



Minutes of The Alliance Meeting held Monday, August 7, 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 July 10, 2017 – There were no corrections and will be placed on the web page.
- III. Membership Report – In the absence of Shannon Spencer, this report was deferred until next meeting.
- IV. Projects of The Alliance and Alliance Partners:
 - A. Financial Coaching – Annie Margarita Yang is a financial coach and has recently moved to this area from New York City. She stated at least half of all Americans live pay check to pay check with no money left at the end of the month. She has written a book, *1001 Ways to Save Money*, and is willing to offer one free 60-minute consultation, three free 60-minute one-on-one sessions with subsequent sessions priced at an affordable sliding scale fee, and a complimentary digital copy of her book, to residents of East Lubbock who desperately need her services. Any single adult or married couple that makes a steady income qualifies for coaching. Go to <https://tinyurl.com/AnnieYang> to set up a consultation.
 - B. CASA of the South Plains – Kristen Mata reported that CASA stands for court-appointed special advocates, and its mission is to find people to help advocate for children in foster care and find a safe, nurturing, permanent home for those kids and allow them to share the message. CASA of the South Plains includes the counties of Lubbock, Hockley, Terry, Yoakum, Hockley and Hale. CASA offers 101 information sessions to learn what an advocate does. Training for new advocates will be in September and November. On Saturday, August 12, CASA is having a one-day volunteer initiative making CASA Care Kits, from 9:30 am to Noon, at 1215 Avenue J, 2nd floor, to make care kits for kids who are in foster care, which contain tools for advocates, as well as playing cards, bubbles, etc. for the kids. Kristen encouraged members to become advocates for foster care children or to volunteer to help with the CASA Care Kit event.
 - C. Volunteer Center Leadership Symposium – Trevor Chilton, Partnership Coordinator for the Volunteer Center, encouraged members to attend the Acting on Purpose Service & Leadership Symposium to be held September 27, 2017, at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center, from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm. The keynote speaker is Vicki Clark, speaking on Servant Leadership. Early bird prices end August 15th (\$50 per ticket; \$375 a table); after that date, the tickets will be \$75 per ticket and \$575 per table until September 13th, at which time tickets only will be \$100 per ticket. This is a good introduction to the Volunteer Center, what it does, and to interact with over 600 attendees from across Lubbock. The Volunteer Center has a Get Connected website that is a volunteer database. Contact A J McCleod if you would like to be added to that database.
 - D. The Bridge of Lubbock – Whitney Owen reported The Bridge will have its Back-to-School give-away on August 19, 9:00a to 12:00P, at The Bridge (1301 E. Redbud Avenue), giving away clothes & applications for free uniforms, and at the Phea Boys & Girls Club (1801 E. 24th St.) from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm, giving away back packs and school supplies. If interested, call Whitney at 940-923-5595 or email her at wowen@thebridgeoflubbock.org. The Bridge will also have a Casino Night fundraiser on September 7th, at 6:30 pm, at the Grand at Reagor Dykes Downtown, and tickets are \$20. Call or email Whitney if interested in attending.
 - E. Leadership Institute – Monique Coleman reported on the progress of the Leadership Institute by members of the Alliance. This will be a two-year leadership program – first year is about leadership, the person, and the second year is about leadership, -people and projects. There will be a meeting on August 10th to work out the curriculum. Several key people will be involved in this process – Texas Tech University Marsha Sharp Leadership Institute, Lubbock Christian University Leadership program, and United Supermarkets Leadership program, to name a few. *Leadership for a Better World* is the curriculum that TTU uses and will be the base for the Leadership Institute

curriculum. Class size will be 15 to 16 adults 18 or over with the first class possibly being hand-selected. The fee will be \$100 for 10 once a month Saturday classes, with no classes in December or July. Hopefully, the Institute will be open in early 2018. The intention is to get the adult classes up and running, then bring in Estacado High School kids.

- F. Chick fil A Back to School Supply Drive – Cathy Pope stated Chick fil A is having a back-to-school supplies promotion. Every Tuesday in August, bring in a school supply and receive a free item.
- G. Inclusion of O. L. Slaton, Bean and Dupree – Cathy Pope introduced Damon McCall, Principal of O. L. Slaton, Carolyn Wadley and Kris Ann Blodgett, Vice-Principals of O. L. Slaton, to the members, and welcomed them to the Alliance. One other member of this administration is Betty Hall, but she was unable to attend the meeting today. These people have so much energy and passion for what they do, and they need our help in getting the community involved with O. L. Slaton Middle School and what they are doing. Last year was the first year for this administration, and they had their work cut out for them. They have made huge strides (not a low-performing school anymore) but still have a lot of work to do. Monetary help is always welcome, but what they really need is help building a task force of support and changing the public perception of the school. They have a Parent University where anyone in the family attends an event, they are given credit for events they attend. At the end of the year, these parents will be recognized. O. L. Slaton is a “No Excuses University,” which means that every kid deserves to be educated even though some are not college material. Many businesses in the area put up “We Support No Excuses” signs.
- H. Mae Simmons Tree Project – Cathy Pope reported 23 trees have been planted at Mae Simmons Park and will be selling more to be planted in the Fall. The Eric Strong Grove will be all Golden Raintrees, and we are hoping for 40. Trees range in price from \$75 to \$300 depending on the tree. Benches are for sale as well, and currently 3 have been sold at a price of \$1,500 each.

V. Upcoming Events of the Alliance & Alliance Partners

- A. Vamos a Pescar “Let’s Go Fishing” Event – This event is Saturday, August 12, at Buddy Holly Park, 600 N. University.
- B. East Lubbock Principal/Administrators Reception – A J McCleod invited all members to attend a reception honoring all East Lubbock Principals and Administration on August 23rd, at Estacado High School Cafeteria, 6:00 pm. This will give the community a chance to meet and greet the East Lubbock School Administrators and Principals. A flyer will be put in all the grocery bags at the United Supermarket on Parkway Drive.
- C. Paint the E-Side Blue – A J McCleod also invited members to attend the 3rd Annual Paint the E-Side Blue event. This event will be held September 20, 6:00p to 8:00p at the Wells Fargo Amphitheatre. There will be provider booths, along with Estacado Athletes, Band, West Texas Dancing Raiderettes, City Officials, Entertainment (Joy Harris Band), Balloon Release and staff recognition. Hot dogs, cake, etc. will be served.
- D. Chatman-Hill Clean-up – Cathy Pope reported another clean-up is being planned for the Chatman-Hill neighborhood. A lot of progress was made on the first clean-up, but another is needed to finish the project. Date to be determined.

VI. Past Event Reports

- A. National Night Out – A J McCleod reported that National Night Out was a huge success with approximately 300 people attending.
- B. MLK and Parkway Gateway – Monique Coleman reported the entry way or gateway to Parkway-Cherry Point neighborhoods is a project of the North and East Lubbock Community Development Corporation (NELCDC). The first gateway meeting was held Thursday, August 3. Part of this project is to make façade improvements to East Lubbock businesses. This is the first of various gateway projects envisioned in Imagine Lubbock Together. More diversity and inclusion is needed, with more Hispanic participation.

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