

MINUTES

Thursday, August 11, 2022 @ 7 p.m.
Lindstrom Community Center



Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance - President Chris Schneider called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance

Scott Ross	Michele Jordet
Natasha Zarich	Trina Morrison
Dennis Kammerer	Robert Morrison
Bruce Meehan	Christa Lorfald
Lori Meehan	Kim LaBarre
Rusty Hooks	Bryan Smith
Chris Schneider	Lindsay Schmitt
Michele Lindau	Ron Lenzmeier
Stephanie Schneider	Jeff Bouchee
Chris Schneider	Miranda Olson
Dana Helm	Tim Clark
Jared Clark	Jared Clark
Christa Lorfald	Shawn Dunne
Marlys Dunne	Lori

Welcome and Opening Comments -Chris S. welcomed two new members to the group, Kim L. and Lori. All group member introduced themselves. Chris talked about the need to start focusing on fine-tuning communications within and outside the group. Scott R. talked about how GroupMe provided instant communications and asked everyone to be sure they were signed up for it. He also encouraged everyone to sign up for the newsletter. He talked about the sign-up sheet done by Natasha Z. Scott said there had been great success in instant communications and he appreciated everyone's flexibility. Chris added that everyone should remember to check the website. Scott talked about meeting with churches during the fall season. He has contact information for four churches, and he asked that people who attend those churches help make contact.

Approval of Minutes - Miranda O. made motion, Stephanie S. seconded, to approve the July 14, 2022, minutes with a correction to a date. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Ki Chi Saga Booth and Parade - Natacha Z. began a discussion about the upcoming Ki Chi Saga event. Help was needed at the booth from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. and from 2-5 p.m. on Sunday. It was noted that those times would be during the parade, and a decision needed to be made if the booth would be shut down early. Lindsay S. said that in the past, she had experienced high traffic volumes at the event early Sunday mornings, and the booth should be open. It was mentioned that the flyer contained information on accepting food donations at the booth on Sunday. Natasha Z. asked people to sign up for the parade. Rob O. said he could be at the booth on Sunday morning, and Christa L. said she would sign up for Sunday also. Natasha provided information on the booth saying there will be membership brochures and a spinning wheel with random acts of kindness. There will be tattoos and candy, and the Club will be taking food donations. Rusty H. and Dana H. were signed up from 9-11 a.m. on Saturday. Lindsay, Scott R. and Natasha would be there after, and Robert M. and Trina M. would take the last shift on Saturday. A wheel barrow with a sign for the food drive could be left out. Shawn D. said he had a big one. People

were needed to bring stuff there for setup on Saturday morning, and Shawn offered his assistance. Rob said he would be available to pick up the stuff on Sunday. Rusty will be bringing a tent, and there would be plenty of tables. The Club will meet at the Dunne's at 10 a.m. to assemble the float and blow up balloons.

Chamber golf tournament – Guest Jeff Bouchee, Committee Board Member on the Chamber of Commerce, provided information on the Annual Golf Tournament at the Chisago Lakes Golf Course on August 18 beginning at noon. Play will be from 1-6 p.m. followed by a dinner. They needed help setting up and tearing down, and were looking for people to help with raffles. Captain Shawn will be doing a putting contest and splitting the proceeds. Jeff B. said the Chamber appreciates the partnership with the CLGNC and to reach out to him with questions. Natasha Z. said she sent out the sign-up form, and there were six people signed up.

Shafer Days Parade September 17 – Natasha Z. said the Club will have lots of balloons left from the Ki Chi Parade. More info to follow.

Yard Cleanup – Shawn D. provided an update on the yard cleanup for a local elderly woman. Approximately 12 people showed up. Tim C. added that at any given time, help would be appreciated as there is plenty to do.

Membership Committee Update - Christa L. gave everyone a card to write down a random act of kindness. At the end of the meeting, a card will be drawn, and that person will receive a gift. Christa talked about her conversation with Dana H., who had lots of ideas. She said Lori also had ideas. Lori said she saw the Facebook post and decided to attend this meeting. She said she was new to Lindstrom in 2020 and thought it would be a great way to get involved in the community. Dana H. shared she was working on an onboarding checklist that included a welcome email, information on how to get shirts, getting them set up on GroupMe, and getting them engaged. She talked about wanting to partner with Miranda O. and Natasha Z. Kim shared what she does for Christmas gifts for seniors. She gets donations to purchase flowers and coffee mugs, and she brings them to Parmly. She said her passion is senior citizens, and she enjoys visiting and cooking for them. Kim attends St. Bridget's and offered to help make connections. There was a question on the best way to communicate new memberships. The application says to mail it to Marlys D. or to the GNC email account. Chris S. noted that the membership directory was in Dropbox.

Website/Social Media Update – Miranda O. provided stats that showed the Club's Facebook likes increased by 25 and followers increased by 49 since July 14. She talked about additional tabs added to the page with information on the club, membership info, donation info, etc. She is starting to create events that can be added to Google Calendar. If you click on "interested" or "going" it will show up on your news feeds so friends will see it, and reminders will pop up. She encouraged everyone to do this to help spread information on the Club. Miranda also updated the membership page on the website to include a link to the donation page. She talked about the free Google extension, Kami, that allows membership forms to be filled in online. There was discussion about the donation page and a need to discuss sponsorship amounts. Since July 14, the number of website bloggers only went up by four. Some of the blogs could be ending up as junk email. She was planning on getting the newsletter out in October and hoped to do a newsletter twice a year.

