

GFWC IL Morris Woman's Club

December 2, 2019

Agenda

1) Pledge to the Flag

2) Collect

Keep us, O God, from pettiness;

let us be large in thought, in word, in deed.

Let us be done with fault-finding,

and leave off self-seeking.

*May we put away all pretense and meet each other face
to face, without self-pity and without prejudice.*

May we never be hasty in judgement

and always be generous.

let us take time for all things;

make us grow calm, serene, gentle.

*Teach us to put into action our better impulses, straight
forward and unafraid.*

*Grant that we may realize it is the little things in life
that create differences, that in the big things in life we
are at one.*

*And may we strive to touch and to know the great
common human's heart of us all;*

and, O Lord god, let us us forget not to be kind.

3) Conservation Pledge

*I give my pledge as an American to save and faithfully
defend from waste the natural resources of my
country--its air, soil, minerals, forest, waters and
wildlife.*

4) Thought for the Day - Vickie Sajnaj

5) Introduction of guests and speaker

6) Secretary's Report

*Minutes Accepted As Read (if corrections accepted as
corrected)*

7) Correspondence Report

8) Treasurer's Report

*If there are no corrections, this report will be placed on
file for review*

9) Areas of Interest News (See Packet)

Business

*In order to discuss a subject where there may be action
taken, a motion and second should be made PRIOR to
discussion (but not by President)*

District 12--Conference info

Education grant request

Freezer meal recap

Jewelry Fundraiser

Dates to Remember

Sunday, Dec 1--World AIDS Day

Monday, Dec 2--General Meeting, 7pm

Saturday, Dec 7--Weighted Comfort Sewing, 9am

Monday, Dec 9--Salvation Army bell ringing

Wed December 11--Ugly Sweater Party at Morris
Library, 5:30-6:30pm

Wed, Dec 18--Narvick House Art Night, 6:30pm

Wed, Dec 18--Book Club at Sherwood Oaks, 11:30am

Jan. - *One More River to Cross* by Jane Kirkpatrick

Feb. - *The Woman in Cabin 10* by Ruth Ware

Adjournment

Collecting

Education Labels

Stamps and postcards

Pop can tabs

Magazines (18 mo old or newer)

Thank You's

Narvick House Volunteers

Weighted Comfort Volunteers

Thank you to

Ann Polson (Arts)

Nilsa Sochan (Conservation)

Adrienne McKerrow (Education)

Michelle Mitchell (Home Life & Superhero Fund)

Mary Lee Howard (International Outreach)

Penny Hexdall (Public Issues)

Cailey Walker (Fundraising)

Kaileen Cummings (Membership)

and all committee members

GFWC-IL Morris Woman's Club Minutes
Monday, November 4th, 2019

President Julie Erickson started the general meeting at 7:15 PM. Twenty-five members present along with four guests. The president introduced new members (3) and guests (4) to the club.

Secretary's Report: Caroline Cummings motioned to accept the October minutes as written. Dot Wolverton seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Correspondent's Report: Correspondent Secretary Bonnie Carlson read a thank you letter from St. Vincent's Table.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Rose Grossi read the treasurer's report aloud and reported an ending balance of \$6,402.42. Mary Lee Howard motioned to accept the report as read. Michelle Mitchell seconded the motion. The report will be filed for audit.

Flower Power Fundraiser: Penny Hexdall generously donated funds from Flower Power Fundraiser back to the club. Funds will be placed in the Education Fund.

Art: Beauty and the Beast will be playing at the Paramount from Nov 13, 2019-Jan 19, 2020. New Morris Theater Guild Production in December. Auditions for Theater Guild for 2020 production.

Make A Difference Day: 24 MCHS cheerleaders participated in the day along with club members. A club member suggested to have two cheerleaders and one adult at each door at Jewel-OSCO. It was suggested MWC contact Lion's Club about dates for next year so as not to overlap on fundraisers. A total of \$291.91 was raised.

Conservation: Collecting animal blankets/comforters to donate to Mazon Just Animals and Grundy County Animal Shelter. Please bring to meeting or contact Nilsa Sochan or Vi Sargent.

Education:

- Education Chair Adrienne McKerrow motioned to sponsor an Ugly Sweater Party at Morris Public Library on December 4th or 11th (confirming dates with library). Suggested having kids decorate an ornament and having a judge panel with ugly sweater books/coloring books as prizes. Looking for volunteers to help set-up, judge, and provide refreshments. Nilsa Sochan seconded the motion. The motion was passed.
- Adrienne motioned to donate indoor/outdoor equipment for recess to Step-by-Step Childcare in Morris. Vi Sargent seconded the motion. The motion was passed. Please bring equipment to December meeting.
- Adrienne motioned to accept three proposals for MWC Education Grant. Caroline Cummings seconded the motion. The motion was passed. Grants will include: \$260 to District 54 DC Trip, \$200 monetary donation to District 54 STEM "Morris Makers" group, and \$308.90 to Nettle Creek 1:1 Tech Support. We will also collect cotton balls, toothpicks, plastic containers, craft sticks, and legos for the Morris Makers group.

