



MINUTES

Zonta Club of Laramie

June General Meeting

June 28, 2018

Corona Villiage

In Attendance: Patty Butler, Charlotte Davis, Wendy King, Tamara Bretting, Jennifer Stone, Tia Ocampo, Johnna French, Jeanetta Schmidt

Guests: Linda Valenti, Betty Wills, Beth Bayer, Sarah, and Mary

1. Call to order by Jennifer Stone, 5:56pm

2. Introduction of Board Members:

- a. President: Jennifer Stone
- b. Vice President: Johnna French
- c. Secretary: Tamara Bretting
- d. Treasurer: Wendy King
- e. Directors:
 - i. Alyssa Tiekela
 - ii. Tia Ocampo
 - iii. Robynn Palmer

As this is the start of our fiscal year, officers and directors were introduced. For the benefit of our guests, we discussed that the officers and directors make up the board of our club, we also introduced the discussion item of combining general meetings with board meetings (to be discussed in new business).

- 3. Secretary's Report:** by Jennifer Stone and Tamara Bretting (transition of Secretary office). The May 2018 General Meeting Minutes were emailed to the club by Jennifer Stone. Tamara Bretting had one correction: the Z Club was not awarded the Emma L. Conlon award, but had completed their application and submitted it for the award. Charlotte Davis moved to accept the May 2018 minutes with changes, Patty Butler seconded the motion. All in favor – May 2018 General Meeting Minutes are approved.
- 4. Treasurer's Report:** Wendy has been working on fixing our taxes for the past 2 years. Discussion was had about the types of accounts we have (club account and foundation account) and what they are used for to inform our guests about our proceedings.

5. Committee Reports: For the benefit of our guests, we discussed the committees that we have (listed below), along with the fact that Zonta International requires us to have the first three committees below.

a. Advocacy: by Wendy King

Wendy introduced the advocacy committee as a committee to bring awareness of issues, projects, and Zonta to our community, including the biennial projects that Zonta International sets goals around each biennium. We also informed our guests that the Zonta International Convention is currently happening in Japan, so these biennial projects will be turned over during this week.

b. Service Committee: by Tamara Bretting

With the help of Jennifer and Wendy, Tamara discussed the items that fall into the service committee's hands. The following are some of our current items in the service committee:

- i. **Z Club:** The high school version of Zonta is highly successful in Laramie. The most recent project was a Cupcake Chase 5k which raised over \$1000 for Heart Mothers, an organization that supports rescued victims of sex-trafficking in Cambodia. Other projects include the Days for Girls project (making reusable hygiene kits for women and girls around the world – recently sending 50 kits to Kenya), the Red Sand Project (raising awareness of human trafficking on the high school campus), a self-defense class in the past, and many others.
- ii. **Scholarships:** Our club offers 4 opportunities for scholarships, 3 of them as part of the Zonta International scholarship programs and 1 as a local level only scholarship. One of these is an Aeronautical Engineering scholarship for women which we haven't had any prospective applicants for in many years. The other three we have awarded often. Tamara requested action by the club to make a decision on this year's scholarships. Each scholarship had only one applicant this year, and two of the scholarships were the same applicant. Discussion was had around whether one person should be able to receive both scholarships. It was generally agreed upon by the group that because this young lady made the effort to apply to both, she should be awarded both. A motion was made by Jennifer Stone and seconded by Johnna French to award both scholarships. All in favor – the motion to award two scholarships to one applicant was approved.
- iii. **Suited for Success:** Jennifer Stone introduced this service project to our guests as a place for women in our community to come get professional clothes for interviews. We have used this with Climb Wyoming graduates, but it is available to others as well.
- iv. **Climb Wyoming:** The group discussed Climb Wyoming for guests who were unfamiliar with the program to help single mothers advance themselves in the workforce in our community. Zonta helps this organization with donations of money and time (helping with mock interviews or attending their graduation ceremony).
- v. **Ivinson Open House:** This project providing cookies and serving them during the Ivinson Mansion Open House in the Christmas Season was discussed.
- vi. **SPARK:** Tamara Bretting requested this project be moved into the service committee's hands. The subcommittee for SPARK is currently: Jennifer, Effie, Martha, Deedee, Wendy, and Tamara. This is a program we will be hosting in the fall with Judge Kricken to take freshmen girls from LHS through an afternoon of career and budgeting preparation. Girls will get to choose from several careers to attend a speaker and learn about what it takes to get to those paths. They will also participate in a budgeting scenario to learn about income, taxes, bills... We will be looking for women to discuss their career paths with these young ladies in the fall (it will be on a Wednesday afternoon TBA).

