



**AFC BUSINESS MEETING
NORTHERN LIGHT CHURCH
JUNEAU
FEBRUARY 9, 2009
2 – 3 P.M.**

Toll Free Number: 1-866-316-1519 Participant Code: 723725

MINUTES

1. Welcome from Alaska Food Coalition President, Andrea Thistle
 - a. In attendance:
 1. Linda Swarner, Kenai Peninsula Food Bank
 2. Amber Kraxberger, Kenai Peninsula Food Bank
 3. Robin Stilwell, Food Bank of Alaska
 4. Andrea Thistle, Valley Open Bible Fellowship
 5. Mike Rochin, New Hope on the Last Frontier
 6. AlexAnna Salmon, Iquigig Tribal Council
 7. Jim Crockett, Bean's Café
 8. Heather Harris, Alaska Youth and Parent Foundation
 9. Diana Jeska, Homer Community Food Pantry
 10. Mariya Lovishchuk, The Glory Hole
 11. George Olanna, Nome Community Center
 12. Dana Paperman, Seward Senior Center
 13. Jo Dawson, State of Alaska Child Nutrition Services
 14. Sharron Sigafos, AWAIC
 15. Jennifer Nieves, Catholic Social Services
 16. Patricia Salmon, Chalkyitsik Tribal Council
2. AFC Annual Meeting Member Updates – All members in attendance noted an increase in requests for their services. Additionally information about these organizations:
 - a. Andrea Thistle (Valley Open Bible Fellowship): Since January, VOBF Community Café has double the number of people they are serving.

- b. Mariya Lovishchuk (Glory Hole): The Glory Hole numbers have remained fairly steady, but the food bank in Juneau has seen drastic increases in requests for assistance.
- c. Robin Stilwell (Food Bank of Alaska): FBA is currently working with the legislature, the Governor and other state agencies to get food to Western Alaska.
- d. Diana Jeska (Homer Community Food Pantry): As the agency grows, word of their services are getting out and they have been seeing steady increases.
- e. Dana Paperman (Seward Senior Center): The senior center just received a \$5,000 grant from a veterans group to assist in feeding people this winter.
- f. Linda Swarner (Kenai Peninsula Food Bank): In the past year, there has been an increase of 1,000 that are accessing commodity foods from the food bank and they have now surpassed more than 1 million pounds through their agency in the previous year.
- g. Jim Crockett (Bean's Café): The café has seen a 27 percent increase in meals served. On average, the café serves more than 900 meals a day.
- h. George Olanna (Nome Community Center): Surprisingly, the pantry has seen a reduction in numbers. Transportation is key for this organization as the increasing transportation cost is severely hampering their ability to serve people in need.
- i. Heather Harris (Alaska Youth and Parent Foundation): AYPF has seen a steady number of teens that need food assistance, but their total need is increasing.
- j. Mike Rochin (New Hope on the Last Frontier): New Hope is seeing an average of 30 new clients every week.
- k. Jo Dawson (State of Alaska): Both TEFAP and SFSP are seeing increases this year.
- l. AlexAnna Salmon (Igiugig Tribal Council): More and more village residents are asking for assistance in comparison to just a few months ago.
- m. Jennifer Nieves (Catholic Social Services): St. Francis food pantry has seen a 37 percent increase and just recently added evening hours to address the needs of the working poor.
- n. Sharon (AWAIC): As the economy continues to slump, the number of domestic violence cases in the area are on the rise.
- o. Patricia Salmon (Chalkyitsik Tribal Council): Considering the weather and the economy, the village seems to be doing fairly well.

3. AFC News – Kerri Burrows, Alaska Food Coalition

- a. Mini-Grants
 - 1. Winners – This year, we did 13 grants to agencies for food purchase or transportation costs only. We had a rural focus and ended up giving out just over half to rural agencies.
 - 2. Evaluation of Process – All in the meeting agreed that having a review committee comprised of members was more beneficial for the agencies and suggested doing it again. Mike motioned to keep the mini-grant process the same for FY2010. Dana seconded. None were opposed.
- b. Budget
 - 1. The FY2010 budget was proposed in the same form as the FY2009 budget. All budget items were approved but several members

suggested having the AFC Manager investigate other options for the website, including self-maintenance.

- c. Hunger Study Update
 1. AFC Manager, Kerri Burrows, gave a brief overview of Hunger Study, the largest domestic study on the anti-hunger system. The study will begin in mid-February and will conclude at the end of April and will include 200 agency surveys and approximately 350 client surveys. Results will be announced at next year's Annual Meeting.
4. Election
 - a. All members submitted their ballots and those ballots were combined with ballots already submitted by members not in attendance. The new Executive Committee for AFC is as follows:
 1. President, Andrea Thistle, Valley Open Bible Fellowship
 2. Vice-President, Jennifer Nieves, Catholic Social Services
 3. Secretary, Mike Rochin, New Hope on the Last Frontier
 4. Treasurer, Susannah Morgan, Food Bank of Alaska
5. FY08 Review of Goals and FY09 Proposal of New Goals and Objectives
 - a. Kerri presented the proposal for new goals and objectives for FY2010. There were no objections and proposal was approved.
6. Questions
7. Other business, concerns or issues
8. Wrap-up
 - a. With time running short for members to move on to legislative meetings, Andrea adjourned the meeting at 2:45 p.m.