

**METRO EAST CHAPTER OF CREDIT UNIONS  
CHARITY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
June 25, 2013**

The regular meeting of the CHARITY COMMITTEE of the METRO EAST CHAPTER OF CREDIT UNIONS was called to order by Chairperson Crystal Gracz at 9:26 a.m. on Tuesday, June 25, 2013, at Detroit Metropolitan Credit Union.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Crystal Gracz, Julie Donnellon, Ronnie Johnson, Kellee Manchik and Heather Nelson.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Paula Rose and Kathi Sitek.

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Josephine Jabara, World Medical Relief

**PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:**

Motion made by Ronnie Johnson and supported by Kelly Manchik to approve the minutes of April 18, 2013, meeting as is. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**New Members** – Kelly Manchik of Belle River Credit Union was welcomed to the committee.

**World Medical Relief** – Josephine Jabara met with the committee to showcase how the organization impacts Michigan and beyond. Not only do they distribute medical equipment and supplies to countries around the world, they also run a local program to provide affordable medications to individuals in need. Last year alone they distributed 1.3 million brand-new prescriptions.

The organization also hosts a blanket drive (formerly run by the American Red Cross). Each year they distribute 13-15,000 blankets to area shelters. They are also the largest distributor of hygiene kits in the area.

After formally selected WMR as the committee's November-December initiative, members discussed various ways to assist the organization. Ideas included hosting blanket drives, volunteering to organize medical supplies, or even redesigning and printing marketing materials for the charity. Julie Donnellon will reach out to WMR to discuss the latter opportunity.

**School Supply Drive** –Each county will collect their own supplies. Julie Donnellon will coordinate Macomb and Oakland Counties. Heather Nelson will assist with St. Clair and Kathi Sitek will help with Wayne County. The email blast will identify these individuals as the contact for their county.

Sorting and delivery will take place in mid-August. Julie Donnellon will reach out to former member Gail Hernalsteen to see if the use of their garage is a possibility. Coordination of St. Clair donations will be handled earlier due to their timeline.

**Phone Home** – Crystal Gracz is researching various care package charities to replace Phone Home. Questions regarding Phone Home's relevance with today's advanced technology resulted in the committee looking deeper into where our efforts would be most beneficial. Partnering with a care package charity will still support soldiers and provide much needed supplies to those that are serving our country.

**ELECTIONS:**

None to be reported.

**NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, August 20, 2013, at 9 a.m. at Detroit Metropolitan Credit Union.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion was made by Ronnie Johnson and supported by Julie Donnellon to adjourn the meeting at 10:56 a.m. Motion carried.

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Crystal Gracz, Chairperson

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Julie Donnellon, Interim Secretary