



THE OPTIMIST CLUB OF COLUMBIA (Downtown Optimist)

Mailing address: P. O. Box 1959 * Columbia, MO 65205-1959

Web: www.downtownoptimistclub.org

Downtown Optimist Club of Columbia

In Person Meeting

Monday, May 22th, 2023 at the Lenoir Home

Meeting began at 12:00 pm

Members in attendance:

Deb Swanegan, Ed Musterman, Ken Oster, President Jerry Sullivan, Mary Dewey, Carl Scott, Susie and Rick McKernan, Mike Hatchett, Jake Jolly, Nadia Ryakmyatullov, Larry Fick and Mary Dewey

Special Guests: Shirley Beckett, Barb West, Dorcas Leighton, Roy Robinson and Guest Speaker Carrie Beck from the Central Missouri Foster and Adoption Program.

Prayer: Mary Dewey

Pledge of Allegiance: Susie McKernan

Recognize members who are back for the first time in a while: Welcome back to Jake Jolly and Nadia Ryakmyatullov

Birthdays/Anniversaries: Club Anniversaries: Mike Hatchett on May 21th, Edward Harre on May 24 and Mary Dewey on May 29. Mary Dewey "53th" Birthday on May 29th

As usual, thanks to Ed for lining up speakers and ordering and picking up food. Rick for sending announcements and making certificates for the speaker, Mary for note taking. We are here because Derby cars have taken over the clubhouse. Part of the reason Lenior Woods was chosen as a meeting place is that Red lived here. I hoped this would be an easy place for him to get to. In memory of and as a tribute to Red, I would ask that Rick Mckernan reprise his presentation from Red's funeral.

Pay the pig? Nadi paid \$1.00, Carl paid \$.50 for State Track and Mary for the great bike safety rodeo, Deb paid \$1.00, Jake paid \$1.00 and Jerry paid \$1.00

The board approved \$50 drawing for April, May and June has started. Contestants can enter their name once for each time they invite a new person to a club activity. Drawing on June 3th

Bringing Out The Best In Kids Since 1936

Minutes from–May 8th and May 15th Nadia made the motion to approve the two weeks newsletters and Deb 2nd it. Everyone approved them.

Treasurer’s Report: As of April 30 the Treasurer’s Report was showing we had paid out \$18,662 for grants and programs. We had four funding requests at our last meeting. We designated \$10,000 for those requests. Steve will cover what was spent where and requests we have for next month shortly.

Old Business:

Meeting info – – No meeting next week. June 5 we are back at Shakespear’s South. Speaker will be Sue Swartz from Rainbow House. June 12 back here to Lenior Woods, Fireside Room. Anyone have trouble with our directions to Lenior Woods?

Intro new members – We inducted new member Tyler Miller in April but Tyler didn’t get an opportunity to introduce himself so now is his chance. Pins are still coming I am told.

Adopt a Spot Committee – Kelly –Nothing new. The will be put out soon at our Adopt Spot which is close to County Club of Missouri the new one.

Scholarship Committee – Nadia – winners are – From Battle – Serena Newby and Wen-Hein Chan; From Douglas – Rana Kakozaï and Afrah Mahmud; From Rockbridge – Kevin Mao and Ariana Eckerson and from Hickman – Gramm Gerdemann and Alison Wade. \$1000 Scholarship to each. Again, thanks to Nadia and her sister, Alena, for all their hard work on this committee. Nadia – winners were announced last meeting and are in the May 8 minutes. We awarded two \$1000 scholarships to two students at each of the four high schools. Again thanks to Nadia and her sister, Alena, for all their hard work on this committee. Scholarships were all handed out last week. See the attached email from one the winners Thanks us for the scholarship.

Car show – Mike Russell – Is working to get Hickman parking lot for the event.

Derby info – Rick – date for derby June 11 - race cars have taken over the clubhouse until the week after the derby – June 19 meeting will be back at the clubhouse. Drivers still needed?

Bike Safety – Mary – Thank you to workers. We had 25 kids take part in the Bike Safety Rodeo on Saturday, May 20th. Want to Thank Jim Murphy, Carl Scott, Jerry Sullivan,

Family Fun Fest – report – next one is on June ?? from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.

