

**Killingworth Women's Organization**  
**General Meeting**

**Date and Place:** August 12, 2009 Killingworth Library

**Attendees:** Christine Cronin, Alice Donnelly, Michel Early, Amy Etra, Heather Ignatuk, Stacey Lafferty, Kelly Leach, Marni Lustberg, Cindy Pitts, Barb Rojas, Andrea Schull, Joan Wilson, Jamie Young

**Visitors:** Lynn Moynahan-Clark, Eileen Cyrus, Sandy Allard, Debbie Evans, Jan O'Sullivan, Diane Gladstone

Meeting started approximately: 7:30PM

Mission statement read by Michele Early

*Speakers:*

- Jan O'Sullivan (co-director of Helping Hands)
  - New pantry located at Killingworth state trooper building. For assistance call the main Killingworth answering machine. Busiest time for group is November/December timeframe. Some funds come from budget. Additional funds and food donated by Middle School, Elementary School, Lions, Congregation
  - Helping currently 36 families (all done confidentially) in town with food and toiletries at Thanksgiving Christmas (box food with turkey or ham), and Easter (gift card). Assistance given at other times by calls of those looking for assistance. Current trend is younger families needing assistance.
  - KWO takes over toy and senior needs with Greg Bousquet drive each year for Helping Hands.
  - Always looking for donations throughout the year. Drop box at Killingworth Library entrance. High are jelly, peanut butter, tuna, tea, coffee, condiments, spaghetti sauce, crackers, cereal, toiletries, and
- Diane Gladstone (Municipal agent for Elderly – Killingworth)
  - Mandated position to help elderly in town which is appointed and not full-time (only six hours a week) fuel assistance for elderly that meet the strict income limits and renter rebate program for anyone over income. They get a portion of the monthly rental back based on a preset equation.
  - Diane also helps connect any individuals with needs to the right person and/or program.
  - Also has discretion of using friendly fund to help town members in a pinch. Program run from donations
  - Friendly visitor program out of St. Paul church in Middletown works well. Need to research with church the liability insurance issues, vetted volunteers, etc.
  - Suggestion to survey seniors for needs. Ask very specific questions on what assistance the KWO can

**Officers Reports:**

*Treasurer:*

- After paying GFWC dues (29 members total) and scholarship, we'll have about \$1K left

*Membership:*

- Four new members – Lynn Moynahan-Clark, Sandy Allard, Eileen Cyrus, & \_\_\_\_\_

*Ways & Means:*

- ◆ Kelly hosting Tastefully Simple party as a fundraiser to KWO at her home on 8/29 from 1PM-3PM. Catalogs : distributed
- ◆ Distributed handouts of give snapshot so group has an idea how this program works using give as the webcrawl
- ◆ SCRIPS now has tanger outlet as an option. KWO gets 8% back from the card.
- ◆ Yankee Candle books not in yet. Books will be distributed in September.

*Secretary:*

- ◆ No correspondence to report

**Old Business**

### *Eddy Shelter:*

- ◆ Sign up sheet distributed for those interested in helping revamp rooms. If we get enough people, we might work on one.
- ◆ Committee meeting set for August 26th

### **New Business**

#### *Local Nonprofit Assistance:*

- Kelly did get two responses from two nonprofit groups for assistance in Killingworth:
  - Library could use funds. The funds would be earmarked for children's programs and purchases for (they need multiple copies of each book). KWO will research helping library starting after January.
  - Art Center looking for volunteers at autumn art trail on 10/10 and 10/11 to help at local artist studio distributed in meeting.

#### *Channel 3:*

- Scott Haney from channel 3 offering his celebrity to attend a KWO event. He will actually come to the event a day during his morning show.
- Suggestion from members to also take advantage of channel 8 celebrity, Desiree Fontaine, in the same way.

#### *Demo Night:*

- Andrea to research a KWO hosted demo night in November. Ideal to obtain local vendors willing to donate a % KWO, pay a table fee, and submit a small item for a door prize. Need to look at local spaces available.

#### *Sarah Suatoni:*

- Handwritten invitations coming to group for this event. Each member should be inviting one friend outside of group. Please send name and address to Marni. She will send your friend an invitation.
- Subcommittee will meet separately to work on event details.

#### *Halloween Happenings:*

- Discussion of event timeframe. It was 4PM-6:30PM. Suggestion to start earlier so clean up is easier. Group agreed to start at 5PM. Notice that set up will have to be earlier because event starts earlier.
- Discussion on whether additional entertainers are required. Group agreed to fund event \$200 to cover entertainers if not sufficient to start planning for this item.
- Suggestion to look at [www.freecycle.org](http://www.freecycle.org) to look for items / volunteers. Group a little uneasy about using individuals they don't know or met – especially with a children's event.
- Suggestion that entertainer be able to serve more people at event. Portrait artist would not be able to see every child, avoid disappointed kids missing out on activities. Entertainer to serve the masses.
- Chairs looking for assistance with fundraising from local businesses. Sign up sheet distributed within meeting. Chairs to be the best method to request funds. Otherwise member can send a letter and follow-up with a phone call. Chairs to send letter to group. Please keep good records so that we can properly thank businesses after the event.
- Fundraising total to date is \$125 for the event.
- Sign up sheet distributed for anyone willing to help at event (set-up, during event, and clean-up). Willing to talk to spouses, etc.
- Distributed sign up sheet for larger items to borrow at event.
- Next meeting discuss direction of activities at event
- Costume awards with certificates/candy to be done again this year. Prizes are awarded throughout event. Perl to be done again this year.
- Drop off KWO inventory items and wooden signs to either Alice, Jaime, or Gena

#### *Social:*

- Suggesting third Thursday of the month for events
- 8/21 – Bra Art event. Tickets need to be purchased ahead of time.
- 09/24 – Savvy Tea. Business willing to stay open later than normal hours to accommodate group.

#### *Misc.:*

- Suggestion to make our founders members emeritus. This way they are no longer required to pay membership dues approved by members.

Meeting adjourned 10:00PM

KWO Mission: *The KWO is a local group of philanthropic women volunteers dedicated to helping others in our town and to maintaining a network of women to build a stronger sense of community for ourselves and others.*

*Announcements:*

August 26<sup>th</sup> Eddy Shelter Mtg., 7PM, Heather's house  
September 4<sup>th</sup> Scrapbooking, 7PM, Heather's house  
September 9<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting 7PM, Library  
September 14<sup>th</sup> Sarah Suatoni event, old town hall  
September 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> Eddy Shelter renovation – Middletown  
September 24<sup>th</sup> Social night – Savvy Tea  
October 7<sup>th</sup> Board meeting 7PM, Kelly's house  
October 14<sup>th</sup> General meeting, 7PM social, 7:30PM meeting start time  
October 18<sup>th</sup> Halloween Happenings, 3PM-5PM, Rain date 10/25