



Minutes of the Wake Forest Woman's Club General Meeting

held Thursday, September 5, 2013

Members Present: 31

Call to Order: President Gorland McBride called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. She welcomed current and new members and guests to the first meeting of the 2013-2014 club year, and thanked members of the executive committee for hosting the football-themed refreshments.

Invocation: Was given by Chaplain Susan Smith, who presented a poem written by Michael Josephson on "Life Lessons" "...Our actions will live on long after we're gone. What will matter is what you built and gave and taught...Encouraging others to live a life that matters is by choice."

Pledge of Allegiance: President McBride led the Pledge of Allegiance and salute to the State of North Carolina.

Officers Reports:

Corresponding Secretary: President McBride, filling in for Corresponding Secretary Judy Davison, read a letter received from Meals on Wheels thanking the club for its donation from the President's Project. Several club members were also thanked for their ongoing support and involvement with Meals on Wheels through the Northern Wake Senior Center. They include Margaret Lloyd, Martha Loftin, Quinn Berardinelli and Mary Petretich.

Treasurer's Report: Finance chairman, Martha Loftin gave the report for Treasurer Kathy Norris. Our balance at the end of the club year in May was \$5,777, with expenses to date of \$4,869. Our current balance is \$11,021.64.

Chairman Loftin presented a proposed operating and charitable budget for the 2013-2014 club year. Several items were highlighted and discussed, including a request to solicit subscriptions for the *Wake Forest Weekly* as a way to add dollars for our charitable giving. We receive \$5 for a renewal and \$10 for each new subscription.

First VP Marilyn Bonnett made a request for \$150 in funding to purchase 50 lunches from Chick-Fil-A for the Chamber of Commerce Wake Forest Youth Leadership Program Non Profit Day, to be held Sept. 10 at Camp Kanata. Our club will be represented at the event and will be one of four non-profit organizations providing hands-on service activities for the participants.

Carolyn Furr asked if the lunches should be part of our charitable contributions. Chairman Loftin said refreshments are not considered a charitable expense.

VP Bonnett also explained a budget line item expense of \$100 proposed for funding activities to support the newly-forming WF High School Juniorette club.

A question was raised by members Debby LaPierre and Sharon Rasmussen as to what process the Finance Committee follows to determine what charitable projects outside of CSP initiated activities receive funding, and will the membership be asked for suggestions or input on how club funds or grant monies will be spent?

Finance committee member Carolyn Furr, said that the Wells Fargo Grant money received by the Woman's Club this year was used as a "pass through" to support the town of WF July 4 event. By funding the event, the Woman's Club received extremely high praise and public recognition. She said we will look again in January 2014 for more money and will solicit member input.

With no further discussion or questions received from the floor; a motion was made by Chairman Loftin for approval of the budget for adoption as submitted. The motion was seconded by Carolyn Stoklas, with unanimous membership approval.

Reporting: First VP Bonnett spoke about completing reports. She said, "Nothing we do for ourselves is reportable. We report only the things we give away."

Reporting rules change every two (2) years. For this current administration we don't have to write out a whole page of description for our charitable activities. We can shorten descriptions to just a few sentences.

It's important to note that our budget year is different from our reporting year. Our budget year (recently changed via a policies and procedures amendment), runs from August 1 thru July 31, to allow time to prepare a budget for presentation to the membership at our Sept. general meeting. The reporting year runs from January 1 thru December 31.

More detailed information was presented by VP Bonnett regarding the Chamber's Youth Leadership Non-profit Day (Sept. 10). There are four (4) non-profit organizations participating in the event: The WFWC and Ministry to the Military (partnering together), the Optimist Club, the Shore Grief Center and Ewe to You. Our hands-on activity with Ministry to the Military will include having the students write notes to service men and women serving overseas and then including the notes in care packages of non-perishable food and personal items for shipping. The Optimist club will have students decorate reindeer goodie bags to be used for a "Shop with a Cop" event at Christmas time. The Shore Grief Center is having the students perform a craft activity that is used in grief counseling. Ewe to You, an organization started by student Hannah Moyles, will make dog pull toys for donation to the local SPCA.

VP Bonnett also spoke about the formation of the Juniorette club at Wake Forest High School. All Juniorette clubs need the involvement of a sponsoring Woman's Club to receive a GFWC charter. They must hold a minimum of 3 meetings before making a charter application and have at least five (5) dues paying members. The first meeting was held in May, a second meeting is planned for Sept, 18 at the high school and a subsequent meeting and follow-on schedule will be announced at that time. They plan on setting dues at \$20 per member; all of which is required to be sent to the GFWC. That is why we have requested \$100 in our budget for funding their start up activities.

A motion was made by VP Bonnett to approve the budget line item expense for the Juniorette club, and the motion was seconded by Salina Gary, with unanimous membership approval.

Officer Request: Martha Loftin directed the members to our Yearbook, Section E, Club History and Traditions, Page E-7, which identifies all Charter and Lifetime Members. With the death of Hope Newsom in May of this year, we are without a current Lifetime member. Martha made a motion that we elect Betty Ann Wilkerson for Lifetime membership. The motion was seconded by Wendy O’Neal. A discussion ensued which identified the Yearbook states a lifetime member...”shall be elected by a committee composed of 1. Club President; 2. Membership chairman; 3. Member-at-large to be chosen by the membership of the Club.” A committee was then identified to include: President Gorland McBride, Carolyn Furr and Barbara Kingrey. The committee subsequently approved the election of Betty Ann Wilkerson to Lifetime Member status.

