

Community Service Club

General Meeting
February 13, 2018

Attendees: Lisa Keltos, Amy Mikolay, Maryann Murrin, Suzanne Rossi, Carol Wymimko, Kathy Hull, Cyndee Lucas, Judee Miley, Maryann Milleville, Janet Capozzola, Marian Goldstein, Kristin Krebs, Linda Pasquariello, Jane Muggeo, Clare Raneri, Deidra Picciano, Jeanne Sacrider, Jennifer Hilderbrand, Guest speaker Cora Ruiz

Lisa Keltos called the meeting to order at 7:37 pm

Special Guest Speaker, Cora Ruiz:

Lisa welcomed 15 year old NFHS Sophomore, Cora Ruiz. Cora spoke to the Club about ***The Monthly Mission***, a cause she founded last year. While in New Haven, CT, Cora came face-to-face with the need to help women secure feminine hygiene products. She began collecting and donating products to Operation Hope based in Fairfield, CT. Soon thereafter, Cora decided to funnel her passion into her own endeavor – hence ***The Monthly Mission***. Cora works with girls and young women to help them feel comfortable and confident about their womanhood, as well as understanding the natural process of ‘getting their period.’ Cora also collects feminine hygiene products such as tampons, maxi pads, pantliners, hand sanitizer, hand wipes, soaps and razors.

Since its inception, Cora’s project has grown tremendously. What started as a call for local community action has now crossed over international borders. Recently, a Dominican mission nurse and Cora worked together to send badly needed products to the Dominican Republic. Cora educated the group on the “Tampon tax,” a tax levied on feminine products as if they were luxury items. Cora hopes to bring attention to this form of “regulatory discrimination.”

It was Amy Mikolay’s hope that members would collect feminine hygiene items for Cora’s cause and bring them to our March meeting (we could call this our ‘March for Cora’ drive). Participation in this drive is optional.

Lisa / Kathy will work to help Cora get local contacts at our Food Pantry (Cindy White) as well as the Women’s Shelter (Danbury).

Cora noted that collection boxes have been pulled from Stop and Shop because people were using it as a trash receptacle.

President:

Lisa was happy to report that the church pathway was cleared tonight. She had inquired if we could have a “main” key for the front to access those entryways in bad weather. As it turns out, all groups using New Life’s kitchen/activity space are only given a key to the lower level.

Lisa thanked the members for the beautiful flowers and cards while she was recovering from shingles.

Lisa reported that we received an anonymous donation from *network for good* via Facebook. The donation was for \$20, minus \$1.15 admin fees, the net donation amount was \$18.85.

Update on the Fran Cunningham scholarships: The Club received a \$5k donation which has been deposited into a separate account at the bank. Kathy Hull is the point person for this project due to her working relationship with the donor. The Board has discussed the type of scholarships for which to disburse the funds in 2018. Lisa advised that per Clare Raneri, we can accommodate a particular scholarship targeted to girls (this was a specific request from the donor). Kathy/Lisa will be meeting with Clare Raneri at the HS to develop the parameters/criteria for the scholarships

Bylaws – Lisa advised that at a future meeting, we will be reviewing the content of some of our bylaws to determine revisions if needed.

Elections – Lisa announced that Tricia Andrews has resigned her PR/Web Historian officership. It has been decided that we have coverage throughout the rest of the club year due to Kathy updating the website and Amy updating Facebook. However, we will need to fill this position for the next club year. Also, both Lisa and Amy's terms on the board are over at the conclusion of this year. Therefore we will be looking for nominations for the President and Secretary board positions. Anyone interested in an officer position may contact Lisa either by email, text or phone.

KDFS – If the KDFS committee needs assistance in stuffing envelopes, interested members could get together to help the KDFS team. Judee is the KDFS lead on this effort. If Judee decides to setup a meet-up for help with the envelope stuffing, she may contact Amy to send an email to the Club re the gathering.

Vice President:

Kathy is working on ordering name tags. If you need a name tag, please contact Kathy.

The membership roster was circulated in order to check/note any errors.

Treasurer:

Deidra passed out the current balance sheet and reported that Amazon Smile went up as well as donations and interest.

There was an expense to the NF Library, this was the purchase of a baby book honoring the recent birth of Ketelyn's daughter Gabriella.

Crafters Day review: Amy thanked everyone for their help at the event, especially Jeanne, Lisa and Kristin.

Amy reported that the event was a success, bringing in over \$1000 in profit. Lisa noted that our gross revenues for the event were perhaps greater than last years, however our net proceeds were a bit lower, which is due to 2 large expenses incurred this year (Town Tribune advertisement and Cleaning Service at firehouse)..

It was suggested that next year we contact the Friday night crafters club members at the NF Library to see if they would like to attend.

Lisa suggested that going forward, event chairs create a wrap-up sheet for their events. This sheet would include the gross revenue receipts minus the costs incurred, thus providing the net proceeds for the event. The event chair would then make 2 copies of the wrap-up sheet, one to be placed in the

event binder and the other sheet to be given to the Treasurer so that they have any needed details for the club's financial reporting.

Kansas Maid / Otis Spunkmeyer Cookie Sale – Suzanne announced that sales can start now, although the order sheet references a later date. Amy will email an electronic copy of the order sheet to club members who weren't available at tonight's meeting. Orders and checks (check payment only please) are due at the March 13th meeting. Product delivery will be on March 21st from 4:30 – 6pm at the Senior Center. There is a profit of \$3 per pastry and \$4 per cookie dough. Checks should be made payable to CSC.

Each member is encouraged to sell 2-3 items in order to avoid incurring a shipping fee.

April potluck - Kathy Hull and Cyndee Lucas are co-chairing this year's event. The ladies are thinking of an Olympics theme (around the world). The event will be held on April 10th. More information will be available at the March Meeting. A sign-up sheet was circulated.

Amber Alert – a volunteer sign-up sheet was circulated. This year's event will be held on Saturday, April 14th from 8:30 am – 1 pm at the bank. Jane was happy to report that Deidra has fixed the printer problem. Most parents hear about the registration event from both the Town Tribune as well as flyers in student back packs. Jane also contacts the preschools and posts a notice in the library. Linda Pasquariello will be the Consolidated school contact. Amy mentioned there is a new Town of NF Facebook page. Jane will have the flyer at the next meeting.

Karaoke Night – 3 years ago Lisa came up with the idea to start an event themed around karaoke. We had listed this as a possible event this spring. Lisa asked members if they think there will be interest from the community for this event (target audience would be teens and adults, non-alcoholic event). Lisa also presented the idea of having a community talent show. Jennifer liked the idea of an all-ages talent show (aka New Fairfield's Got Talent). It was noted that both the Middle and High school have similar events for students. Lisa will continue to research this. She wants to make sure such an event – whether it be karaoke or talent show – would be worthwhile for the club to sponsor.

New Event Committee – it was discussed at the Board meeting that next year we may want to come up with an event that will produce larger revenue for the Club. The event would be targeted for the spring of 2019, thus giving us ample time to plan. Members have suggested several different ideas, such as a dinner dance or murder mystery. Lisa asked Kristen for her help in researching such an event, since she is an event planner. A committee was formed in order to start researching/planning such an event.

Non-Club News

Home parties / potential social event – Stampin Up and Color on Wheels have both offered to host a home party for the Club. It would be a great way to show our appreciation for their support of the club at this past weekend's event. Stampin up would be a card making party (6 cards for \$25).

Janet reported that the Park and Rec department is offering line dancing starting next week \$45 for 5 weeks - Thursday nights.

Meeting adjourned at 8:46 pm

Next meeting date March 13th at 7:30 pm