

Minutes of the Women Who Lead Members Meeting

June 11, 2026

A meeting was held at Thirsty's – The Venue on May 7, 2026 at 5:15 p.m.

President Nancy Jeter called the meeting to order at 5:23 p.m. welcoming 47 members and 1 guest.

Janet Koerner made a motion to approve the May minutes. Gillian Lynch seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Announcements-

- Renee Moritz announced the 31 Days of Cash project. 500 tickets will be sold at \$25.00 each and the \$8,000 raised will all go to the WWL scholarships that will be given out in the spring of 2027 to eight women who reside in Ellis County and plan to enroll as a full-time student at a university or trade school in Ellis County. Members are encouraged to sell at least 10 tickets. See Renee Moritz to get your tickets. Renee will have more tickets available at First Bank of Hays. Erin Giebler will create a FaceBook Post promoting the tickets that members can share. SELL SELL SELL before the next meeting on July 9th!
- Nancy Jeter thanked members for bringing items for the Quiet Night for Veterans and asked members to stay for a photo after the meeting. Games that members donated will be stored after the July 4th event and can be utilized by other committees for future projects.
- Nancy Jeter announced the Boeckner Family Fund donated \$10,000 for Sunrise Park!
- Nancy Jeter announced memberships unpaid by the end of June, will not receive the July Newsletter. See Nancy if you are unsure if you have paid.
- Guest Linda Herbers won the Thirsty's Gift Card Drawing.

Old Business-

- **Sunrise Park Update** - Nancy gave a slide presentation update of Sunrise Park. Meeting with Jeff Boyle and Justin Hemphill went well and they were very open to our ideas as follows: Basketball Court Logo for WWL to go on the backboards (not on the basketball court); sponsorship – we will need something for plaques – looking at possibly hiring a local artist for this; table-top games- Ruth Ruder has some ideas for this. Ribbon cutting planned for August 18th. Nancy will send out more information as she gets it. Hays Post will promote this along with local radio stations.
- **Quiet Night for Event for Veterans July 4 (sign up to help)** – Nancy passed around a sign-up sheet to assist with this event to be held on July 4th at Saint Andrew Church located 15 miles north of Hays. Veterans will be bused to this location.
- **Check Presentation** - Nancy Jeter presented the \$1,500 check to Options.

- **On-boarding for new members and those wanting more information** – Nancy announced this session will be held on Thursday, July 16, 2026 at Thirsty's small meeting room beginning at 5:15 p.m.

New Business-

- Nancy Jeter announced the resignation of board member Wendy-Rohleder-Sook. The board will looking to fill her position. Nancy thanked Wendy for her service on the board.
- Mary Ann Shorman announced WWL will not participate in the Battle of the Businesses this year. Instead a new project request has been submitted by First Call for Help called Sunny Day Snack Sacks. We will support other food pantries in the future.
- Nancy Jeter announced there will be an Honorary Membership for young girls ages K-12. She asked members to involve their daughters and granddaughters in WWL projects where possible.
- **Project Requests**
 - Sunny Day Snack Sacks - Mary Ann Shorman and Macey Pfeifer presented a project request from First Call for Help to sponsor Sunny Day Snack Sacks to provide food support for children experiencing food insecurity. 100 snack sacks will be distributed weekly on Fridays near the Aquatic Park. The project will encourage outdoor play, exploration, and learning and will help connect families with community resources through First Call for Help. Each snack sack costs \$6 x 100 snack sacks at each session. Total sponsorship per session is \$600 and they are requesting \$1800 to sponsor 3 week of snack sacks from WWL. The money would come from the Women Who Feed funds. Jennifer Sauer made a motion to approve the \$1800 for the 3 weeks of Sunny Day Snack Sacks and Rita Carswell seconded the motion and it was passed.
 - Education Appreciation Event – Jan Klaus announced the Supporting Our Students Committee withdrew their request for this project.
 - Sunrise Park Born Learning Trail – Nancy Jeter reported this request has already been approved by membership at a previous meeting and we will most likely have a sponsor to take care of it.
- **Committee Reports**
 - Elder Care – Jan Klaus reported the “Coffee Chicks” from her committee along with several other WWL members, held the 2nd Coffee and Conversations Event at Homestead Assisted Living Center and it was a huge success. Members spent two hours sharing an afternoon filled with love, laughter, conversation and music with the amazing residents. Guests enjoyed coffee and cookies and received a pocket hug. Committee members are also assisting with Bingo every Monday at Via Christi Village.
 - Women Who Feed – Mary Ann Shorman reported the committee held their 5th Senior Social and will be planning another social in August the future. It was a great success.

Many seniors turned out and enjoyed the meal, conversation and a cake walk! The 2nd “Popsicles in the Park” event went well at the ARC Park on July 10th and the Hungry Caterpillar Event is upcoming on June 16th.

- Mental Health - Michelle Fairbanks reported the “Connections and Conversations” project is still ongoing and they are getting more regulars. The “Self Soothing Boxes” were renamed to “Sensational Sensory Boxes” and will go out in September. The committee decided not to ask for a donation this year for the National Suicide Walk but will instead be looking at keeping things local. Michelle will still sponsor a team so if you want to walk in the National Suicide Walk, let her know by September 12th. They are trying to get the walk for the morning. Their committee will meet again on July 27th at 5:15 p.m. at the LINK Building.

Nancy Jeter announced a Happy Birthday to Connie Smith.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mary Ann Shorman and seconded by Jan Klaus. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, July 9th at Thirsty’s – The Venue at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Jan Klaus, Secretary