Home Life:

- Great turnout for Touch-a-Truck event. Club member Chris Perry won the 50/50 drawing. Thank you to everyone who assisted with the event.
- Home Life Chair Michelle Mitchell asked group if anyone wanted to lead the February 13th Valentine's Luncheon for Guardian Angel Groundwork program. Michelle, Barb, Mary Lee, and Nilsa will assist.

International: International Outreach Chair Mary Lee Howard reported that cookies and pencils with note were delivered to MCHS for World Teachers' Day. Good feedback from teachers. Thank you to all who assisted with event.

Public Issues: Collecting thank you letters for Veteran's Day.

Membership: Freezer Meals event at MCHS on Thursday, November 21st. Please contact Julie Erickson to sign up.

Click for Babies: Wendy Easson reported that club currently has 85 hats.

December 7 Craft Show: Julie Erickson suggested we sell remaining donated jewelry at craft show. Looking for volunteers.

Don't forget to bring three dozen cookies if you would like to participate in December Meeting Cookie Exchange on Monday, December 2nd

General meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Speaker Laurie Stone spoke on the topic "Ridiculously Easy Self-Care for Stress".

ART UPDATE

The Morris Theater Guild shows are the first weekend of December . Show your support for the arts. There will be a K-5 art show at The EXhibit in December with the gala on Friday, December 13 from 5-7 pm.

CONSERVATION UPDATE

Chapin Park and Firehouse: Both areas have been decorated with Christmas and Winter decorations.

Stamps: Please remember no flag stamps or lower value stamps. Don't forget larger value stamps and picture postcards are appreciated. What we have collected this year will be sent out at the end of December.

Birds and the Bees: Please keep the food and water fresh for the birds.

Animal Shelters: If you have any comforters and/or blankets you do not want any longer, please consider bringing them to Nilsa or I. We would like to deliver the dog beds and blankets/comforters to Mazon Just Animals and Grundy Co. Animal Shelter on Dec. 17th.

**Please sign the Conservation Project sheet this month or in January, letting us know if you helped in each project. We need this information for reporting.
Thank-you for your help this year***

EDUCATION UPDATE

We are still collecting recess toys/games for Step by Step Childcare in Morris. Adrienne McKerrow can pick them up from you if needed.

We are hosting an Ugly Sweater Party at the Morris Library on 12/11, from 5:30-6:30. We are giving away books as the prizes and there will be hot chocolate, water, and an ugly sweater ornament station. Please sign up if you can help or donate.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1QTjvMEIXghMj5KBSQ2tt27KryJCE_thjU9sbik1QPGA/edit?usp=sharing

The Education Committee presented three staff members at local schools with their grants from the Educational Assistance Program last month. We also have one additional application to review.

Saratoga SD #60	18 students are attending the Washington DC trip.	Any monetary donation would be appreciated.	Deadline is Feb.	\$260-1 previous
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FUND RAISING UPDATE

There is the jewelry sale at MCHS Craft Show on December 7 from 7- 2 pm. The committee would like to do another Bunko night in February, depending on how many members want to assist.

INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH UPDATE

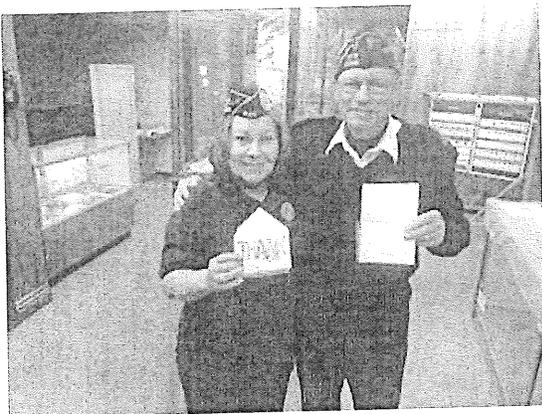
All goals completed for 2019. I have attached an article for website/fb for January. For the February meeting we would like to collect new and/or gently used bras for Free the Girls. This organization assists girls rescued from trafficking and puts them on the road to becoming financially stable.

Survivors can earn a safe income selling bras in the second-hand marketplace. We journey with them on the path to restore who they were designed to be- whole, worthy, and powerfully FREE. By receiving a starting inventory from Free The Girls, the women are able to begin their business and become an entrepreneur in their own communities. This income allows them a safe economic opportunity, and for many of the women provides not only for themselves, but their children as well!

Maybe you have one or a few bras in your drawer that you don't wear? We accept new and gently used bras in good condition. In January I'll have more information and maybe a fun twist to make this more interesting.

