

MINUTES WRCL QUARTERLY MEETING

Walden's Ridge Civic League

7:00 PM, January 15, 2026 – 2502 Fairmount Pike, Signal Mt. 37377

Call to order: The Quarterly Membership Meeting of the Walden's Ridge Civic League was called to order at 7:05 PM in the WRCL Auditorium.

The Invocation was lead by Member Maggie Kersten, and the Pledge to the Flag was led by Vice President Carolyn Longphre.

Roll call: Present were President Mark Dwyer, Vice-president Carolyn Longphre, Treasurer Neal Cox, Secretary Karen Stone, Kent Kersten, and Vicki Love. Absent were Johanne Albright, Helen Miles, Roxie Thornton and Rita Smith Irvin. A quorum was established.

Vice-President's Comments: Carolyn Longphre welcomed the members and guests and thanked them for attending.

Minutes of the October Quarterly Meeting as posted on the website were approved.

Treasurer's Report by Neal Cox was discussed, and a returned deposit was questioned. Neal or Mark will talk with the bank to clarify the situation. The reports were filed with the Secretary.

Reports:

EVENTS:

- The "Thank-you Bonfire & Picnic" for Beta and Leo Club Volunteers seemed to be appreciated by the teen volunteers. They willingly fulfilled all the decorating tasks assigned them, and they had a good time and thanked us for the party following. Consensus is that the teens did a good job of decorating, and the Board decided to make holding such appreciation efforts in the future a policy.
- *Merry Mountain Christmas* on December 19 was discussed. Turnout was not large, with about 30 children visiting Santa. We had 30 Beta/Leo volunteers – more than needed – but they had a good time and want to come back. They are seen as potential future members. A profit shows, but costs for the food purchased is not yet available from the credit card. The date of the last Friday in December was discussed with the idea of having the event on Saturday discussed. We might want the celebration to begin earlier if we move it to Saturday. We might rearrange the order of the program with emphasis on Santa arriving (by WRES fire truck?) and the tree lighting earlier in the program. The system for singing carols at the tree needs to be improved. The event will be held again next year, and all ideas are to be considered in planning.
- Mark will designate a day for moving the Christmas decor from the auditorium and the Women's Building to the Communications Building. Karen is to notify all members.

FACILITIES - Mark Dwyer –

- The siding is finished on the front and almost completed around the annex. More copper flashing must be purchased.

- Mark has noticed kids are scattering the gravel in the parking lot. He is going to purchase mock cameras and put up a sign that surveillance filming is in progress. Discussion of trail cameras, or other types of cameras ensued.
- Some of the old seats have been removed. Our volunteers are to scrape up gum, etc. We will hire a professional to sand the floors and fill all holes and divots. Mark has two bids that he will present to the Board before a contract is signed. WRCL will buy citrus-based Land Arc oil and volunteers will seal the floor. We will confer with Kim Rackel of Bachman about how to install the new seats. Width of the aisles, etc. was discussed. Timetable not yet firm.
- Some wiring in the attic had to be corrected. Mark will present the bill. Wiring for the ceiling lights, fans, sconces, etc. is not up to code. Wiring must be corrected ASAP.
- Karen was asked about “thank you” letters, especially a tax letter to Byron Dorough for his donation of speakers that he purchased for \$1,000. She has sent all the tax letters to the 2025 donors, but not to Byron. She will send a letter to Byron immediately.
- Discussion of the air conditioner replacement was deferred.

TOWN OF WALDEN REPORT was presented January 13; the report was posted on the website, read to the Board, and filed with the Secretary.

New Business:

- *Tell It On the Mountain* is set for March 27, 5_7:30 PM. Volunteers needed to plan and execute.
- Karen moved to nominate Hilda Mills Horton for a position on the Board of Directors. Mark seconded the motion. Discussion followed on her supportive work and faithful service when she served on the board in 2021-22. The nomination was approved, and Karen is to write a letter of welcome and congratulations. Hilda will be asked to confirm the obligations of service as outlined on the WRCL official application for a board position.
- Karen, as Secretary, requested permission to purchase toner for her printer. Permission granted.
- Wayside has requested to use WRCL property for their Fall Festival in September and for their Reformation Heritage Conference October 23-25, 2026. Mark and Karen will cooperate in writing a letter to Wayside clarifying the relationship between WRCL and the church and asking for help from Wayside with improving the parking areas.

Communications from Members:

Maggie Kersten suggested we contact Amanda England, President of the Signal Mountain Guild, to request a donation. Karen will also ask her to help with planning *Tell it on the Mt.*

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Next board meeting is Thursday, February 19, 2026 at 6:30 PM.

Next Quarterly Membership Meeting Thursday, April 16, 2026, 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted, Karen Stone, Interim Secretary