

Annual Meeting Minutes

January 29th, 2025 3:00

Minutes

Bill Papciak called the meeting to order at 3:04 pm. He welcomed everyone to the meeting including our special guests: Nairika Cornett, Bill Wittel, and Cloud Conrad.

Bill recognized the members of the Board of Directors and the Board Advisors. He gave special recognition to Tim Roth and Dick Osborne for their contributions. Both Tim and Dick will be leaving the Board Advisors in 2025. He thanked Susie Holbrook and members of the Events Committee for their work to preparing refreshments and set up for this meeting.

Bill reviewed the Community Fund Mission Statement.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Cresswind LL Community Fund is to enhance the lives of adults primarily 55 and older through charitable, educational, medical health related, and cultural opportunities exclusively in Gainesville and Hall County.

Help Local Seniors In Need

CRESSWIND LL COMMUNITY FUND

Bill recognized Kathy Hoskinson, the first Community Fund president, and described how the Community Fund has grown from 39 members nine years ago to approximately 1,200 members today.

Bill introduced Bill Wittel, President/CEO of the Beyond Dementia Coalition. Mr. Wittel described the growth of the Beyond Dementia Coalition over the last few years. He called special attention to the success of the Virtual Dementia Tour. Mr. Wittel introduced Cloud Conrad, Executive Director of the Beyond Dementia Coalition. Ms. Conrad discussed the mission of the Beyond Dementia Coalition which is to raise awareness of dementia and to provide support for those living with dementia. She also mentioned the recent formation of the Cresswind Dementia Caregivers Group. Ms.

Conrad thanked Cresswind and the Community Fund for the support they have provided to the Beyond Dementia Coalition.

Bill reviewed the Community Fund strategic plan for 2024/2025.

Strategic Plan Summary: 2024/2025 Outlook

1. Continue to Support the "Basic Needs" of Gainesville-Hall Seniors, and Give Back To Where We Live
2. Expand Our Volunteer Base & Activity from Within Our Membership
3. Continue to Develop Partnership Activity with Cresswind Clubs who have Compatible Goals and Interests
4. Expand our Effort to Cultivate Existing, and Develop New Gainesville-Hall Relationships with Organizations, Businesses, and Individuals who also give back to where they operate and live.

Bill introduced John Ulam to present the Financial Report. John opened his remarks saying that 2024 had been a great year.

Community Fund Financials – Year End 2024

Donations and Funds Raised

➤ General Donations	\$138,708
➤ Golf Tournament	\$38,389
➤ Silent Auction	\$10,940
Total Donations	\$188,037

Expenses

➤ Admin Expenses	\$13,037
➤ Bank Transaction Fees	\$2,035
➤ Fundraising Expenses	\$12,721

Grants

➤ Focus 55+	\$20,010 (10 donations)
➤ Food	\$67,600 (20 donations)
➤ Cresswind Clubs	\$2,986 (1 donation)
➤ GRG	\$45,304 (15 donations)
➤ Health	\$39,607 (14 donations)
➤ Veteran's Assistance	\$6,236 (2 donations)
Total Grants	\$181,742 (62 donations)

➤ Grants as % of donations 97%

➤ Admin Expenses as % of Donations 9%

Bill highlighted the fact that the total funds raised since the inception of the Community Fund has now exceeded one million dollars with a total of \$1,020,243.00.

Bill introduced Mark Nestle who gave the results of the recent Board of Directors election. He introduced the returning Board members all of whom were re-elected to an additional 2 year term.



Mark stated that there were many unsung heroes in the organization. He indicated that there are many ways individuals can contribute to the work of the Community Fund. He encouraged everyone to consider volunteering

Bill introduced Wilton Rooks who discussed the Bylaws update that was recently approved by an electronic membership vote. During the update to the Bylaws the Board discussed streamlining the procedures for approving minutes of the membership meetings including the quarterly and annual meetings as well as any special meetings that might be needed. Wilton described the benefits of having the Board of Directors approve these minutes which included making the minutes available to the membership in a more timely manner. Wilton asked for a motion that would allow the CWCF Board of Directors to approve minutes of all CWCF membership meetings. Cathy Jeffrey made that motion. John Ulam seconded the motion. Members voted to approve.

