

Killingworth Women's Organization
General Meeting

Date and Place: June 10, 2009 Killingworth Library

Attendees: Gail Buller, Susan Davis, Alice Donnelly, Michele Early, Elaine Kaiser, Kelly Leach, Gena Murray, Dawn Parker, Karen Perry, Barb Rojas, Andrea Schull

Visitors: Lynn Monahan Clark & Elvie Buller

Meeting started approximately: 7:40PM

Mission statement read by Andrea Schull

Officers Reports:

Treasurer:

- ◆ Getting a feel for the files and reports. Total funds to be reported next month.
- ◆ Monies left over in Michaela Nuhn fund are ~\$75.00. Deposited a \$1 so that account is active for another 2 years. Group needs to decide on funds disbursement.
- ◆ In August, check to be given to scholarship recipient's college and monies to GFWC for every member

Membership:

- ◆ One new member Louard from May meeting
- ◆ Working on returning to name tags at each meeting
- ◆ Working on a membership packet including brochure, mission statement, introductory letter from Kelly, updated yearly schedule, and membership list. Membership packet to be in a small report cover.

Ways & Means:

- ◆ Every meeting we will re-issue the effort for the SCRIPPS fundraiser. www.glsscripps.com
- ◆ Every meeting we will re-issue the igive fundraiser.

Secretary:

- ◆ Thank you note from Elvie Buller for her gifts
- ◆ Thank you note from Carol Bellucci for KWO's help with district day registration efforts
- ◆ Need to inform Hamden GFWC group that their candidate did not receive a GFWC scholarship. KWO sponsored this candidate for the Hamden group since they had more than one candidate.

President:

- ◆ Will distribute every meeting the volunteer hours form. We are missing reporting misc hours by tallying these at the end of year. Even attending a meeting is considered volunteer hours.
- ◆ We need to stress basic functions on forms and reporting. Need to submit forms to request a KWO event and submit forms at the end of every event.
- ◆ KWO picture was in the New Haven Register. Heather has a copy for our scrapbook.
- ◆ Working on website design piecemeal.
 - Website will include a calendar of group events
 - Susan has given a list of websites with neutral and valid information on women's health and general issues. List so involved (thank you Susan), that it will needs to categorized.
 - Always looking for input on website from the group and assistance in designing.
 - KWO e-mail (membership@kwo.com) is getting lots of spam. E-mail is coming to Michele.
- ◆ Secretary to keep all forms for the group. Hard and soft copy files to be established.

Old Business

Scholarship:

- ◆ Two members presented scholarship to recipient at HK awards ceremony – Katelyn Zenie.

Eddy Shelter:

- ◆ Group will redecorate a room at the Eddy Shelter in September. Heather will visit facility to take pictures and measurements. Heather already has two twin beds and one mattress set.
- ◆ Decorations should be neutral – mainly male inhabitants.
- ◆ Looking for donations.
- ◆ Need to obtain paint, linens, curtains, and niceties such as artwork, additional chair, etc.
- ◆ Heather to ask shelter representative to talk with group in July.

GFWC President's Meeting Summary:

- ◆ KWO received two awards:
 - Award for community safety regarding participation with the crime watch task force
 - First place for overall fundraising efforts
- ◆ State GFWC mural project. Large artwork by many artists in the northeastern corner of the state.
- ◆ Suggestion to start working with GFWC on larger, existing programs. Ideally establish connections and solicit additional resources.

New Business

Member in Good Standing Discussion:

- ◆ Group needs to decide on revising the bylaws again regarding the definition of a member in good standing. Current definition is member has to take part in one fundraising project, serve on at least one committee, serve on hospitality committee on a rotating basis, and pay applicable dues.
- ◆ Need quorum (1/3 of members) to approve any update.
- ◆ There are at least fifteen members that attend less than three meetings a year.
- ◆ Group has ignored bylaws and let members participate to the best of their abilities at varying levels of involvement.
- ◆ Understandably, there are members not able to attend meetings/events due to home/family conflicts.
- ◆ Is there any resentment by members for those who not able to commit time like the others?
- ◆ Discussion on whether to have two types of membership – active with full membership fee compared to an associate member with a lower level membership fee. Associate member would not be expected to contribute to the group's activities as an active member. This would avoid the large % of membership fees going directly to the GFWC.
 - Members did not like these varying levels of membership. There would be resentment with these unequal levels and different expectations.
- ◆ Group dynamic would be affected. We all contribute in our own capacity.
- ◆ Any group reality is that there is always a small group doing the core of the work while the remainder of group members contributes less.
- ◆ Suggestion to amend bylaws to state that member abides by group efforts to the best of their ability. Keep in attend one event per year and eliminate the need to participate in hospitality and on a committee.
- ◆ Committees have changed dramatically since the inception of the group.
- ◆ We should table this discussion again later when committees for this year and events are more solidified.

General meeting time and location discussion:

- ◆ Survey responses stated that it would be easier to start meetings at 7:30PM with social time from 7:00PM-7:30PM.
- ◆ Country Squire would like to host general meeting every month. The cost would \$1.50 per person for snacks only for those in attendance. Drinks not included. Suggestion that drinks be purchased before the meeting and not during the meeting.
 - Concern over group size increasing and library room too small to host meetings.
 - Concern over message of very social atmosphere and concern over alcohol consumption. Sending the wrong message for a philanthropic group.
 - Concern over reputation of restaurant and if it closes, where would be go? There are not many meeting rooms available in town.
 - Old town hall is booked lots of evenings. Other meeting rooms at this church very full as well. Need to check on resources at the Congregation church.
 - If we do give up our meeting space at the library, could we ever get it back?
 - No one liked the idea for alternating locations, it's too hectic.
 - Group uncomfortable on voting tonight. Will table for discussion later.
 - Discussion on social ½ hour extending into meeting time? Kelly would need to be firm in establishing the meeting start time at 7:30PM.
 - Social needs to be alleviated with the social events outside of the regular general meeting. Social chair did suggest one event per month.
 - Group meeting format does make it hard in meeting to get to know other members socially.
 - Group agreed (did we agree on this or just discuss it?) to continue the \$250 donation to the Library each year. Donation is not a meeting room fee.
 - Suggestion to start program like a mentor or big sister to help any new members get to know other members in the group.

Meeting adjourned 9:30PM

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:

June 30th Board Meeting 7PM, Kelly's house
July 8th General meeting, Library, 7PM social, 7:30PM meeting start time
August 5th Board Meeting 7PM, Kelly's house
August 12th General Meeting, Library, 7PM social, 7:30PM meeting start time
September 2nd Board Meeting 7PM, Kelly's house
September 9th Special meeting on normal meeting night – details TBA
October 7th Board meeting 7PM, Kelly's house
October 14th General meeting, 7PM social, 7:30PM meeting start time
October 18th Halloween Happenings, 4PM-6PM, Rain date 10/25