

## Zonta Club of Billings

October Business Meeting Minutes  
October 7, 2009

Anne-Marie Wade called the meeting to order at 12:31

22 Members attended the meeting. The September Business Meeting Minutes were accepted as presented.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Lynette Kerbel presented the quarterly report for the period ending August 31, 2009 and an accompanying cash flow report for the same period comparing the operating budget to actual expenses. She filed the Federal Form 990 which was accepted. Lynette reminded Members who attended the High Plains Book Festival dinner they owe the Club \$26.50 each.

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Connie Sanders reported receiving \$250 Trivia Night sponsorship checks from Underriner Motors and Dr. James Patterson. Additionally various newsletters were received and handed around for Club members to review.

**FUND RAISING COMMITTEE REPORT:** Joan Hughes reported the following dates to remember: 10/9/09 Trivia Night Planning Committee meeting at Jolene Rieck's office building's (TW I – the furthest south building in the complex) downstairs conference room; 10/23/09: Nacho Night at YVBC; 11/13/09: Chili Night at YVBC; 11/14/09 at noon: Trivia Night Planning Committee meeting; 12/?/09 Possible Arbonne Pampering Party; 12/11/09: Trivia Night Planning Committee meeting; 2/20/10 Trivia Night with "Saints & Sinners" theme; 3/10: Status of Women Event(s).

St. Bernard's hall is reserved for Trivia Night, February 20, 2010. All committees have chairs. Bev Ross and Pat Jaffray sent out sponsorship solicitation letters in September and have already received a \$250 check from Exxon Mobil in addition to the checks from Underriner Motors and Dr. James Patterson.

Joan recently attended a conference and heard Jessica Jackely, co-founder of microfinancer Kiva.org. She spoke with Ms. Jackely and received a tentative agreement for her to come and be the keynote speaker for the Status of Women event. It cannot be used as a fund raising event; but, Joan has also had initial partnering conversations with the Foundation for Community Vitality (related to the Scott Family's foundation). 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.

Joan also noted Shelley Hayes proposed another new idea for a project that could be either a service project or an advocacy project. She briefly described the work of the group "Women for Women" in 'war torn' regions of the African continent. On a related note, Joan mentioned the possibility of having a part of the Club website devoted to "members picks" of non-profit organizations they support with brief reasons why.

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT:** Carmen Mangis reported the kickoff party at the Western Heritage Center on September 30 was a great success. The Committee is in the process of writing a letter to all guests inviting them to join Zonta and informing them of upcoming Club events and meetings.

**SERVICE COMMITTEE REPORT:** Connie Sanders reported the High Plains Book Festival dinner was enjoyable and the Zonta Book Award a success. The Service Committee agreed to continue the award next year. Likewise the Committee agreed to continue participation in the "Cardboard Box City" next year. Connie reported Becky Wiehe will contact the Interfaith Hospitality Network regarding Zonta sponsoring a Halloween party for the children in the program. Connie also noted the Committee felt it is time to get new Zonta shirts, vests or something for Members to wear when participating in events.

**ADVOCACY COMMITTEE REPORT:** Ann Hefenieder reported the Committee met in September and one idea they may pursue is taking a survey of the status of women in Billings, Montana. The Committee will meet again at 11:30 AM on Thursday, November 5 at Grains of Montana.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- Bev Ross and Carmen Mangis were nominated and approved as delegates for the District Conference. Ann Hefenieder will also go to the Conference but her position as Chair of the District Advocacy Committee prevents her from acting as our Club's delegate. If Carmen Mangis cannot attend, Bev can carry a proxy vote for our Club's second delegate vote. The Conference is in Denver over the weekend of October 31.
- The key voting issue at the District Conference is whether or not District will be allowed to automatically raise District dues \$1 each year. Anne-Marie Wade will e-mail Members the District's rationale behind the automatic increases so Members can make a well informed decision before voting on the Club's official position at the October Program Meeting (October 21).
- There was nothing new to report on the status of the Zonta Dues Scholarship exploratory committee.
- Anne-Marie reported Tracy Manning-Egge's visit to Billings has been delayed until November 18. She will present at the Program Meeting and it is hoped the Club can put together a social function welcoming her.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Members were encouraged to look at the Club website <http://www.billingszonta.org> and read all about October's highlighted Member, Jennifer Lyman.
- The Zonta Board Retreat is tomorrow evening, October 7, at 6:00 PM. All members are welcome to attend and share their ideas with the Board members. The gathering will be held at Connie Sanders' home: 1239 Yale.
- Joan Hughes won \$11 in the 50/50 raffle. \$11 went to the travel fund.

#### **CALENDAR & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Board Retreat: 6:00 PM, October 8, Connie Sanders' home. 1239 Yale.
- Trivia Night Planning Committee meeting: Noon, October 9, 404 N. 31<sup>st</sup> St, 1<sup>st</sup> floor conf. room
- October Program meeting: Noon, October 21, McCormick Café, 2419 Montana Ave. \$10 lunch  
Speaker: co-founder of Floating Islands
- Nacho Night: October 23, Yellowstone Valley Brewing Co., 2123 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue North
- November Board meeting: Noon, November 3, 2009, Crowley|Fleck Law Firm, TWII, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor
- November Business meeting: Noon, November 4, McCormick Café, 2419 Montana Ave. \$10 lunch
- 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.