

Mebane Woman's Club
Monthly Business Meeting
May 16, 2024
Minutes

The Mebane Woman's Club met at the Mebane Historical Museum on Thursday, May 16, 2024 for their monthly business meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Sherri Seagroves, President, at 7:01 PM. Roll call (silent headcount) 23 members present, 1 guest speaker, quorum met.

2. Consent Agenda - Molly motioned to accept the Consent Agenda, approved.

- Minutes: April 2024
- Membership: 46 members
- Finance: 2 reports are attached; monthly and YTD

3. Guest Speaker presented by Environment

- Ginger introduces guest speaker Shivon Eck, founder of Wild Tails, Inc.
- Shivon earned her degree in exotic animal training and management. She worked for two years at the Conservator Center in Mebane to fulfill her dream of working with large carnivores, but soon missed the "hands-on" care and desired an opportunity to share animals with the community.
- NC is one of very few states where there are no laws against having exotic pets. Many animals are "impulsively acquired" and the animals are "expensive to care for, may require specific needs, can be destructive and dangerous." The mission of Wild Tales is to pull these animals out of the pet trade. All pets have come from private pet surrender, rescue, or from other organizations that were restructuring or even closed.
- Wild Tails is supported through outreach programs which charges a fee. They also receive some direct donations, but that is only 10-15% of annual income. There are 48 animals currently in Shivon's care: no staff or volunteers. Currently Shivon and her animals live on 8 acres in Snow Camp, NC in the southern part of Alamance County. Once she builds her new large barn, she will most likely be accepting volunteers.
- Wild Tails, Inc is a female owned and ran USDA licensed exhibitor and an official Nonprofit Organization

4. Membership

- Welcome new Member: Judy Thibodeaux
- Amber explains the new member buddy system
 - Each new member is matched with an "old" member
- Upcoming socials: May 24th Movies in the Park, June 21st Musical Chairs downtown, July Trivia Night, August is a tentative trip to a brewery
- Membership is open to additional ideas and all suggestions are appreciated!
- Member Recognitions- Katy B

- Abbey & Rose were recognized for going “above and beyond” this month with their work with Education and Libraries. Polly was recognized for entering the most volunteer hours and reading so many books for ESO. Stephany S. was absent, but was also recognized for her hours recorded from her hard work on the state art festival.

5. Farm to Fork update- Marisa

- Already have 4 sponsors and money is already coming in!
- This year's theme will be sunflower as a tribute to Aimee Krans
 - Motioned carried for 2 donation tickets to Krans family with understanding that we will redress for a possible 2 more tickets in future
 - Sherri requests members be on the lookout for amber and yellow clear plastic screwdrivers for decoration committee

6. Finance Report – Angela

- Increase in the amount for Civic Engagement due to swag for Mebane Citizens Academy
- Increase in Education and Libraries due to Willie Wonka and Friends of the Library donation
- Increase in Health & Wellness because of Mebfit instructors
- We have spent \$6688.34 this year
- Treasurer feels we are on target since we are one quarter in
- Costs are a little more than we expected
 - For example, art show volunteers were over budget which means more volunteers than expected- that’s a good thing and we had 2 shows.
 - Education & Libraries’ budget appears higher because of an online request which did not come out of the original budget but is just noted under the specific CSP.
- At this time we have also paid for the Farm to Fork venue in full which also lowers our bottom line.
- The treasurer requests CSPs reevaluate their budget and determine if projects should be removed.
 - Additional projects should be approved by the board prior to presentation at business meeting.
 - June and July business meeting will be used to review new CSP budgets
 - VPP will be included with update emails to CSPs regarding budget changes/ suggestions.
- Donation Requests
- Dogwood Swim Team requested \$250 for lane sponsor or \$100 to be featured on large banner with other sponsors
 - Katy B motions that we sponsor the same as we did last year (\$100 for a spot on the sponsor’s banner) and Wende seconded.
 - Susan asks if the banner is available to be viewed from outside of the pool. Sherri confirms that the banner is viewed by hundreds of people and that sponsorship helps kids, pays for the meets, and provides an opportunity for 125 kids to be in the only swim team in Mebane. Erin gives details that this is a relatively low budget pool.

- Members agree that there is a need for a public pool.
- Holly asks if the money will be coming out of the Health and Wellness budget and suggests money be moved that was originally designated for family runs. Sherri reminded members that the family fun run is still in discussion, but there is a question of insurance. Angela and Katy B explain that the money does not come from previously allotted funds, but is only noted under the appropriate CSP on the budget
- Susan clarifies that nonmembers can join the swim team and Sherri explains that the donations will go to the health programs.
- Motion passes
- Woodlawn Middle School Cafeteria
- Any assistance towards unpaid breakfast/lunch bills
 - Woodlawn cafeteria manager explained to Angela that many students were moved from a free lunch school to Woodlawn and even though forms have gone out, they have not been registering for free lunch.
 - Many kids stopped paying midyear.
 - There is NO MOTION for any support
 - Club members discuss that there is no way to determine exactly who would be benefitting
 - Amber asks how we can help with the problem of people not completing the form. Polly explains that the form is only online and is difficult to complete due to the length and required documents. Members suggest that we have printed forms at a farmer's market and that we can potentially help in the fall at an open house.
 - If anyone is interested in pursuing this in the future, go through the appropriate CSP chair. You can also donate personally to Woodlawn's \$8270 debt or to ABSS's district balance which is over \$60,000

