



Minutes of The Alliance Meeting held Monday, May 1, 2017, 11:30 am to 1:00 pm, George Woods Star Institute, 517 North Zenith

- I. Call to Order – Cathy Pope called the meeting to order.
- II. Minutes of April 3, 2017 – were approved and have been placed on the web page.
- III. Membership Report – There was not a membership report.
- IV. Projects of The Alliance:
 - A. Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas - Tamara Duncan introduced Mark Qualline to the Alliance members and turned the meeting over to him. Mr. Qualline stated that Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas is a nonprofit law firm that provides a wide variety of broad-based legal services to people who have a low income or are disadvantaged. The firm has a Community Redevelopment Program, which involves going into neighborhoods and educating the community on affordable housing, discernment, clearing titles, environmental justice and economic justice. They are trying to get into the Neighborhood Associations and getting them involved. They will help with grant writing, organizing, how their voices can be heard, to name a few. Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas is not to be confused with the Legal Aid Society, which only does family law. To make application, you can go to the website (www.lanwtorg) or call and make an application over the phone. If someone needs immediate assistance, they will be referred to a legal aid line where they will speak with an attorney that day. Mr. Qualline's phone number is 806-763-4557, ext. 6003.
 - B. HHSC Foster Grandparent Program – Emily Dressen introduced the Alliance to the HHSC Foster Grandparent Program. This is a federally-funded volunteer program for seniors over 55 who meet income qualifications (not over \$25,000 a year for a single person), who volunteer in schools, daycare facilities, hospitals, juvenile correctional institutions, Head Start centers, Boys & Girls Clubs and family shelters. They provide one-on-one tutoring and serve between 15 to 40 hours a week. Training is provided, and there is a \$2.65 per hour tax-free stipend, along with mileage reimbursement. They are always looking for new grandparents and other places that could use foster grandparents. They have a Memorandum of Understanding with Lubbock Independent School District wherein they can go to any LISD campus with principal approval. Usually have one grandparent to four students in a classroom. They do require a criminal background check and medical release. Contact information: 806-783-6672 – www.dads.state.tx.us/fostergrandparents.
 - C. Tree and Bench Project – Ms. Pope stated the City (assisted by Sheila Patterson Harris) is selling trees and benches to be placed at Mae Simmons Park. Currently, 30 trees and 3 benches have been sold. There is an Eric Strong Golden Raintree Grove with 5 Golden Raintrees being sold so far. The trees range from \$125 to \$300 (Golden Raintree), and the benches are \$1,500. They can be dedicated or in memory of someone. Phase 2 will be Lake 6.
 - D. East Lubbock Photo Contest – The deadline for pictures has been extended to a date to be determined in June.
 - E. Review of Alliance Involvement with Schools - The Alliance has been very involved in the schools this year, Estacado High School in particular. A meeting is in the works with Estacado Administration and coaches to look at what worked and what did not work. Some of the projects that will be discussed: busses to games, homecoming parade, paint the East side blue, athletic banquet.
 - F. Estacado Letter Jackets – Letter jackets for next year are still needed. Cost is approximately \$100 a jacket.
 - G. Community Youth Development (CYD) Project – Clarence Hatcher discussed the CYD project and the RFP that has gone out to providers to join this project. StarCare oversees this project that is composed of community partners working together to keep the youth in zip codes 79415 (already established) and 79403 (newly funded) out of trouble with the law. This involves a lot of after-

school mentoring and activities. If anyone is interested, a Letter of Intent needs to be sent to Clarence Hatcher at chatcher@starcarelubbock.org by Wednesday, May 3.

- V. Upcoming Events of the Alliance & Alliance Partners
 - A. May 2nd – Girl Scouts Women of Distinction Awards - Alliance member Dr. Aretha Marbley is being honored.
 - B. May 19th – Estacado Athletic Banquet – Reagor Dykes, 7:00p to 11:00p
 - C. June 16th through 18th – Juneteenth Activities – StarCare is the Platinum sponsor again this year. We will have a large tent for StarCare and Alliance members to have a table. Please let Brandi Ivey know if you want to have a table.

- VI. Other
 - A. New Principals – Two new principals for next year: Cicely Alexander is the new principal at Alderson and Julie Wyatt is the new principal of Talkington.
 - B. Time(s) of Alliance – Ms. Pope asked members to be thinking about the meeting time of the Alliance and would another time/day be better. She suggested possibly partnering up and attending a neighborhood meeting to talk about the Alliance and its projects. Several people have suggested a night meeting. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

- VII. Next Meeting – June 5, 2017, 11:30 am to 1:00 pm, 517 N. Zenith.