

MINUTES

Club and Board Meeting
Tuesday, November 22, 2022, 6 p.m.
Chisago Town Hall



Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance - President Chris Schneider called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. Rusty H. led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Everyone in attendance introduced themselves.

Attendance – The following attendees signed in:

Lori Bestler	Robert Morrison
Janet Dubose	Miranda Olson
Chris Dubose	Scott Ross
Marlys Dunne	Chris Schneider
Tina Forcier	Stephanie Schneider
Rusty Hooks	Maggie Schmitt
Dennis Kammerer	Natasha Zarich
Kim LaBarre	Niki Gysbers
Brad Mattson	Connie Jaques
Bruce Meehan	John Santi
Lori Meehan	Colleen Santi

Approval of Minutes

Brad M. made motion, Robert M. seconded, to approve the minutes for the Club meeting held on September 8, 2022, as presented. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Natasha made motion, Robert M. seconded, to approve the minutes for the Board meeting held on October 27, 2022, as amended. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Updates

Club President Chris S. talked briefly about the Board meeting recently held where the processes were discussed. This will be presented later in the meeting.

Treasure Marlys D. provided information on money held in the checkbook. Transaction included a Chromebook was purchase for the Director of Communications for \$175 and Adopt a Grandparent signage for \$139. The current balance was \$2,200

Director of Communications Miranda O. said it was difficult to get the newsletter done without a laptop. She hoped to have Microsoft Office on the Chromebook soon. She provided stats on the website and Facebook saying there were currently 470 followers, including several organizations. Things seemed to be winding down.

Old Business

Age Well Expo-Marlys D. talked about the Age Well Expo. Three Club members worked the booth. At least ten organizations had approached the GNC regarding partnership and many inquires on the Adopt a Grandparent program, which was still being developed. There are six seniors that have already signed up, and there was a photo printed in the Chisago Press from the grant the Club had received. Scott R. had received two phone calls from people who heard about the GNC at the event and needed help. Scott explained the phone number was distributed at the Age Well event as a starter. The call goes directly to voice mail and provides him a transcript. Marlys D. talked about the Big Idea Grant Award

Reception and explained the Adopt a Grandparent Program to those new to the group and informed everyone the next step was to establish a committee

Trick or Treat on Main Street-Natasha Z. provided a recap of the Trick or Treat on Main Street event. The Club set up a tent by the Chamber office, handed out glow sticks and used a GNC logo stamp on hands.

New Business

Presentation on Club Organization and Process – Chris S. talked about the complications that have risen due to the club growing too fast, and he recognized the shortcomings. He talked about the objectives and goal of the and reviewed the organizational structure. There were five executive members and six board members at large. This is established in the Club bylaws. There is no longer a public relations committee. Natasha Z. is the chair of Activities Committee and Lori B. is the Chair of the Membership Committee. Events are divided into GNC core club events that are done every year. Natasha reviewed the events done in the past that required Club resources. Ideas can be brought to the Board for them to decide if they are going to do it. An example of other events of would be the serving meals at the church event on Christmas day. Tina F. would be the contact for that.

Chris S. talked about the necessity of having separate accounting for the Adopt a Grandparent Program since the Club received grant dollars for it. There was a lot to figure out, and work needed to be done to put the program together.

He reviewed the functions of the different committees. He and Scott R. were working on a quick video to explain the Club and hoped to have it complete by January. Chris reviewed the membership process. Applications would be forwarded to the Membership Committee to process and put into Dropbox. The Executive Board votes them in and the Secretary will add them to the contact list. The committee will get them included on the Groupme and get them t-shirts. The President will send them a welcome note, and the Membership Committee will send them a welcome letter and link to the video when available.

Scott R. defined the role of the Activity Committee. Natasha Z. is chair, and there are five people doing an amazing job, but it is going to be opened up to put others in charge to keep everyone engaged. There is planning involved with Core events, and there are members who just want to help at the event. Non GNC events will require someone else to take ownership of the event. He talked about Groupme and how it is a pretty instant way of gathering others to help in quick acts of kindness. There is a need to have members to sign up for groups and a group leader for core events. There is a calendar is set up for each month with core events. Maggie added that it was important to be identified as a GNC member, even for random acts of kindness within the community.

Chris S. talked about liaisons to community organizations that want to partner with the GNC. He envisioned Chris D. would do the rotary and chamber, and Stephanie S. could be the liaison to Family Pathways and Lions Club among others.

Scott R. talked about how to handle inquires. Miranda O. sends them to Chris S. who looks at how big the job is and qualifies it. Scott receives calls and vets them and then forwards to members that can help. It was asked if there was a number everyone should know. Scott replied the only advertisement of the number was at the Age Well Event and it will be shared more. It is on the business cards that were printed.

Chris S. talked about the importance of signing in when attending meetings and verifying contact information. Meeting minutes will be done within seven days and send to the membership. The website was the best source to see what is going on.