Bill introduced our featured speaker Nairika Cornett, Director of Quinlan Visual Arts Center.

Nairika K. Cornett

- Born in Mumbai (Bombay), India
- Brenau University 1993
- Art world since birth!



Ms. Cornett described her move from India to Gainesville as a student at Brenau University. She described art as a force that can bring people together despite their

differences. The Quinlan Visual Arts Center is beginning its 80th year. Their mission statement can be expressed as Education, Exhibitions, and Engagement. The list of things that she wanted the audience to know about the Quinlan Visual Arts Center included:

- Their galleries include the work of living artists.
- The Quinlan has two art therapists who provide art therapy for children through seniors.
- They have a new initiative called Creative Aging Through the Arts which focuses on ability vs. disability.
- They are planning an artist residency program.

The Quinlan is offering a challenge to Cresswind. If 100 Cresswind residents become members of Quinlan before the end of February 2025, the Quinlan will host one Cresswind event per quarter during the year. The first one is planned for April. Membership however is not required to visit the Quinlan. She encouraged everyone to visit. To view the slides from Ms Cornett’s presentation [see the Addendum](#).

Bill briefly reviewed Community Fund programs.

Community Fund Programs

- **HELP THE HUNGRY** – Hall County Food Banks
- **Grandparents Raising Grandchildren***- Financial assistance to Grandparent led families.
- **Help Me Please* Service Program** – Neighbors Helping Neighbors. Funds go directly to Hall County charities supporting seniors in need
- **The Spirit of Cresswind Annual Golf Tournament**- Donations to General Programs and 24-32 Free First Responder Golf Day
- **Annual Silent Auction** - Donations to General Programs
- **Focus 55+** Assist Individuals in Needed vetted by Organizations
- **Veterans 55+ Program** Community Fund and Veterans Club



Make a Difference in Someone's Life... and in Yours!

He asked Bud Baker to make a few remarks about the Help Me Please program. Bud reviewed the work done by Help Me Please in 2024.

Help Me Please

	HMP Activity 2021 thru 2024 YTD			
	Yearly	Yearly	Yearly	2024
	Total	Total	Total	Dec YTD
	2021	2022	2023	
Jobs Requested	431	432	589	810
Jobs Completed	420	417	573	786
Jobs Not Completed	12	15	16	24
Jobs Funded	398	402	540	745
Jobs Unfunded	22	15	33	41
Funds Generated	\$ 32,333	\$ 39,438	\$ 56,396	\$ 69,878
Average Donated per job Funded	\$ 81.24	\$ 98.10	\$ 104.44	\$ 98.03
Active Volunteers This Month			Avg 28	31
Volunteer Hours Utilized This Month			Avg 144	151

Bud also asked for help to get the word out about the Companion Care program which is available to provide time away for caregivers who are taking care of a spouse of other family member. Mark Nestle encouraged the group to tell new neighbors about the Help Me Please program.

Bill announced a luncheon that is being planned for all Community Fund volunteers during Valentines week.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:33.

Respectfully submitted

Cathy Jeffrey
Secretary

Addendum

Supporting Documents

Cresswind LL Community Fund

Annual Meeting

January 29, 2025

CRESSWIND LL COMMUNITY FUND
Make a Difference in Someone's Life... and in Yours!

Welcome!

Members, Nonmembers,
Special Guests

CRESSWIND LL COMMUNITY FUND
Make a Difference in Someone's Life... and in Yours!

Welcome Special Guests

- *Nairika Cornett*, Director
Quinlan Visual Arts Center
- *Bill Wittel*, President/CEO
Beyond Dementia Coalition
- *Cloud Conrad*, Executive Director
Beyond Dementia Coalition

CRESSWIND LL COMMUNITY FUND
Make a Difference in Someone's Life... and in Yours!

Current Board of Directors & Officers

Bill Papciak, President
Mark Nestle, Vice-President
John Ulam, Treasurer
Cathy Jeffrey, Secretary
Lois Ehlers
Bud Baker
Darla Eden
Wilton Rooks

CRESSWIND LL COMMUNITY FUND
Make a Difference in Someone's Life... and in Yours!

