

Zonta Club of Billings

November Business Meeting Minutes
November 4, 2009

Anne-Marie Wade called the meeting to order at 12:33

24 Members and one guest were in attendance. Pat Jaffray introduced her guest, Alice Golden. Alice is director of "Casting for Recovery" a breast cancer survivors' fly fishing retreat, a substitute teacher for SD2 and the Billings Catholic Schools, a grant writer and many more wonderful things.

The minutes of the October Business Meeting were accepted as presented.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Lynette Kerbel distributed the Finance Committee's recommended new financial policy for the Club. The Board voted 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 explained the reasoning behind the change to the Standing Rules and the Bylaws as a wise move to codify how Club funds and investments are cared for and administered. The Bylaws revision simply strikes the requirement the President countersign each payment order and/or check. The official vote will be held at the December business meeting.

Lynette announced the majority of Members responding to Anne-Marie Wade's 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: The Rose Fund is a discretionary fund that can be used for administrative or facilities costs. The three major scholarship funds: Amelia Earhart, Jane Klausmann Women in Business & the Young Women in Public Affairs each have a check off box. There are also check boxes for Zonta International Service Projects and ZISVAW (Zonta International Strategies to Prevent Violence Against Women). More information on all areas can be read on the Zonta International website, <http://www.zonta.org> This year's contribution will be \$3020.00 The Board agreed review the split of the Club's contribution each year and possibly not split it evenly between all funds.

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: Jolene Rieck 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 signup sheet for Chili Night workers was circulated. Kelly Christy will send out an e-mail reminding chili makers, condiment donors and workers of their shifts and commitments. She asked all chili makers to get their chili to YVBC by 4:00. If they can't they should contact Kelly and she will pick it up from them.

Joan Hughes is continuing 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.

\$20 was collected in the 50/50 raffle. Bev Ross won \$10 and donated it back to the Club.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT: Carmen Mangis reported the Committee is working on a follow up letter to prospective members as well as those who have been guests at meetings and events.

SERVICE COMMITTEE REPORT:

There was no Halloween party this year at the MRM Womens & Family Shelter. They already had a sponsor as did other organizations the Committee contacted. Connie took an informal poll of those attending the meeting and no one raised their hands to indicate they would miss doing this service project if it dropped off the calendar.

The annual Global Village shopping night is December 7 from 5:00 – 7:00. Nancy Curriden explained Global Village is a not for profit "fair trade" store benefitting mostly women artisans.

ADVOCACY COMMITTEE REPORT: Ann Hefenieder announced there will be a meeting at 11:30 tomorrow, 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.

Also, there will be a finer focus on volunteer opportunities for Members that are available, but not official Zonta Club of Billings Service Projects.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Anne-Marie reported Tracy Manning-Egge's visit to Billings is still set for November 18. She will present the Program Meeting. Bev Ross will also give a short recap of the District Conference. Bev noted the motion to increase District dues by \$1 each year passed with a great majority. She said the increase will not be automatic, however, the District Board will review their needs each year before assessing the increase. Ann Hefenieder noted at the International convention next summer there will be a change proposed allowing for grievances against Zonta International Committee Chairs.
- 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. Visit <http://www.billingszonta.org>
- Connie Sanders reported the Club received ten tickets 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 the \$50 tickets and attend if they'd like. Those interested should contact Anne-Marie Wade. The event is Friday, December 4. Ryan White's mother is the keynote speaker.

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
- December Business meeting: Noon, December 2, McCormick Café, 2419 Montana Ave. \$10 lunch

Anne-Marie Wade adjourned the meeting at 12:57 PM.