

MINUTES WRCL QUARTERLY MEETING

Walden's Ridge Civic League

7:00 PM, October 16, 2025 - W R Civic League Auditorium

Call to order: The Quarterly Membership Meeting of the Walden's Ridge Civic League was called to order at 7:06 PM, preceding a Volunteer Appreciation BBQ Dinner in the Auditorium. Attendance at the dinner was about 30 volunteers.

The Invocation was lead by Member Bob Gray, and the Pledge to the Flag was led by President Mark Dwyer.

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

President's Comments: Mark Dwyer welcomed the members and guests. He thanked everyone for coming and for serving as such faithful volunteers.

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

Treasurer's Report by Neal Cox was discussed, approved, and filed with the Secretary.

Reports:

FACILITIES - Mark Dwyer – The siding project is progressing steadily with the men meeting every Saturday morning at 9:00 AM, weather permitting. The volunteers, Tim Webb, Chris Garner, Kent Kersten, Byron Dorough, Roger Thiesfeld, Allen Fethe, Hunter Dwyer and Mark Dwyer, are paid in donuts and pizza. The project is under budget, as the special report by the Treasurer shows. When the weather gets too bad to work outside, they expect to move inside and start replacing the seats in the auditorium.

The deteriorated roof on the Highway Patrol building was replaced with a new metal one. The plan is to remove the rock-wool insulation in the ceiling, add new insulation and put up a new suspended ceiling using donated tiles on hand. Then everything stored in the Women's Building can be moved into the safe and dry Highway Patrol Building.

EVENTS – Carolyn Longphre. Thanks to Volunteers, *Smoke on the Mountain* was a success as shown by the Treasurers report. The idea of using special colored tickets for food worked well and should be repeated. Karen was able to tally all the tickets by category so in the future we will have a better idea of what is popular and profitable. Food sales and participation in ticketed activities were good, and the only activity that did not cover costs was the petting zoo. Members helped with comments about how tickets sales, traffic flow, and other considerations could be improved.

A representative of the Beta Club, Julia Stone, was asked how we could best express our appreciation for the service of the Leos and the Beta Club. She suggested that a special bonfire or similar party-type event would be good. This idea was accepted and will be followed up by the Board.

Merry Mountain Christmas is scheduled for December 19, and Karen Stone agreed to chair the event again. A planning meeting will be scheduled soon. Young volunteers from the Leos and the Beta Club will be asked to decorate early so as not to be pressed at the last minute as before. The idea of a bonfire and wiener roast, combined with a work session/"decorating party" met with approval of the Beta Club representative. Volunteers are needed for the day of the event. Mark Dwyer has agreed to play Santa Claus.

GARDENS – Johanne Albright said that the Boy Scout Eagle project of building a floor on the scout cabin foundation required a building permit. The permitting process revealed that the cabin foundation is 4 feet too close to the Edgemon property line, and she and Scout John Stone have prepared an appeal to the Walden Zoning Variance Committee. The Committee is expected to meet in November.

Old Business:

On September 19, Johanne and Karen traveled to Nashville where the TN Historical Commission approved our application for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. It will now be forwarded to the National Park Service, and the sought-after status may be granted before the end of the year.

New Business:

Karen needs the names and addresses of all donors so she can send thank you/tax letters to them.

Volunteers are needed for Merry Mt. Christmas, Friday, December 19 5-8 PM.

A heartfelt invitation was extended for applicants to a position on the Board of Directors.

Communications from Members:

Members expressed their enjoyment of *Smoke on the Mountain* and felt it was a success. They were particularly interested in the Treasurer's report, especially on the siding project.

Alison Hoffman asked if the money WRCL has in the bank is earning any interest or is in a checking account. She and Helen Miles suggested that a large part of it should be moved to a savings account so that it could earn interest. David Dolan asked about the continuing small purchases from Ace Hardware for the siding project, pointing out that several construction supply businesses were less expensive. Mark Dwyer explained that most building supplies are purchased from 57 Lumber, but that it is impractical to drive off the mountain for things like wire, screws, bolts, saw blades, small hand tools, etc. Dwyer emphasized that they are very careful with expenditures.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM and all enjoyed a fried chicken dinner.

Next board meeting is Thursday, November 20, 2025 at 6:30 PM.

Next Quarterly Membership Meeting Thursday, January 15, 2026, 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted, Karen Stone, Interim Secretary