Adopt a Grandparent Program - Marlys D. explained a lot of the structure was already established in the grant, and she needed people to make a hard commitment. Many organizations are asking about the program and wondering where the Club is at with this. Chris S. suggested reaching out to retirees who are looking for something to do. Marlys said she wanted to start with at least five people and get more interested once the structure is in place. People creating the structure should be members of the Club but won't discount anyone. Chris S. said they have talked about having a GNC youth club that could help. Chris S. and Scott R. talked about their open-door policy and members should contact them with any complaints or suggestions. Bruce M. added that anyone complaining should try to have a solution to the problem.

Christmas Mugs for Seniors - Kim L. talked about Christmas mugs for Seniors saying she created the program 20 years ago. She purchased mugs from the dollar store and fills with flowers from donations received from the Lions Club to offset the costs. The amount she does depends on donations, and she felt with this program would be done better by the GNC. She talks to churches who know who their homebound seniors are and places like Parmley know which residents don't have many visitors. The last few years, she had been using Brinks Floral. She brings them the mugs and they charge \$22 each to put in flowers. Kim follows up by doing a thank you letter in the Chisago Press. She questioned whether the Adopt a Grandparent program could help keep this program alive. It was suggested funds could be raised through Go Fund Me or talk to a few local businesses to get donations. They are normally delivered a week before Christmas, and Brinks would need a week to prepare them. It was said people are not allowed to go into Parmley without a Certificate of Training. Kim will take the lead on the mugs and get it planned. There was talk about having the GNC make the mugs and include the Club info with them.

Christmas Caroling/Food Drive - Rusty H. presented the idea of Christmas caroling that was first mentioned by Dennis K. Rusty thought it would be a great idea to do caroling in conjunction with a food drive or cash donations. He envisioned maybe multiple nights doing three neighborhoods and maybe a few senior centers. Chris S. said he had a trailer that could be turned into a Santa sleigh. The group caroling would have the person knocking on the door ahead to let them know they were coming. Someone could hold the GNC sign, and a few tunes would be sung. It was suggested to also contact the old Rosehill Resort residents and get in contact with the Activities Directors at the senior homes.

Fundraising – Chris S. encouraged everyone to think about fundraising since the Club was getting low on funds. The Club could possibly do a winter dance or something that included a silent auction to invite the community to. This may involve sponsorships and liaisons. Scott R. suggested having kids look at things they don't want any more to regift. Marlys D. said she had a formal donation request form she would share for others to use. Tim C. brought up the idea of a Polar Plunge and there was talk about competing with the Forest Lake Good Samaritans. It was agreed it was doable. It is not until February, but there were a lot of logistics involved. Scott R. said he had talked to Tiki Steve about having the Stone Inn on the lake and putting up a shelter. The Stone liked the idea but felt they didn't have enough people. It is still being discussed.

Board Member Items

Vote in New Members-Miranda made motion, Robert M. seconded, to vote in the following members:

Chelsey Carroll

Judy Hom

Niki Gysbers

All Ayes. Motion carried.

Membership Committee Chair - Miranda made motion, Robert M. seconded, to appoint Lori Bestler as the Membership Committee Chair.

All Ayes. Motion carried.

Chisago Lakes Chamber

Marlys D. provided information on the Chamber's Fundraiser to be held on Thursday, December 8 at 5:30 p.m. It will be held at Winehaven and the cost was \$60 per person. She also said that as members of the Chamber, four people can attend the monthly chamber lunch.

Future Agenda Items and Next Meeting Date

In staying with the set schedule of the second Thursday of the Month, the next meeting was scheduled for December 8. Miranda O. said she has the Chisago Town Hall booked for the meetings through 2023, but to let her know if the Club would not be using it. There was discussion on the Adopt a Grandparent program meeting and Board meeting schedules. The Adopt a Grandparent group will figure out their own meeting dates and give updates to the group. Sponsorship forms, Celebration of the Lakes, and Christmas Caroling will be added to the next agenda.

Visitors

Scott R. asked the visitors how they heard about the Club. One heard about it at a golf tournament, one at the Age Well event, and one at Music in the Park.

Random Acts of Kindness

Marlys D. talked about the gazebo giving it some TLC. She started the project and cleaned for about 3.5 hours, then others showed up to fix screens. Staining of the Gazebo couldn't be done because of the weather. She was informed the maintenance workers were so inspired at the work started that they stained it. Parmley thanked the GNC.

Natasha Z. talked about the silent auction at the Forest Lake Good Samaritan Club's fifth anniversary celebration. She had bought an item another girl wanted, so Natasha gave it to her.

Scott R. talked about hiring his buddy's kid to rake leaves for his 70-year-old neighbor. He did get pie in return.

Robert M. helped another Club member to install lights in her home.

Adjournment

Natasha made motion, Robert M. seconded, to adjourn at 7:55 p.m.

All Aye. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared and submitted by Secretary Michele Lindau.

"Chisago Lakes Good Neighbors club, through its resources and diverse membership, contributes to the needs and wellbeing of our communities through acts of kindness."