

WOW Minutes

September 1, 2022

Present – Alice Adams, Amanda Hanson, Becca Swanger, Becky Benhart, Betty Richardson, Carolyn Moncada, Cathy Sanders, Cheryl Beatty, Dove McNamee, Ginger Galati, Joy Johnson, Julie Keiper, Katie Vanderpool, Mary Ann Lawrence, Melissa Benhart, Sam Edwards, Shirley McKinney, Teri Domagalski, Virginia Wall

Vice President Amanda Hanson opened the meeting by reciting WOW's mission and vision.

Executive Officer Virginia Wall introduced guest speaker, Christy Wyatt from Thompson Family Services. Christy shared with the group that they provide mental health and foster care services. There are 11,000 children in foster care in North Carolina. Among those in Haywood County, which numbers 300 children, 92% are placed out of the county. There is one foster care home in Haywood County and one in Jackson County. They have a storage space for supplies and their biggest need is clothing for teenagers. Thompson services has a 94% stability rate, and they serve children between ages 0 to 21 years. They would like to expand their program of foster homes into Haywood County.

President's Report

Amanda welcomed any guests and new members (Sarah Bixenman, Sherri Williams)

Amanda reported that a calendar reshoot of the bar fight scene will be On September 7 at the Meadowlark Motel. In addition, we are still in need of two ad sponsors. These will need to be sold before we can send the calendar to the printer.

The annual retreat for the Board is scheduled to be held on Saturday, September 17.

Treasurer's Report

Ginger Galati reported that the profit and loss report for 7/1/21 through 6/30/22 has been completed and is available if anyone would like to review it.

Sign-up sheets for t-shirts and name tags were passed around. Ginger stated that WOW will do a bulk order for t-shirts (addendum: the bulk order has now been sent). Individual orders may still be placed through the Bonfire.com campaign. In addition, the cost for name tags will be between \$10 - \$15 each depending on the number of women who order them. An order for name tags will be sent after additional members make requests.

The Trout Race fundraiser at Canton Bearwaters will be held September 10. The event is co-sponsored by Big Brothers Big Sisters and Haywood Waterways. The board approved funding to purchase some wooden trout to enter the race.

Ginger asked committee chairs to review their budgetary needs and place requests to the Board no later than September 17 when the board meets for its retreat.

Unfinished Business

WOW will have a booth at the Apple Harvest Festival on Saturday, October 15. Katie Vanderpool will post the most current list of volunteers who have signed up on the Facebook Forum.

New Business

Amanda asked if any members are planning to participate in the Power of Pink 5k for breast cancer this year.

She also asked if there is interest among the membership to have a Halloween social.

Committee Reports

Betty Richardson stated that the Membership and Morale committee has a mentor program in which new members buddy up with an existing member. She reminded the group that anyone can be a mentor, not just the women who are on the Membership and Morale committee.

Member's Corner and Announcements

Amanda Hanson informed members that Michelle Jacobs belly dancing group has scheduled a fundraiser to benefit WOW. Titled, "Darkside 2022", they will be performing at the Swain Arts Center, 1415 Fontana Road in Bryson City on November 5th. The theatrical belly dance show will explore myths. WOW is taking responsibility for promoting the event. In addition, WOW has permission to set up a table to sell 2023 calendars and planners.

Katie Vanderpool asked members in attendance about their preferences in relation to food at meetings of the general membership – whether we prefer restaurant service or having members bring snacks and drinks to meetings. She raised a question about the possibility of WOW renting meeting space for future meetings.

Virginia Wall expressed her regret for the noise level during this evening's meeting at Watami restaurant.

Amanda Hanson shared there is a potential private donor for WOW.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Teri Domagalski

Secretary

