

WOW Meeting Minutes

11/15/2023

Location - Folkmoot, Room A12

Present – Becca Swanger, Ginger Galati, Mary Ann Lawrence (note taker), Melissa Helmer, Shirley McKinney, Dove McNamee, Cheryl Beatty, Robin Lax, Michelle Jacobs, Jennifer Spillane, Katie Vanderpool, Virginia Wall.

President's Report

Becca read the WOW Mission.

Announcements

Folkmoot Bazaar - Friday 11/17/2023

Ginger is leading the event. She will bring the supplies and set up the table in the field outside of Folkmoot. She's been paying attention to the weather, and the forecast is looking better.

Calendars -

We are getting low! Please bring any you have left (besides those you still plan to sell) to the next meeting. We will be selling them at the next Art After Dark (12/1) and possibly at The Night Before Christmas

Christmas Parade - Monday, 12/04

Theme is Christmas Movie Classics. We chose "White Christmas." Thank you for the nomination and vote, Ginger and Pam! Those participating should dress in red and white. If you want to buy a costume, Walmart has them. We will have the snow machine, and our WOW banner, along with another "WOW presents White Christmas" banner that Ashton (Shirley's daughter) is making for us.

Holiday Support -

We have a total of \$1,000 to spend, and the members voted to support an ARC female, 2-3 foster kids and the McCracken Home. Virginia is following up with DSS and Katie is following up with ARC. Ginger says Pathways has also reached out with a request for help with a family, so if one of the three falls through we could donate to them. Update: All Pathways families have been adopted.

McCracken House - Friday, 12/22

Katie suggested scheduling for Friday, Dec. 22 (instead of Saturday, 12/23) in hopes of a better turnout. She suggested Ben (Becca) and/or Matt (Jessie) play the guitar for the visit.

Annual Awards - Thursday, 12/7

The awards will be presented at the next meeting (12/7). Alice has sent an email to members and will be collecting responses. Be sure to vote!

Bodie's Winter Wonderland - Friday 12/15 - Saturday 12/16

Takes place at Feeding the Multitude in Canton (505 Azalea Rd.). Need volunteers to help in lots of ways- cookies, decorating, prepare gift boxes and more. Cheryl and Melissa H will be updating members with more info as they get it from Nicole, the director of FTM.

Autobell Gift Cards -

Ginger will be sharing more info soon. These make great gifts and WOW receives \$10/card! The cards sell for \$20 but we get them for \$10. Katie suggested we publicize them at Folkmoor Bazaar tomorrow.

Turkey Trot -

Katie thanks everyone who volunteered at the Turkey Trot on Monday. She reported 195 families were served. 200 turkeys were given away, along with boxes of food. Lots of resources were also, and it was a huge success. Left-over non-perishable food will be donated to the Head Start program, so children will have food to take home during the holiday break from school.

Committee Reports –

Membership & Morale

For the December meeting (12/7), which will also be the awards ceremony, M&M decided to have holiday music, a cocoa bar and cookies. Possibly some egg nog too. Please bring cookies to the meeting. Remaining cookies will be donated to FTM for Bowdy's Wonderland.

Shirley has “voluntold” Ashton to create a White Christmas banner for the parade. Melissa suggested ugly sweaters and/or glasses for the LaZoom bus. Committee decided to go with ugly sweaters.

Fundraising & Logistics

Katie reported that they decided to skip the table at Jingle Jam at Frog Level this year. (It's on the same day as the LaZoom event.) However the WOW banner will be hung. If anyone wants tickets (We get six) email womenofwaynesville@gmail.com to request. Otherwise they are \$12 each. It starts and noon and goes to midnight!

Katie also updated us on the AutoBell cards. She will post a flyer on the forum.

Communications & PR

Mary Ann reported the Communications team and friends (Cheryl and Robin!) are planning an early January newsletter which will be continued quarterly throughout 2024. Mary Ann will schedule a meeting with the team for a day in mid-December for planning, as the newsletter will be a team effort. Communications will be working on a Facebook Giving Tuesday campaign as well. Cheryl is researching options for an easy-to-use dropbox for members to be able to share photos (with captions) more easily.

Community Outreach

Discussed the Feeding the Multitude event on Dec. 15-16. Volunteers are needed for wrapping, helping with the kid's crafts center, filling stockings, helping with the Santa booth, decorating etc. More info to come! Katie has some student volunteers to help. Ginger has a Christmas tree to donate.

Member Recognition/Announcements

We signed a card for Becky, who is recovering from a kidney procedure. Members offered to help in any way. Melissa gave an update on Patty, who is not quite ready for a drive-by meal train but will let Melissa know if and when she is. Please send healing thoughts to Whitney's wife, Crystal, who was recently in the hospital but now at home recovering.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.