Board Advisors

Elaine Wood, Arnie McCleese, Russ Williams,
Susie Holbrook, Ann Sutlive, Ron Stowe, Sue Garcia,
Tim Roth, Dick Osborne
Rose Micuch, Tom Alexandris,
Brian Olson, Glenn Beranek

CRESSWIND LL COMMUNITY FUND
Make a Difference in Someone's Life... and in Yours!

Mission Statement

The mission of the Cresswind LL Community Fund is to enhance the lives of adults primarily 55 and older through charitable, educational, medical health related, and cultural opportunities exclusively in Gainesville and Hall County.
Help Local Seniors In Need

CRESSWIND LL COMMUNITY FUND
Make a Difference in Someone's Life... and in Yours!

Raise Funds Grant Funds

CRESSWIND II COMMUNITY FUND

Strategic Plan Summary: 2024/2025 Outlook

1. Continue to Support the "Basic Needs" of Gainesville-Hall Seniors, and Give Back To Where We Live
2. Expand Our Volunteer Base & Activity from Within Our Membership
3. Continue to Develop Partnership Activity with Cresswind Clubs who have Compatible Goals and Interests
4. Expand our Effort to Cultivate Existing, and Develop New Gainesville-Hall Relationships with Organizations, Businesses, and Individuals who also give back to where they operate and live.



CRESSWIND II COMMUNITY FUND

Financial Report

2024 Year End Report

John Ulam, Treasurer, Board Member

CRESSWIND II COMMUNITY FUND

Community Fund Financials – Year End 2024

Donations and Funds Raised

➤ General Donations	\$138,708
➤ Golf Tournament	\$38,389
➤ Silent Auction	\$10,940

Total Donations \$188,037

Expenses

➤ Admin Expenses	\$13,037
➤ Bank Transaction Fees	\$2,035
➤ Fundraising Expenses	\$12,721

Grants

➤ Focus 55+	\$20,010 (10 donations)
➤ Food	\$67,600 (20 donations)
➤ Cresswind Clubs	\$2,986 (1 donation)
➤ GRG	\$45,304 (15 donations)
➤ Health	\$39,607 (14 donations)
➤ Veteran's Assistance	\$6,236 (2 donations)


Total Grants \$181,742 (62 donations)

- Grants as % of donations 97%
- Admin Expenses as % of Donations 9%



Financial Summary Since Inception 2016

Total Funds: \$1,020,243.00

Total Grants: \$847,141 

Current Funds Available for Grants - \$22,080




2025
Board of Directors



Newly Elected Board Members
The Members Voted The Week of January 19- 26

Bud Baker
Daria Eden
Lois Ehlers
Cathy Jeffrey
Bill Papciak
John Ulam
(2 Year Terms)



Bylaws Update

Bylaws

- Establish the governance provisions
- Establish the operational guidelines
- Policies and Procedures follow the Bylaws and define the operations – who does what, when and where...
- Request – Board approval to approve minutes

Approval of the Meeting Minutes

- 4th Quarter – 2024 - Year End Meeting
- Authorization for Board to approve minutes

Why do it?

- Need to adapt Bylaws as organization grows
- Transition Committee clarified job descriptions and operational guidelines
- Not a trivial task - tedious and repetitive
- Team effort
- Unique skill set
- Fortunately the Governance Committee Chair likes doing it... or does it anyway!




Q QUINLAN VISUAL ARTS CENTER

Guest Speaker
Nairika Cornett, Director
Quinlan Visual Arts Center

Nairika K. Cornett

- Born in Mumbai (Bombay), India
- Brenau University 1993
- Art world since birth!





There are two distinct languages. There is the verbal which separates people...and there is the visual that is understood by everybody.
- Yaacov Agam

WHAT DOES A WORLD WITHOUT ART LOOK LIKE?





IS THE UNIVERSE PREDISPOSED TO RHYTHM/ARTISTIC EXPRESSIONS?

