

MINUTES WRCL QUARTERLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Walden's Ridge Civic Center, 2501 Fairmount Pike, Signal Mt., Tn 37377
Thursday, April 16, 2026 ~ 7:00 PM

The WRCL Quarterly Membership Meeting was called to order by President Mark Dwyer at 7:10 PM, April 16, 2026.

Board members present were Mark Dwyer, Carolyn Longphre, Karen Stone, Kent Kersten, Johanne Albright, and Hilda Horton. Absent were Helen Brell Miles, Roxie Thornton, Vicki Love, and Rita Irvin.

President Dwyer welcomed the members and introduced the Board. Minutes of the 01/16/2026 Quarterly Meeting were approved as they were posted on the website.

Treasurer Helen Brell Miles provided printed copies of the financial reports, and copies were given to the Secretary for recording.

Old Business:

EVENTS –

- Chair Hilda Horton reported that *Tell It on the Mountain* attendance improved to over 80 participants who seemed to enjoy the stories, though the small children sat in the audience with their parents this time and did not appear as engaged as previously. The idea of charging \$5 per person or \$15 per family brought in some revenue and donations, so the policy will continue next year. Comments centered around a payment of \$400 to the Cleveland Storyteller's Guild, since it was an expense not anticipated by Chair of the event. It was agreed that for *Tell It 2027*, the matter should be discussed during the planning stage.

FACILITIES - Mark Dwyer

- Siding has been completed past the Mt. Oprey addition and started on the south side.
- Seat installation is about 2/3 completed. The members commented on the improved look and comfort.
- Mark and the siding volunteers have built work benches in Highway Patrol building so they can begin building Adirondak chairs to sell as a fundraiser.

TOWN OF WALDEN Request for donation – Karen Stone and Helen Miles have prepared the paperwork and submitted it requesting \$15,000.00.

New Business:

- Our previous Treasurer, Neal Cox, is very ill under hospice care. Unanimous vote of appreciation and sympathy.
- Walden's Ridge Guild will hold a picnic in the Pavilion May 21.
- SM Christian School asks to use the parking lot April 24. Permission was granted at no charge.
- SMCS would like to use the grounds and restrooms for Field Day May 22. Decision to rent to them for 50% of the rate published on the website = \$125 vs. \$250. Secretary to send a note and invoice.
- Decision to have a booth at Memorial Day at McCoy – Mark and Carolyn will handle prep and set-up. Other board members will help with the event and take-down.
- *America 250 & Birthday Bash* is Saturday, June 13, 4-8 PM.
 - America 250 Committee met and planned: Prepare a flyer, yard signs, banners
 - Peggy Douglas' 10-minute play "Story of Walden's Ridge Civic League" is cast; rehearsals will be throughout May. She will be loaned a key to get into the auditorium.
 - SAR (Cliff Kent) presentation of colors & pledge. Will set up musket demonstrations.

- DAR (Heather Speas) 3-4 short stories about patriots
 - Musket demonstrations on the field between band sets
 - Liberty Bell – public may be invited to sign or trace handprints, or other paint design to be decided.
 - *Birthday Bash*
 - A Chair must be selected
 - Committee must be formed
 - Decision to enter the SM Parade 4th July – truck to be borrowed – decoration date & riders to be determined
 - *Smoke on the Mountain* BBQ cook entry blanks were distributed. Need for a Chair
-

Communications from Members:

The Signal Mt. Community Guild might have some funds to give to a nonprofit organization like WRCL. We should inquire and submit a request.

The new seats look great, and the siding is showing good progress. People appreciate the changes.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM

Next Quarterly Membership meeting July 16, 2026