

Minutes of the Women Who Lead Members Meeting

July 11, 2024

A meeting was held at Thirsty's -The Venue on July 11, 2024 at 5:15 p.m.

Past President Nancy Jeter called the meeting to order at 5:23 p.m. welcoming 43 members and 7 guests.

Sherry Dryden moved to approve the June minutes, Cristina Janney seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Announcements-

- **Battle of the Businesses** – Women Who Lead won the Battle of the Business Challenge by donating 2,481 items for the food pantry, winning the trophy! Macey Pfeifer thanked WWL for the generous donations, stating that last year there were 1,937 items donated by all participants.
- **Backpacks for Kids** – Members were thanked for bringing school supplies and backpacks to the meeting for Backpack for Kids program. Any additional donations can be dropped off at First Call for Help. Members were encouraged to stay after the meeting for a group picture.
- **New Donation from the Schmidt Foundation** – Nancy reported that we received an unexpected donation from the Schmidt Foundation in the amount of \$10,000.00. \$5,000.00 is to be used for Women Who Feed projects and the remaining \$5,000 to a large project of our choice.

Old Business-

- **Women Who Feed Projects**
 - Feeding Hays at St Michael's Episcopal Church – Macey Pfeifer announced that the next WWL sponsored night will be Thursday, August 1st and that a sign up sheet was being passed around. It was encouraged to let others have a chance at helping if you have already helped in the past.
 - First Call for Help – Macey Pfeifer explained the WWL Meal Kits distribution will begin in September.
 - Meals on Wheels – Macey Pfeifer announced the new Meals on Wheels route is set for mid-July and passed around a sign-up sheet for volunteers.
- **Committee Reports**
 - Power of the Purse 2025 – Renee Moritz announced Power of the Purse will be held Thursday, March 13, 2025 at the Unrein Building at the Ellis County Fairgrounds. Planning has begun and more details will come in the next few months.
 - Scholarship Committee – Cristina Janney updated the committee on our WWL Scholarships. We awarded 7 - \$1,000 scholarships this year.
 - 31 Days of Cash – Renee Moritz announced tickets were still available if members wished to purchase more tickets.

New Business

- **New Projects**
 - Mental Health Initiative – Jennifer Rack and Angie Zimmerman, LINK presented a request to membership for a donation of \$500 to sponsor a youth event August 8th at the

swimming pool on mental health related topics and alcohol/substance abuse. Rita Carswell made a motion to approve the \$500.00 donation. Leigh Ann McCottry seconded the motion. A vote of membership present was taken and passed unanimously.

- Sunrise Park Sponsorship – Nancy presented an opportunity for WWL to become the official sponsor of Sunrise Park. Sunrise Park, by Roosevelt Elementary School, is where WWL had their very first project, the Born Learning Trail. Ruth Ruder, Korinna Parker and Nancy met with Jeff Boyle of the Parks Department and learned there is no sponsor of Sunrise Park. WWL could become the new sponsor with projects designed to spruce up the park. The Parks Dept. would continue to be responsible for general maintenance, mowing, etc. and WWL would only need to provide a new sign that would cost approximately \$4,000.000 and \$1,000.00 for new landscaping. The park would stay Sunrise Park but the sign would state sponsored by Women Who Lead. There are many opportunities for additional projects at the park in the future. Mandy Giess made a motion to approve \$5,000.00 for this project and Deb King seconded the motion. A vote of membership present was taken and passed unanimously.
- Self Defense Course – Nancy announced that WWL and Delta Zeta will host a Self Defense course for women on September 18th @ 5:30 p.m. at FHSU. Erin Giebler was able to secure the special training at no or little cost through Dave Vilaysing, DXI Training. The cost is \$10 per person. The event will be sponsored by Women Who Lead, Delta Zeta, FHSU and DXI Training. Watch for more information to come.
- **Delta Zeta Outreach**
 - Official Roll Out on Campus – Nancy introduced DZ members in attendance and gave an update regarding WWL’s outreach initiative with Delta Zeta.
 - Back to School Event August 21st – Nancy explained our first project with DZ is to help fill the FHSU Food Pantry. FHSU struggles to fill the pantry at the beginning of the school year. Please bring non perishable items to the August Membership meeting.

Open Forum – Membership Suggestions-

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, August 8, 2024 at Thirsty’s – The Venue at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Renee Moritz