QUINLAN VISUAL ARTS CENTER

Q

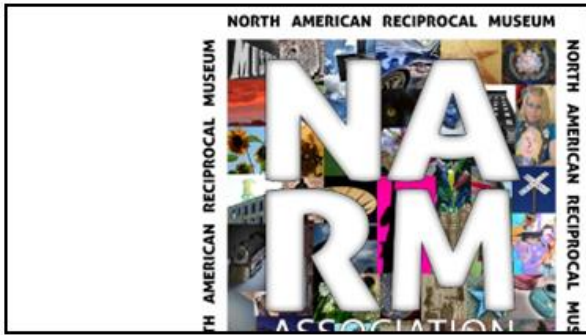
1946
and beyond...



In 1955, Leslie Quinlan decided the land for the Quinlan
"Not as a gift, but as an **INVESTMENT** in the cultural future of the community."







LEVELS OF MEMBERSHIP AT THE Q

FAMILY & FRIENDS \$100

MEDALLION MEMBERS \$1,000+

- MEDALLION COLLECTOR \$1,000-\$2,499
- MEDALLION PARTNER \$2,500-\$4,999
- MEDALLION BENEFACTOR \$5,000-\$9,999
- MEDALLION GRAND BENEFACTOR \$10,000+

2025 CRESSWIND INITIATIVE...

100 New Members before Feb 28

- Spring: Art Reception at the Q, April 23 | 3pm-5pm
- Fall: Enrichment Day at the Q

**A New Initiative...
CREATIVE AGING THROUGH THE ARTS**

A focus on ABILITY vs. disability

WHY?

- provides a sense of purpose
- reduces depression and anxiety
- builds independence
- encourages persistence and a sense of humor
- improves cognition
- offers sensory stimulation
- fosters a stronger sense of identity
- helps connect with others
- increases social skills
- reduces loneliness
- helps individuals realize their potential



Develop The Quinlan School of Art

- Upgrade Studio Spaces (equipment/supplies)
- Need-based scholarships
- Offer Atelier Approach to Art Education/Internships
- Art as Therapy

Grants writing for Large Institutional Giving

Estate Planning

YOUR
SUPPORT
NEEDED

Q
ARTIST
RESIDENCIES

VOLUNTEER

WORK HUMANITY LOVE

Q
Thank-You!
Questions?

Spirit of Cresswind

Thank-You!
Questions?

Spirit of Cresswind



"Help Me Please"
(Neighbors Helping Neighbors)
 More requests every year
 All Donations Help
 Local Seniors in Need!
HMP Manager:
Bud Baker

CRESSWIND LL COMMUNITY FUND
 1000 S. CRESSWIND BL. #1000, BOSTON, MA 02118

Help Me Please

HMP Activity 2021 thru 2024 YTD

	Yearly Total 2021	Yearly Total 2022	Yearly Total 2023	2024 Dec YTD
Jobs Requested	431	432	589	810
Jobs Completed	420	417	573	786
Jobs Not Completed	12	15	16	24
Jobs Funded	398	402	540	745
Jobs Unfunded	22	15	33	41
Funds Generated	\$ 32,333	\$ 39,438	\$ 56,396	\$ 69,878
Average Donated per job Funded	\$ 81.24	\$ 98.10	\$ 104.44	\$ 98.03
Active Volunteers This Month			Avg 28	31
Volunteer Hours Utilized This Month			Avg 144	151

CRESSWIND LL COMMUNITY FUND
 1000 S. CRESSWIND BL. #1000, BOSTON, MA 02118

**OPEN FORUM
 Q & A**

CRESSWIND LL COMMUNITY FUND
 1000 S. CRESSWIND BL. #1000, BOSTON, MA 02118



*The Spirit of Cresswind
 is You!
 Thank You!*

CRESSWIND LL COMMUNITY FUND
 1000 S. CRESSWIND BL. #1000, BOSTON, MA 02118

Cresswind LL Community Fund

Annual Meeting

Adjourned

CRESSWIND LL COMMUNITY FUND
 Make a Difference in Someone's Life... and in Yours!

[Back to Minutes](#)