CSP Reports:

Conservation – Chairman Sandi Schwarz reported her committee goals include making pins from plastic water bottles for Mother’s Day distribution to local nursing homes; collecting used eyeglasses for donation to the Lions Club; recycling of used batteries and ink cartridges; contributing to the town’s seedling giveaway for Arbor Day and applying additional refinishing to the bench at the Historical Museum.

Education: Chairman Hilda Parlér reported her committee goals will be a continuation of last year’s activities, including: tutoring at Wake Forest Elementary and Forest Pines Drive Elementary; distributing books for Laundromats; supporting Back Pack Buddies; donating school supplies; participating in the Chamber of Commerce Spelling Bee; conducting the WFWC Continuing Education Scholarship and collaborating with the Wake County Literacy Council. She also mentioned that she is working with a Math Instructor at Heritage High to develop an interactive program with students and will provide more information as it develops.

International Outreach: Carolyn Stoklas gave a report for Chairman Quinn Berardinelli. Their goals include: The sponsorship of a child for one year at the Ryan Epps Home for Children in Haiti; support of the annual CROP Walk for Hunger and contributing to the UN Global Education Initiative for the education of women around the world.

Home Life: Chairman Katy Green said her committee have held two meetings so far, and everyone is working on separate projects. They include: The collection of toiletries for the Safe Space organization; pen pals to send cards to residents of the Murdoch Center and providing Christmas gifts for 20 residents at the Center; working with Meals on Wheels (they need substitute drivers), and supporting their “Fat Tuesday” celebration at the Senior Center; working with the St. Andrew’s Society to ‘glean’ fresh produce from harvested fields for donation to local food banks; collaborating with the WF library (straightening shelves); and support of Habitat for Humanity’s annual breakfast and one other project to assist Habitat homeowners.

Public Issues: Debby LaPierre gave a report for Chairman Judy Davison. They plan to support eight (8) projects to include: Recognition of local First Responders; Support of the Purple Heart Dinner for veterans; the Police Department’s DARE program; Distribution of fire safety manuals to elementary schools; support to Wreaths across America; sponsor a “Lighting of Wake Forest” children’s activity; sponsor Dream League baseball; and promote a Red Cross blood drive.

Arts: Chairman Marilyn Bonnett said her CSP goals include: showing student artwork in the Fidelity Bank display case (elementary, middle and high school entries, every two months); transporting of Murdoch Center art entries to the District and State Arts Festivals; conducting a crafts/activity with residents of a long-term care facility; work with Heritage Middle School to raise money for a trip to Disney World; sponsor a children’s craft activity for the “Lighting of Wake Forest” event; provide arts and crafts supplies for the Shore Grief Center; purchase art supplies for three (3) art teachers (one at each school level).

Standing Committees:

ESO: President Gorland McBride presented Sandi Schwarz and Sharon Rasmussen with ESO Reading Certificates for reaching the Star and Torch Levels. To achieve Star level a member must have read and reported on 40 books in 6 different categories. For Torch level, you must have read a total of 64 books from 16 different categories.

Membership: Membership chairman Carolyn Furr introduced new member Mary Petretich. Mary is originally from California, but has been actively involved in the Wake Forest community, as a member of the Garden Club, Friends of the Library and the Downtown Revitalization Corporation (DRC). The chairman also introduced her guest in attendance, Doris Minton. Doris was recognized and welcomed by the membership.

Chairman Furr spoke about the upcoming Parade of Homes Event and encouraged every member to sign up for at least one (1) round as a Hostess. A sign-up sheet has been circulating. There are 17 homes available for showing this year and the event will be held on eight (8) days: Oct. 5-6; 11-13; 18-20. Family and friends can also participate as hostesses and earn money for our club.

It was also mentioned that the Chamber of Commerce Expo is coming on Oct. 24 at the Ledford Center. To have a booth at the event it will cost \$350 for a profit organization and \$100 for a non-profit group. Our club has made a commitment to co-sponsor a booth with the WF Junior Woman's Club.

Resolutions and Revisions: Parliamentarian Dawn Nakash said that members are the best ones to review our processes and recommend changes to existing procedures. Unlike our by-laws, which can only be changed by vote in April of each year, policies and procedure changes can be recommended and brought to a vote at any time during the year. Members were encouraged to bring to the committee anything they feel is not working.

Bowl-a-thon: Ann Triebert gave a report on the August 25 Bowl-a-thon fundraiser. She said that the club made a profit of \$1400. We had a total of 50 bowlers, and 16 clubwomen participated as helpers at the event. She thanked the strong committee that helped the event's success, and said we should plan to do it all again. The club received a lot of publicity for the event.

Other Business/Announcements:

This year's dues are due. The amount is \$40. Payment can be made tonight or can be mailed to our Post Office box at 1614, Wake Forest, NC 27588-1614.

It was also announced that \$1000 of the funds we received from the DRC's Car Show event in June, was given as a donation to the Jr. ROTC at Wake Forest High School.

Our 2013-2014 Yearbook update is nearly completed and will be available on line for download from our club website at www.wake-forest-womans-club.com., shortly.

Adjournment: No further business being discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

OFFICER OF THE BOARD: Salina M. Gary, Recording Secretary