

Zonta Club of Billings

November Board Meeting Minutes
November 3, 2009

ATTENDING: Shelley Hayes, Maribeth Haynes, Kathy Hildebrand, Joan Hughes, Lynette Kerbel, Donna Meehan, Jolene Rieck, Connie Sanders, Anne-Marie Wade

ABSENT: Deborah Brown, Nancy Curriden,

Anne-Marie Wade called the meeting to order at 12:04

TREASURER'S REPORT: Lynette Kerbel distributed the Finance Committee's recommended new financial policy for the Club. It was agreed to present it to the Membership for a vote as a change to the Standing Rules of the Club. The Bylaws will need a small change striking the requirement for the President to countersign all spending orders and checks. Lynette will explain the change to the Standing Rules and the Bylaws to those present at tomorrow's business meeting, and distribute copies. The official vote will be held at the December business meeting.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT: Connie Sanders reported the Club received a newsletter from the United Way, Exxon Mobil's \$250 Trivia Night sponsorship check, Computers Unlimited Trivia Night sponsorship check and a thank you note from Jennifer Groneberg, recipient of the High Plains Book Festival's Zonta Book Award.

FUND RAISING COMMITTEE REPORT: Joan Hughes reported the following dates to remember: 11/13/09: Chili Night at YVBC; 11/13/09 at noon: Trivia Night Planning Committee meeting; 12/11/09: Trivia Night Planning Committee meeting; 2/20/10 Trivia Night with "Meanwhile Back at the Ranch" theme; March or April 2010: Status of Women Event(s).

Nacho Night grossed \$159 which covered all expenses with a profit of \$35. The profits will be rolled into the expense budget for Chili Night. A few more volunteers are needed to work at Chili Night (Friday 11/13 from 4-8 PM) and one more chili maker is needed. A signup sheet will be circulated at the business meeting tomorrow.

Joan continued her efforts to bring Jessica Jackley, co-founder of microfinancer Kiva.org. to Billings in the spring of '10 as the keynote speaker for the Status of Women event. Joan will continue to develop the idea and seek partnerships with other like minded non-profits in the area. She feels this is of great enough impact there will likely be much more than a traditional Zonta lunch event. There may be as many as three different events with Ms. Jackley.

Bev Ross' and Pat Jaffray's sponsorship efforts for Trivia Night have had good initial success. They have a total of \$2500 in pledges out of the \$4000 goal as of last week. Jolene plans on having the 'save the date' cards ready to go in the mail mid-November.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT: There was no report this month.

SERVICE COMMITTEE REPORT: Anne-Marie Wade announced the majority of Members responding to her query regarding the amount of funds raised that should go to Zonta International support continuing the 1/3 suggested by Zonta International. Currently the Club's contribution is split evenly among the five funds available. Shelley Hayes suggested, and it was agreed the Board should review the split of the Club's contribution each year and possibly not split it evenly between all funds.

Connie Sanders reported the Club received ten tickets and a table sponsor acknowledgement letter from the Yellowstone AIDS Project's World AIDS Day dinner. It was agreed this is not a Zonta Service Project (this year – it was not budgeted); but, Members can purchase tickets and attend if they'd like. Anne-Marie will contact Y.A.P. and let them know the Club will not be a table sponsor (\$750) but that individual Club Members may purchase tickets for \$50 each. The Club will return any unsold tickets to Y.A.P.

Connie suggested “sharing the love” and setting aside funds in the Service budget each year to attend fund raising dinners by groups whose causes meet the Service Project filter. Ideally it could be planned a year or two in advance with different groups benefitting each year.

The annual Global Village shopping night is December 7 from 5:00 – 7:00.

ADVOCACY COMMITTEE REPORT: There will be a meeting at 11:30 this Thursday, November 5 at Grains of Montana to brainstorm ideas for action.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- There was nothing new to report on the status of the Zonta Dues Scholarship exploratory committee.
- Anne-Marie reported the ‘take aways’ from the Board retreat included carefully guiding and mentoring all new and potential members. The Board will also try to guide the Club to embrace the practice of letting everyone’s voice be heard – not just the members who always speak up. Connie suggested a “new member packet” be developed that would include explanations of recurring service projects and events as well as Club history and mechanics that new members could keep for reference and read at their convenience. It was agreed this is an excellent idea that the Membership Committee should actively pursue.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Anne-Marie reported Tracy Manning-Egge’s visit to Billings is still set for November 18. She will present the Program Meeting.
- The Christmas party is scheduled for December 16. The Membership Committee is finalizing the location.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- This month’s featured member on the website is Anna Brewer.

CALENDAR

- November Business meeting: Noon, November 4, McCormick Café, 2419 Montana Ave. \$10 lunch
- Advocacy Committee brainstorming session: 11:30, November 5, Grains of Montana, 926 Grand Avenue
- Trivia Night Committee Chairs Meeting: Noon, November 13, 404 N. 31st St., 1st fl. Conf. rm.
- Chili Night fundraiser: 4:00 – 8:00 PM, November 13, Yellowstone Valley Brewing Company, 2123 1st Avenue North, \$6 all you care to eat, \$4 single bowl.
- November Program meeting: Noon, November 18, McCormick Café, 2419 Montana Ave. \$10 lunch, Speaker: Tracy Manning-Egge

Anne-Marie Wade adjourned the meeting at 1:00 PM.