PUBLIC ISSUES

On Veterans Day I took 55 written thank you notes to the American Legion Post 924. Carter Costello had a basket and note for any Veteran to please take one. From Morris Women's Club. Below is a picture of 2 veterans that appreciated the recognition.



DISTRICT MEETING RECAP

Here are most of the business that will affect the clubs:

- *The merger passed after several questions. District 11 has to approve the merger now. They will meet January 25, so we won't know for sure until after that meeting if the merger will actually happen. Nominating Committee is starting to work in case it does not happen because they have a narrow window to come up with a slate if it doesn't work out.
- *Prairie State is officially dissolved. (By the way, Deb H. is a dynamic leader/worker. Coal City is already trying to get her to join them.)
- *Deb Hazlett has been asked to serve as Illinois treasurer and needed District endorsement in order to be considered. She was endorsed.

*March 14th is the Spring Convention in Somonauk. If merger works, this will be Dist. 12's final meeting, so I think we'll party it up. LOL

*Apr. 4 is Blue Ribbon Fashion Show - (I'm already working on a basket for the basket raffle)

*Apr. 30-May 2 is the Illinois Convention

In the handouts is a request for every member to participate in a survey for GFWC Illinois. They hope to have 100% of members responding by Dec. 20th. This is needed by the strategic planning committee as they try to steer the organization into what the members want. It's an internet survey, but there is also a hard copy enclosed for those who prefer that. However, it will be up to us to get it to them.

There are donation guidelines/thank you protocol/raffle information.

125th Acts of Service Report Form

Scholarship Information. We learned that the applications are on line and that info is sent to the schools. If we want them to have the hard copies, it is up to the education chair to print them out and/or get the word out to students that they are available.

There is an update on the strategic plan.

There will be a change in the program areas beginning following the convention in May. It is to align with International:

Arts will become Arts & Culture

Conservation will become Environment

Education will become Education & Libraries

Home Life will become Health & Wellness

Public Issues will become Civic Engagement and Outreach

International will go away and all of the partnerships/activities that have previously reported under International will be threaded into the other 5 program areas. For instance, Operation Smile could go under Advocates for Children. More information/guidelines will come out at the convention.

There is an up-cycled art contest for clubs to participate in this year at convention. Rules are in the hand-outs.

The committee did a wonderful job. Food was delicious!! We had 8 members present

**What's Happening In
Home Life & Superhero Run
12/1/19**

After attending district meeting I walked away with some really good ideas. I will be asking for a few motions at the meeting.

A look at the November Events

- Take Back the Night was a great time as always. Thank you to all the bakers that helped and the ones that came and helped out at the event.
- IVI Fall Bingo was a lot of fun. The clients love playing bingo and winning great prizes we had. Snack was yummy and healthy. Thank you to everyone that donated prizes, snacks and/or helped at the bingo.
- Habitat Lunches We have already served 6 of these. These are meals for the volunteer construction workers during the building of their 5th house on the old paper mill property on North Street. Club members have helped as well as many local restaurants.

December Events!

- **Salvation Army Bell Ringing
December 9TH @ 4PM - 8PM**

More the merrier so if the spots are full and you were wanting to attend please still join us.

- **Sewing Party December 7 @ 9-1
Weighted Comfort For Kids**

Thank you to Mary Lee for leading this and to Nilsa and Vivi for always being there to help.

Anyone that would like to help with snack see Mary Lee.

- **Habitat Lunch's**

Making lunch for the volunteer construction workers during the building of their 5th house on the old paper mill property on North Street. I am looking for some volunteers to make and take food on Saturdays.

- **Brightening the Day with a Card**

Birthday cards were sent to Park Pointe, The Gardens of Park Pointe, Regency Healthcare Centers and Club Members. Christmas cards will be delivered by the 20th. Thank you Vivi Sargent and Donna Weaver for keeping up with this project.

2019

**Sewing Party December 7 @ 9-1 Weighted Comfort For Kids
Salvation Army Bell Ringing December 9TH @ 4PM - 8PM**

2020

**JANUARY 29TH @ 2PM PARK POINTE BINGO
FEBRUARY 13 GROUNDWORK LADIES VALENTINE'S ME DAY
MARCH 5TH ST. VINCENT TABLE
APRIL 18TH SUPERHERO RUN
MAY 1-15 MOBILE MEALS
MAY 20TH @ 1PM IVI BINGO
JUNE 3rd @ 2PM REGENCY CARE BINGO
OCTOBER 8TH ST. VINCENT TABLE
OCT TAKE BACK THE NIGHT
NOVEMBER 13TH @ 1PM IVI BINGO
DECEMBER SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING - TBA**

SUPERHERO RUN

The run preparation is well on the way. The date will be April 18, 2020 and PCA Illinois is the beneficiary.. Please clear your calendars and sign up to help a few hours that day. It takes a lot of people to make it successful.

Thank you!

Michelle Mitchell 815-341-8640