**Zonta Foothills FAQ’s for New Members**

1. How often are business meetings held?

Business meetings are held every month from September through May. Additionally, Club “Retreats” are held twice a year in January and June to go into issues that need more discussion.

2. Am I expected to attend all business meetings?

No, but it is encouraged. If a member is absent from three consecutive meetings without an excuse, the club board will become involved.

3. Will I have a sponsor and or mentor when I join? What is the mentor’s role?

Yes, each new member will be assigned a mentor. The mentor will help the new member learn about Zonta, make sure the new member feels welcome and comfortable in meetings and introduce the new member to other members of the club.

4. What are the club committees and how do I know which committee I should join?

Zonta Foothills has five committees: Advocacy, Membership, Public Relations, Fundraising and Service/EducateZ. Your New Member packet has a description of each. You can attend a meeting and visit with committee chairs to help you decide when one you would like to join. Every member is expected to be on a committee.

5. What is involved in being on a committee?

Committees have regular meeting during the Zonta year, September to May. Most committees meet a few times during the summer. Each committee has projects related to its purpose and committee members work together to accomplish them and involve other members when appropriate.

6. Am I expected to bring items each time there is a collection for various charities?

No, participation in any collection is up to the member.

7. What is the Zonta Foothills Foundation?

Our need for tax exempt status is the reason the Zonta Foothills Foundation (ZFF) was created. It is a 501(c)(3) organization. ZFF serves as the arm of the Club that raises and manages money and distributes it as the club directs to support the charitable goals of the Club.

8. Does the Club have a Board?

Yes, the Board has general supervision of the affairs of the club. It is made up of Officers: President, President-Elect, Treasurer and Secretary and between five and twelve Directors. The officers also make up the Zonta Foothills Foundation Board.

9. Can anyone go to a Board meeting? Can I present a project to the Board for discussion and guidance?

All members are welcome to attend meetings of the Board If a member has a particular item the member would like to cover the member should contact the President prior to the meeting and have it added to the agenda.

10. What is the structure of Zonta International?

The basic unit of Zonta International is the local club – like Zonta Foothills. Clubs are grouped into Areas within Districts on a roughly geographic basis. District 12 is made up of clubs in Colorado, Wyoming, Montana and South Dakota. Area 3 of District 12 has five clubs in the Denver metro area. Zonta Foothills is in Area 3 of District 12. The District and Area structure allow for ZI to effectively communicate and coordinate up and down the structure.

11. Why should I attend Area or District meetings?

Area meetings and District Conferences are held once a year. They include information on District and International activities, leadership training and information about club what other clubs are doing. It is a chance to meet the District Board and Committee Chairs. There are always social events and dinners where you can meet and learn from other Zontians. There are funds available to pay part of the expense of first time attendees at these meetings Every other year the District Conference is replaced by the Governor’s Seminar which is shorter with no voting.

12. Can I suggest service or advocacy projects?

Ideas are always welcome. It is how we improve. Talk to the chair or a member of the committee that is responsible for the area of your idea or go to the club president or a Board member.

13. What does my dues pay for?

Full year dues to Zonta International are about $85 and District 12 dues are about $40. There are no Area dues. The remainder goes to the club. Dues pay for all the administrative costs at every level so money raised for charitable projects all goes to the projects.

14. Can I suggest a luncheon program?

Yes, the PR Committee arranges for lunch programs working with the President. You can talk to them about your ideas.

15. Is there a budget for a guest’s attendance or should I sponsor my guest?

We try to keep our dues as low as we can. We pay for guest speakers or guests who have been invited for a special reason (like our Woman of Achievement winners). We ask that if you bring a guest either you or the guest make arrangements to pay for the lunch.

16. Does the club have social activities that involve just the members and families?

The Club welcomes nonmembers to most of our activities: volunteer events , fundraisers, Zappy Hours, special celebrations like the 30th anniversary party we had several years ago. Membership will plan several social events each year. District Conferences usually include at least one social dinner and an evening or afternoon activity like a tour of a local area of interest. International Conventions always have many activities and tours for family members while Zontians are in business meetings.