Public Relations Update – Miranda O. talked about a hard push for public relations being done as the Club becomes more established. The focus lately had been on events and acts of kindness. She said the Chisago Lake Rotary and Family Pathways Food Shelf continue to be partners.

Committee Participation and Recruitment— Chris S. talked about needing more members to join committees, and he made a shout out to everyone to sign up and help.

Business Sponsorships – There was a discussion on what businesses receive for being business sponsors, and what were the times for annual sponsorship. Some liked this time of year because of the parade exposure. Miranda O. suggested October 1 as the deadline to get things in on time to be a next year sponsor. Chris S. talked about team shirts with business members’ logos on them. Stephanie S. talked about sponsorship costs being linked to what the Club was offering them, and the biggest thing was to provide exposure for the businesses. Miranda showed examples of Harmony in the Park sponsorship levels and said it would be simpler if it was one set amount and range of time. Jeff D. said it was important to let them know what they will get with each sponsorship amount. It needed to be very well defined, and he agreed November 1 would be a good deadline for 2023. Miranda suggested sending letters at the end of September to allow people time to get their sponsorships in. There was talk about sponsorships beginning on November 1, and it was decided there needed to be another subcommittee meeting to determine the logistics. Natasha Z. announced her company does Board Service Grants, and she received a \$1,500 grant. She said her company will also match any donation up to \$5,000.

Local Church Outreach/Communication - Scott R. talked about being connected to churches, specifically St. Bridget’s, Lakes Free Church, Trinity Lutheran Church, and Zion Church. He said he had information and will get it into the Dropbox. He said he would like a member of the church to go with him for introductions. Chris S. said he liked the idea of going to each individual church. With the holidays coming up, there may be a lot of needs the Club can help with. Scott said he would like to make contact with these churches by the end of the month. Chris talked about the dinners at Zion starting in September, and there was a need for 16 people to serve and bring dessert. The thought the starting time was 3:30 p.m. A sign-up sheet would be sent out.

Treasurer Update - Marlys D. stated there was around \$1,650 in the account, but there were still parade expenses that needed to be paid. Dana H. asked what the monthly Club cost was. Marlys responded most of the costs have been one-time costs and upfront annual fees. It will mainly be events and special projects moving forward. Miranda O. said some of the fees were for social media, and she was able to get a discount for signing up for two years.

Big Grant Idea – Marlys D. explained the Chisago Lakes Area Community Foundation had a grant for up to \$10K for civic minded project. She talked about seniors being one of the fastest growing populations in the area saying many want to live independently and rely on others to help them out. Her idea was an “Adopted a Grandparent Program” she thought would support the foundation and mission of the Club. This would make an incredible difference in a senior’s life, and the best thing you can give them was your time. It would also be something kids could get involved with. Christa L. did some research and found there was an Adopt a Grandparent Program in Anoka, but the program shut down, likely due to the pandemic. It was acknowledged there would be some hurdles, but the Club should be able to navigate through them, and there would likely need to be some training. Families are busy, and nursing homes are expensive, so there were a lot of benefits for a program like this. Christa agreed there was a huge need, and she offered to help navigate this. There was discussion on what were the needs for the grant dollars. Shawn D. said the money could go for things like putting a ramp on someone house or any type of safety feature that would allow them to stay in their home longer. Marlys talked about many services being income based, but a large population of seniors remained unserved. It would not take a lot of money to launch, but the Club needed to decide targets, set up a program, and determine how to expand on it. Scott R. suggested partnering with social workers. Christa said the seniors needed to feel safe around Club members. Stephanie S. talked about the place her mom was in and the many services they provide such as hair and yoga. She suggested visiting the senior buildings that don’t have those services and also target the ones that don’t have many family visitors. Dana H. agreed that the social

aspect was important. Marlys D. said September 2, 2022, was the deadline, and a group of volunteers signed up to help with the grant.

Random Acts of Kindness – Robert M. talked about helping his neighbor with tree work. There was discussion on continuing to help the local senior with yard work. Miranda O. knew of a local woman whose husband recently passed away and needed help to clean up sticks on the rocks in her yard. Miranda will try to find out more info.

Fire Department Meetings - Marlys D. said she had met with the Chisago City Fire Department Relief Association to talk about the Club. She handed out flyers and requested a \$2,500 donation. Jeff D. said there was hope to get a matching grant from Graco, the company he works for. Marlys said she met with the Lindstrom Fire Department the previous evening to talk about the CLGNC.

Card Drawing – At the beginning of the meeting, everyone wrote down a random act of kindness on a card and put it in jar. Kim L.'s card was drawn. Her random act of kindness was to buy a person a little something if they were having a hard time. Christa L. presented her with a painted rock.

Next Meeting - The next meeting will be September 8, 2022, at Chisago Lakes Town Hall. There was no fee for non-profits. It was also reserved for October, November, and December. If the Club is agreeable, it would need to sign up for next year. The time changed to 6 p.m.

Adjournment - Miranda O. made motion, Lindsay S. seconded, to adjourn at 8:58 p.m. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared and submitted by Secretary Michele Lindau