

TOWN OF FAIRFAX STAFF REPORT

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Michael Rock, Town Manager



DATE: November 3, 2010

SUBJECT: Discussion and Consideration of directing staff to work with the Marin Community Food Bank to locate a Food Pantry in Fairfax

RECOMMENDATIONS

Direct staff to work cooperatively with the Marin Community Food Bank Associate Director, Phil Lastreto, to locate a Food Pantry in Fairfax.

DISCUSSION

At the September 1, 2010 Town Council meeting the Council heard a presentation from Dave Cort, Executive Director from the San Geronimo Community Center regarding the Food Pantry in San Geronimo and the impact that Fairfax residents have on that location. Mr. Cort encouraged the Council to explore the possibility of locating a Food Pantry in Fairfax to better serve residents in the Ross Valley (where no Food Pantry currently exists) and to take a large burden off San Geronimo which currently is serving more than 20% of their total clients from Fairfax.

Subsequent to this presentation by Dave Cort, the Marin Community Food Bank Associate Director, Phil Lastreto, contacted me and asked if we could meet to discuss the possibility of locating a Food Pantry in Fairfax. Phil and I met on October 13, 2010 and discussed all of the issues in setting up a Food Pantry in Fairfax. I asked Phil to list all of the needs and details needed to run a successful Food Pantry. Attachment A lists the requirements needed for a successful Food Pantry to be located in Fairfax.

Phil would be happy to conduct a tour of his facility and also tour another food pantry so Council Members can see one in operation.

FISCAL IMPACTS

Initially, staff time to work with the Marin Community Food Bank staff. If a Food Pantry were located in Fairfax the Town would request the help of the Fairfax Volunteers in locating interested volunteers in the Ross Valley to work in the Food Pantry.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment A: Requirements Needed for a Successful Food Pantry in Fairfax

ATTACHMENT A

REQUIREMENTS NEEDED FOR A SUCCESSFUL FOOD PANTRY IN FAIRFAX

- 1. A clean, safe space, 500-1,000 square feet**
- 2. Open five days per week, either mornings or afternoons, to be decided by Fairfax.**
- 3. Staffed by serious volunteers that will make sure the pantry is open on the posted days and at the posted times.**
- 4. Adequate shelving to store the donated non-perishable items. We can help with this. This may be around \$1,000 or less, depending on the space available.**
- 5. A refrigerator and freezer would be necessary as we donate milk and yogurt and other frozen items.**
- 6. A location easy to reach by public transit and easy to find. Free parking and a level site also helps.**
- 7. Advertise the new site on the Fairfax web site and in the local papers and any other way possible**
- 8. Help in unloading the trucks that deliver the food.**
- 9. A willingness to work with the Marin Food Bank in ordering and distributing food and reaching out to the community.**