Clubhouse work morning – Next work day at the clubhouse is the Saturday after the Derby, June 17 – 9:00 to noon. Project to be determined. Many projects to choose from.

Kids Carnival – Nothing new. Committee will be met after this weekend. Back to School Kid's Carnival is August 12. Deb and Mary have volunteered to form half a committee to work with Big Bro Big Sisters people to decide everything. Will be meeting with Adam on May 31th at 10:00 am at the Armory Sports and Recreation Center.

Welcome Committee for new members - Kelly – Info on shirts.

(Skip) Youth Event – The Bill of Rights and Jeff City trip. – Rick– likely moved to fall.

(Skip) Deb's church event – Deb's church is having a community event on August 26 . She invited us to have a booth to promote the SBD and the Downtown Optimist Club. No cost to the club. Approved unanimously.

OI National Convention – Rick - July 2-5, Arlington, VA (sign up for the convention are Deb Swanegan, Mary Dewey and Mike Hachett

Koeze nuts sale – Red's orders – Steve - Please email Steve if you would like to take over some of Red's remaining list. Winterss@missouri.edu

Amish jam sales – Steve – Jams that will be for sale are ordered. We are getting the same amount as last year but trying for a bit more variety.

Trees are ordered 1225 trees Fayette Optimist Club will not be selling trees this year.

JIO: Deb and Mary will be talking to the Lange and West Middle School staff about starting club at their schools with their students. Lindsey Wulff is a staff member at West Middle School so we have an Optimist Club member there already.

New Business:

Board meeting May 18– Thanks to Nadia for hosting us at the Conference Center at the Hampton Inn on Stadium.

Five funding requests – Steve - Food Bank - \$5000; CCUA - \$2000; Hickman Review - \$1000; Mo River Relief - \$2000 and Columbia Housing Authority - \$6500. The first four are to present May 18 and the fifth will present June 15. Current have 3 funding requests for June

As a side note – in the last week we have given out \$18,000 in grants and scholarships to benefit Columbia youth – Good job.

We got info about 501c-3 from Ernie Wren from Ashland. We will look at this further at the next meeting.

In depth discussion on our scholarship disbursements. Nadia - If a scholarship award is more than is needed to cover a student's college fees, what should happen to the left over money? Should it 1. Still go to the student for other college related expenses? 2. Be given to the college to offset other scholarships the student received? 3. Be returned to the Downtown Optimist Club? Board decided that excess scholarship money should be returned to the Downtown Optimist Club to be used "for other children".

Nominating Committee – Ed - Still looking for a second VP.

Formalized the dues for spouses - the first year dues for the second spouse will be $\frac{3}{4}$ the amount of the normal dues.

Tabled other issues until next meeting.

Discussion of May 3 Joint Leadership of COMO Service Clubs meeting 5 clubs. Blitz Build, Sept 18-29. Sign up Genie available soon for earlier work to prep for the main build. Second topic - COMO 411. And finally- Chris Kelley – Boone Co Office of Emergency Mgmt. With this we will be asking for 2 Optimist Club Members to sign up for each shift. This can be 2 from either our club or the 2 from another Optimist Clubs in Columbia.

Further discussion of Kid's Carnival and Car Show activities.

Jake Jolly passed around the sign up sheet for the Volunteering for the Show Me State Games for July 23th and 30th to hand out the Soccer medals.

Carl Scott sent in a donation in honor of Red Leighton for the Junior Golf Tournament on Friday, June 9th and Mary Dewey sent in a donation from the Downtown Optimist Club.

We are looking for ideas for our next social event for summer – One suggestion – volunteer on a Saturday for Mo River Relief followed by party at Rocheport. Please let me know your thoughts and any other ideas you may have. Another – a BBQ here with games in back after. Please let me know your thoughts and any other ideas you may have.

Speaker for the Day – Carrie Beck, Columbia Foster and Adoption Program

Optimist Creed was recited and meeting adjourned at

**Jerry Sullivan, President
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June 2023						
◀ May 2023						Jul 2023 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 Club meeting at 12 pm at Shakespeare's Pizza South of town	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Club meeting at 12 pm at Lenoir Home Fireside Room	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 Club meeting at 12 pm at the Clubhouse	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 Club meeting at 12 pm at the Clubhouse	27	28	29	30	