c. Membership: by Tia Ocampo

The Wine and Cheese Pairing social event was discussed. It was well attended, and our guest speaker, Sheila Davis, informed us on our partnership (as Zonta) with the UN. Our Zonta club tries to host social events every couple of months, but at this time we don't have another one scheduled. The Membership Committee has a goal to bring in 8 new members to our club this year, and judging by our long guest list, we think we are on track to do so.

d. Fundraising: by Jennifer Stone

This will be discussed more with new business, old business, and in our board meeting, but this committee was introduced to our guests as one of our major goals as it supplies us with the funds to provide grants to our community. We like to provide grants to organizations that have goals that align with Zonta's mission, and have supported organizations such as SAFE, Climb, Big Brothers Big Sisters, and many others.

6. New Business:

a. Board and General Meeting Dates and Times: In previous years, we have had two meetings per month (one a board meeting and one a general meeting). This has been trying on our members who are part of the board, with the board meetings sometimes lasting multiple hours. Discussion was had around the idea of combining the dates. Ideas about having a board meeting followed by general meeting, or a general meeting followed by a board meeting were discussed. The idea of keeping a strict timeline for the board meeting to avoid having multiple hours of discussion was also a major concern. A motion was made to place our board meeting following each general meeting with a concise agenda, and a goal to move discussion to an email format in the month following the board meeting was made by Jennifer Stone and seconded by Johnna French. All in favor – motion passes.

b. Strategic Planning follow up for long term goals: The strategic plan created by our last board had three main areas of focus: fundraising, service, and advocacy. Jennifer Stone stated that one of the major goals for this year's board will be to narrow down these three areas. Fundraising was also discussed as a "big issue for us" due to the amount of time we put into an event and the payout on the back end not being worth the time.

c. Summer Projects:

- i. **Yard Sale:** Proposed by Jennifer Stone as a fundraising activity for our club. Discussion about the time of year led to a date decision of August 18 to catch as many returning college students as possible. We will likely need 4-5 Zontians to help price the items the evening prior. We will host the sale from 8-1pm, then take remaining items to donate or to the dump. Location TBD. We will advertise via Facebook.
- ii. **Booths/Exposure:** purchasing a booth at a farmer's market was discussed, but the cost was a large deterrent. It was decided we won't move forward with this in 2018.

7. Old Business:

a. Grants to Organizations: This year, our club did not seek applicants for grants in the spring. Discussion was had around whether there is still time. We have one organization that has sent us an inquiry about whether we are awarding grants again this year. Another idea discussed was an attempt to get us more involved in these organizations (beyond funding – to partnering) in both directions (ex. us hosting mock interviews for Big Brothers Big Sisters, while they bring their kids to help volunteer at our events...). We also discussed claiming this year as a fundraising year as we have had decreased success in our fundraising events in the past couple of years. A motion was made to claim this as a fundraising year, but to provide \$100 to groups that ask us

about our grants, provided they fit our mission. Motion was made by Jeanetta Schmidt, and seconded by Charlotte Davis. All in favor – motion passes.

b. Additional Items from the Club Members:

i. Report on Child Sex-trafficking Conference from Jennifer Stone:

Jennifer filled us in on the information she learned at a conference she attended for work. Child trafficking is very real and very present, even in our community. She gave several examples and it sparked a conversation as a group.

ii. Sex-Trafficking/Human-Trafficking fliers:

Johnna and Wendy discussed some fliers that we put in all of the porta potties at Laramie Jubilee Days last year. There was general agreement to post those fliers again this year. Wendy will reach out to Heber, Johnna volunteered to print the fliers, several people volunteered to help hang the fliers.

iii. Speakers at General Meetings:

A guest asked about speakers (who? when? how often?...). We discussed our goals around speakers (to have them at as many general meetings as possible, as well as at social events). We also discussed the types of speakers we have had in the past. Ideas were suggested: Linda Valenti suggested her daughter (a sexual assault victim who took action at the state level to secure more rights for victims), several people suggested women who are running for offices could be good speakers.

iv. Guest Contact Information: Tia requested contact information from our guests so she could send out more information and prospective membership forms. There was one question about the special membership dues for those who are 30 and younger. This will be looked into.

8. Adjourn: 6:58pm by Jennifer Stone