Doesn't bridge donor-client
- Time to set up /manage
- Might reduce client participation

The question to ask is, how do they resolve the issue of the limit on the value of vouchers in Tigard?

Cliff suggested the possibility of charging a flat fee (i.e. \$1 per family per visit) to help offset the cost of operating the program.

It was suggested that the project to be presented to the Inter Faith Network and also to the Inter faith Hospitality Network.

Another suggestion was to invite representatives from other clothes closets to come and talk about how they operate.

- ✓ Cynthia will contact the Beaverton School District and invite some one to come to the next meeting.
- ✓ Cynthia offered to search online and bring in a list of sites where clothing is available.

### **Group Structure**

- Jeri's request for a chair was tabled
- Vickie agreed to report from the committee at Board meetings
- A regular meeting schedule was agreed to. The committee will meet on the first Wednesday of every month, from 9:00-10:30 am.
- Natalie will reserve the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor conference room at Beaverton City Hall

Adjourned at 10:00 am.

**Next Meeting: December 03, 2003**