

# **Minutes of the Women Who Lead Members Meeting**

**June 12, 2025**

A meeting was held at Thirsty's -The Venue on June 12, 2025 at 5:15 p.m.

President Ruth Ruder called the meeting to order at 5:21 p.m. welcoming 50 members and 3 guests.

Beth Fisher moved to approve the May minutes. Lori Hertel seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

## **Announcements-**

- Jessica Johnson won the Thirsty's gift card drawing.

## **Old Business-**

- Sunrise Park update – Ruth Ruder and Nancy Jeter will meet with Jeff with the city to work on a strategic plan for all the phases planned for the park. Nancy has been working on grants.
- Committees and Chairs update – Ruth Ruder will be setting a meeting for all committee chairs in the next few weeks.
- 31 days of Cash – Raffle tickets are being sold now until the end of July. Drawings will take place in August.

## **New Business**

- Battle of the Businesses – Macey Pfeifer reported this is the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual battle for First Call For Help. WWL won this competition last year and will compete again this year. Members encouraged to bring food items and \$500 will be used to purchase items for the battle. The event runs from Monday June 16<sup>th</sup> to June 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Bloom Bags – Macey reported on feminine hygiene bags to go into the Backpacks For Kids of girls grades 4<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup>. WWL would provide hand sanitizer with our logo on it. Cost of the project would be \$700. Becky Wachs made a motion to approve the \$700 to cover the project. Jennifer Sauer seconded the motion the motion passed. Macey will put together a committee to assemble the bags.
- Backpacks For Kids – Macey asked members to bring school supplies to the July meeting. The backpacks will be distributed in August. Michelle Fairbank made a motion to have members bring school supplies to the July membership meeting. Rita Carswell seconded and the motion passed.
- Hygiene Kits – Callie Kolacny presented a request from the Hays Public Library Teen Advisory Board for \$250 to put together hygiene kits to be available for anyone using the library in need of these items. Janet Koerner moved to fund this project, Jennifer Sauer seconded it and the motion passed.
- Emergency Preparedness – Sara Wasinger from the Chamber provided information on emergency preparedness backpacks that will be provided to all childcare providers. Asking for \$1200 to assist with this project. Cristina Janney moved to fund this project for \$1200, Becky Wachs seconded and the motion passed.
- Mental Health – Michelle Fairbank reported on “Can We Just Talk” which is held once a month at Breathe Coffee House. On June 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm Mental Health Providers will be talking about Family Matters, Finding Success. On Saturday September 13<sup>th</sup> there will be a walk to prevent suicide called Out of the Darkness. A request has been made for \$2500 to sponsor the TShirts

with the Women Who Lead logo for the walk. WWL will be walking as a team. Rita Carswell moved to sponsor the TShirts for \$2500. Karen Gutierrez seconded and the motion passed.

- Popsicles in the Park – Mary Ann Shorman presented a Women Who Feed project to provide popsicles this summer at Sunrise Park and the ARC Park. An electric tricycle with a freezer has been sponsored and we are asking for \$1500 for the vinyl and umbrella. We have checked with the city and insurance and are good to go. Jennifer Sauer made a motion to fund the project, Andrea Carmichael seconded it and the motion passed.
- Update from Women Who Feed – Mary Ann also reported on a Little Feeders project which will be provided through the Hays Recreation Center in June, July, and August for children ages 5 through 10 years. A summer bag was provided to the Oxford House for Women and Children. Hays Rec provided pool passes for the bag. Another bag will be provided in July and August. Cost of the bags are \$100 each and will come out of the WWF budget. A Back-to-school hamburger feed will be planned for August.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

**The next meeting will be held on Thursday, July 10, 2025 at Thirsty's – The Venue at 5:15 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted  
Mary Ann Shorman