7. CSP News and Updates

A. Arts & Culture – Katy B.

- May 3rd - members attended Movies at the Park, provided free lemonade to guests and learned to make Snackle Boxes. Members sang along to music from “The Little Mermaid” and indulged in Under the Sea treats! Fun was had by all in the rain!
- May 10th members attended Movies at the Park, provided free lemonade, Wonka Chocolate Bars with our logo and gave out 35 Charlie and the Chocolate Factory books in partnership with Education & Libraries, watched “Wonka” the musical.
- May 24th is the next “Movies in the Park”- please join us for the movie “Wish” and to help give out lemonade to guests.

B. Health & Wellness- Katy B presenting on behalf of the committee

- May 25th is the Bike Rodeo, 9-12pm in the Truist parking lot and volunteers are needed! Signup genius is linked to the MWC calendar
- Saturday, August 3 is Wellness Day at Walmart, we have scheduled the Blood Mobile and will be providing Mebfit class schedules/ info on Reindeer Run

- Reindeer Run is Sunday Dec 15th
- Next CSP meeting: July 11th @ 6:30pm @ Trackside

C. Civic Engagement & Outreach – Sherri

- Saturday, May 25 we will be placing flags on the graves of veterans. Meet at 8:00 AM at VFW Post 95 and follow Vice Commander, Don Solomon, to the cemetery where we will place flags on 500 graves. There is a facebook event and it is on the calendar. Meet at 9am at VFW Post 95 at Linwood Cemetery in Graham (on the Graham Middle School side) to join Commander Wayne Brewer in placing over 1400 flags. Please bring family and friends, kids are more than welcome to help!
- Need volunteers for meals on wheels for June
- We have a booth at Juneteenth Celebration held downtown at Mebane Community Park and we have 2 volunteers working at the booth from 10:00 – 2:00.

D. Education & Libraries – Abbey

- Gravelly Hill literacy night was a success. We were given a shout out on facebook. 75 people attended! Next year we may like to help with a book fair and give assistance towards purchase of books
- Orientation for volunteers of friends of the Alamance library was held May 7. 11 members were trained and then enjoyed a meal together at Burlington Beerworks!
- 35 copies of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory were given out at the last Movies in the Park event and it was a huge success.
- Barbara from FOL and the new manager from Mebane Public Library will hopefully be speaking to us over the summer about other opportunities for volunteerism.

E. Environment – Erin

- Last month's litter pickup at the Holt Street park went well and was greatly appreciated. We had a good turn out.
- Little Explorers has officially ended. Desperately need at least one volunteer once a month 10am on a Tuesday because as of now there is no backup for Erin. Guests are ages 18mo-10years old. The Little explorers do a little craft and take a short "hike." Summer Session will be opening up soon. Dec-Feb will be a break. Little Explorers have been meeting at Lake Michael but will begin meeting at Cates Farm this summer. MWC and Mebane Trail Rangers' social media used for advertising; City will begin advertising again. Emails are also sent to all former participants. (Right now the Little Explorer Program is almost max out-there is currently a cap at 15 participants.
- Trail Rangers has Haw River pick up that has been postponed to June 8 & 9th due to weather.
- Jr Trail Rangers consists of 4th-7th graders and had its first meeting in April- still accepting members.

8. President's Updates

- Abbey and Sam recognized for attending NC LEADS. Sherri and Katy B participated in LEADS and in the GFWC-NC State Convention!
- Review of GFWC-NC State Convention and review of MWC awards

- Top 10 Environment for Little Explorers and Jr Rangers
- Top 10 Fundraising for Farm to Fork
- Top 10 Membership for our creative approach to prospect meetings
- President's Project Award was given to Mebane Trail Rangers for their work on the MST; signage on Clay Street, led a group hike on our section of the trail (60 miles) and we hosted a community event featuring Jennifer Pharr Davis, National Geographic's adventurer of the year.
- We participate in the awards program because it celebrates the hard work that our club and our members do AND it lets other clubs know what we're doing so that they can too- and sometimes there is money for an award!
- We have put together a five-year strategic planning committee to create a roadmap to outline where we're going, how we are going to get there, and how we are going to measure our success. We need to prioritize and outline our strategies. We need the club's input- the committee is simply the conduit to facilitate the process. There will be correspondence between the committee and club members via surveys & face-to-face meetings.

9. Collect – lead by Ginger

There being no further business to come before the board, this meeting is adjourned at 8:33pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Katy B. Hurn on Date: 5/21/2024