

Minutes For Downtown Optimist Club Meeting

February 5, 2024

President **Mike Hatchett** kicked off our meeting today at 12 pm with our invocation by **Pat Brown** and the Pledge of Allegiance by **Steve Winters**. Sixteen hearty souls attended today including eleven in-person members, a guest-soon-to-be-member **Adam Bunch**, our honored guest speaker, **Jerrell Morton**, and three members (**Scott Stager**, **Trevor Harris**, and **Nadia Ryakhmyatullo**) attending via Zoom.

No one admitted to have a birthday or anniversary this week, although **Steve Winters** attempted to prime the pump for brownie points at home by noting an upcoming 40th anniversary with **Mrs. Winters!**

Several folks paid the Club Pig today. **Carl Scott** paid today for several things, including not grabbing his name badge. **Rick McKernan** had to pay the pig... yet again... for yet another KU basketball win. President **Mike Hatchett** should have had to pay the pig for disparaging January 29th as Kansas Day, but he exercised executive privilege and simply blamed **Rick McKernan**, which in turn cost **McKernan** yet another quarter to defend Kansas' honor.

Lots of activity going on with the Downtown Optimist Club. Most everything is in the weekly meeting announcement, but make a special note that the club's **Chili Cook-Off date has changed** from Monday, February 26th to Tuesday, February 27th because of a scheduling conflict.

Our guest speaker today was **Jerrell Morton**, director of the YouthBuild program at JobPoint. This program is primarily directed at high risk youth who may have special challenges keeping them from high school graduation and gainful employment. Besides helping these young folks get their HISET degree, today's rendition of past years' GED, YouthBuild's programs include training in the areas of office technology, certified nursing assistants, carpentry, highway construction, HVAC, and warehouse training. Besides earning wages while they learn, a high percentage of graduates of these programs received job offers with significant earning potential.

Congratulations to **Scott Stager** who won this week's drawing for a gift card worth \$30. Scott reserved his table at House Of Chow. Restaurant choices include those restaurants who help support our gift certificate sales at Christmas. Next week's gift card is worth \$10.00.

Today's meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm with the Optimist Creed.

Downtown Optimist Club

Meeting Notes Monday, February 19, 2024

President **Mike Hatchett** called the meeting to order at 12:03 pm following lunch. There were approximately 15 members present including **Scott Stager** via Zoom. Guests this week included Guest Speaker **Jackie Gingrich** from The Wardrobe, and **Earnie Wren**, Immediate Past EMO Governor. **Pat Brown** led the invocation, and **Jerry Sullivan** led the Pledge of Allegiance. Our Childhood Cancer Pig received contributions today from:

Carl Scott for MU softball's success, KU's loss last Monday, and prayers for those injured at the Chief's Superbowl Victory rally

Rick McKernan for KU's 10-point win last Saturday over Oklahoma

Guest **Jackie Gingrich** for her brother undergoing cancer treatment

Announcements

Past Governor **Ernie Wren** announced honors for 22-23 OI Foundation Rep **Mary Dewey**. Mary received the Distinguished Foundation Representative recognition for surpassing all past levels of past giving for the EMO District. (The Pig should get REALLY FAT on this one!)

East Missouri 2nd Quarter District Meeting via Zoom

The 2nd Quarter meeting will be held both in person and on line via zoom. Members are encouraged to join in. The executive meeting is Friday evening, and the district meeting is Saturday, February 24th beginning at 9:30 am. We are meeting at the clubhouse to participate as a group. Come drop in – there WILL be breakfast and probably pizza for lunch.

Board Meeting was held last Thursday. Among the actions taken were:

- 1) \$400 approved for the Pickleball Tournament
- 2) **Alan Bunch** approved for club membership
- 3) Scott Electric awarded contract for electrical lighting work in the back yard

Paddle Battle

Jerry Sullivan covered the Optimist Pickleball Tournament that will be held on April 6. Get your entries in, and go home as a champ!

Essay & Oratorical Contests

Details for both are on the club website according to chair **Rick McKernan**.

The Oratorical Contest will be Sunday, March 10th at the clubhouse at 2:00pm. All are encouraged to come as spectators to give these speakers a true flavor of speaking to an audience. Come early, don't be late.

Deadline for Essay contest entries is to be received by March 15th.

Club Chili CookOff Tuesday, February 27th

You still have time to enter, according to chair **Carl Scott**. And it's not too late to sign up to sample these culinary delights. This is an annual club event, and a precursor to the Boys & Girls Club Chili Cook-Off coming up on April 20th. The winner's name gets inscribed on a plaque that hangs in perpetuity on our clubhouse wall.

Hunt For Optimism: The Bill Of Rights

Chair **Rick McKernan** announced this project has been pushed back to April because of the many overlapping events already taking place in March. Watch for upcoming details.

Today's Guest Speaker

We were fortunate to have **Jackie Gingrich**, treasurer for The Wardrobe, as our guest speaker. The Wardrobe serves a number of Columbia's lesser fortunate individuals and families, mostly through referrals from social service agencies as well as walk-ins from the general public. Among the goods they provide are clothing, toys, household items and especially shoes. Many of the items are donated, but the shoe program, the largest of their programs, has a partnership with Shoe Carnival locally to help provide new shoes to families. Last year they were able to provide over 2700 pairs of new shoes to families here in Columbia.

Gift Card Drawing

Be sure and let absent club member **Bonnie Yantzi** know she could have been the winner of a \$20 restaurant gift card...if she had been here. Come to lunch next time, you could win a \$30 dinner!

President **Mike** adjourned the meeting at 1:00.

Members in attendance: President Mike Hachett, Ed Musterman, Rick McKernan, Carl Scott, Jerry Sullivan, Deb Swanegan, Larry Fick, Pat Brown, Brett Sappington, Alan Bunch, Daryl Stockstill, and Akbar

Carl Scott: want to Max Miller fell and broke his hip in early Feb. He had surgery and is home now resting. If you want to send a card with your well wishes, please mail to:

**Max L Miller
1101 W 85th Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64114-2710**

| March 2024 | | | | | | |
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| ◀ Feb 2024 | | | | | | Apr 2024 ▶ |
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| | | | | | 1 Oratorical Contest Deadline Larry Fick (1968) and Max Miller(1969) joined the Club | 2 |
| 3 Kem Oster joined the club in 1982 | 4 Downtown Optimist Club Meeting at 12:00 at the clubhouse Speaker: Isiah Cummings, Hickman High School Baseball Coach | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 Kid's 1 st Optimist Club Trivia night at the American Legion at 6:00 pm |
| 10 Oratorical Contest at 2:00 pm at the Clubhouse | 11 Downtown Optimist Club Meeting at 12:00 at the clubhouse Speaker: | 12 | 13 | 14 Steven Kelin Birthday | 15 Essay Contest Deadline Hallsville Optimist Club Trivia Night at the Bob Lemone Building | 16 Sunrise Optimist Club Trivia Night at 6:00 pm at their Clubhouse 2410 Parker Street |
| 17 | 18 Downtown Optimist Club Meeting at 12:00 at the clubhouse Speaker: Stacey Pottinger, Voluntary Action Center | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 Kiwanis Club Pancake day from 7:00 am to 12:00 pm at Columbia College cost is |
| 24 | 25 Downtown Optimist Club Meeting at 12:00 at the clubhouse Speaker: | 26 | 27 Travis Kempf Birthday | 28 | 29 Rick McKernan Birthday | 30 Daniel Abraham Joined the Club in (2022) |
| 31 | | | | | | |

