

Women Helping Others (WHO)  
General Meeting Minutes  
February 24, 2020

Vice President, Judi Frinstein welcomed all to the February meeting. She was standing in for President, Judy Aishman, as Judy was on vacation in South America. Judi called the meeting to order at 1:32 pm

As usual, Judi reminded us to silence our phones and to visit the dessert table.

Judi welcomed our speaker, Vickie Orcutt, Executive Director of Faith in Action, and Michelle Wilkerson, Community Engagement Coordinator. They will be available after the meeting to answer any questions.

Judi also welcomed our guests and new members and asked them to stand for recognition. She also asked those with February birthdays to stand. While everyone was still standing, she asked the rest of us to take this time to hug an old friend and a new friend.

### **Sharing and Caring Buckets**

Judi called our attention to the silver buckets on the tables. Please place your suggestions on what we could do differently, ideas for new programs, etc into the buckets. Please include name/phone number so we can gather more information if needed. The Executive Board reviews these regularly.

The new Door Prize bucket is now a big red one to be placed at the head table to avoid confusion with the Sharing and Caring Buckets.

### **Approval of the minutes**

Judi invited Cynthia Miller, Secretary, to the podium to make a motion to approve the minutes of the January 27th General Meeting. After the general membership vote, the minutes were approved.

### **Treasurer's report**

Judi invited Ruthie Vandemoortel, Treasurer, to give the Treasurer's report.

Balance carried forward from January 26, 2020		\$1,435.01
Dues collected at the meeting and online		1,420.00
Donations from members		4,485.00
Donations to non-profits	minus	500.00
<b>Balance carried forward 1-26-20</b>		<b>\$6,840.01</b>
<b>Petty cash Balance</b>		<b>231.68</b>

Ruthie made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. After the general membership vote, the report was approved.

As of January 23, we have 253 members with more joining today!

### **Speaker, Vickie Orcutt, Faith in Action**

Faith in Action provides transportation to medical appointments, grocery shopping and personal errands as well as other support services that allows individuals to age in place.

Vickie presented a video showing their clients that use the services of Faith in Action. There was a 26% increase in rides in 2019. 56% of Seniors tend to stay shuttered and live alone because of lack of transportation. No payment is necessary for these services. These seniors really enjoy the fellowship they receive from their drivers. They feel more independent when they can call someone for a ride.

Several people in the room already knew about Faith in Action. This organization has been around since 2001. There are so many wonderful volunteers. In order to run their organization, they write grants to receive funds, and they will be having a concert to raise funds as well.

They gave 13,000 rides in 2019 for 900 Seniors. **THEY NEED VOLUNTEERS.**

Seniors age 65 and older are 29% of the population in Georgetown. Vickie asked us to help them give back to this community of Seniors. Medical visits are the most popular request. Sometimes an individual who utilized these rides become a driver because they saw firsthand the benefit it provides. The second most requested is grocery shopping. Faith in Action now has a 14 passenger van. The

mission: Shop, Share, Socialize! Strong relationships are formed in this environment. It is growing! Monday Socials have been added to the vanpool.

Hair appointments and nail salons are the 3rd top ride. When you look good, you tend to feel good! They want to keep individuals connected to their community!

Michelle Wilkerson shared what their volunteerism looks like. Sun City is so supportive of their community. 56% of riders are in SC. Most of the time, it is hair appointments on a weekly basis. 60% walk completely unassisted. These people are your neighbors! You can volunteer only a couple of times a month if you'd like. Your schedule is accommodated. There is an internet based scheduling system where volunteers can view requested rides and plug in when they can! The volunteers get so much out of this. There are no minimum hours required and no wheelchairs to deal with.

Judi presented a check for \$500 to benefit their recognition program for their volunteers and drivers.

### **Program Committee**

Judi made a motion for the March meeting to give a donation of \$500.00 for Hope House, a residential long term "forever home" for clients with the most severe cases of mental and physical disability. The money is to be used to contribute towards the purchase of a new washer and dryer. After a second to the motion, discussion, and a vote from the membership, the motion was carried. At this meeting, we will also hold a drive to collect cleaning and laundry supplies, and personal care items.

Hope House is a new speaker for WHO. They haven't presented to us before. We learned about Hope House from a member who suggested we help them.

The Program Committee is working on 2020 Field Trips and already has 4 being considered thanks to member input. We would like to have 4 field trips this year. At the March meeting we will announce a May field trip.

### **Volunteers**

Thank you to everyone who signed the volunteer sign up sheets at the January meeting. These sheets are here again for additional signups. There will be a

separate meeting in the March timeframe to discuss current needs within the WHO organization and a variety of positions available.

We also have sign up sheets for Friends of BIG volunteer times for March 10th and March 24th. BIG has had such a great response from the community who wish to help, that they have asked us to sign up no more than 6 people for each date to accommodate everyone.

### **Inspiration Home Tour May 2 and 3, 2020**

WHO Member, Deborah Thomas, who also serves on the Board of The Georgetown Project, spoke about the upcoming tour. This Tour solely benefits The Georgetown Project. The vendors that are featured in our book are asked to make a tax deductible donation so that every \$ from ticket sales goes to The Georgetown Project. One of the many groups TGP serves is The Nest. The Nest is an after school drop in center for at risk youth. Buses will bring kids there. It is a safe haven for these kids where they can get a hot meal, wash clothes, study, and develop a sense of community. Please get involved with our Tour!

Mina Doshier spoke next about the need for docents for the 5 homes that are featured on the 2020 Tour. She reminded us that this Tour does not run without the Docents and that in 2018 the feedback was that a great time was had by all. All docents will be invited to tour the 5 homes on WHO Nite, May 1, and end with a great party at Mulligan's!

Carrie Marshall is setting up a Tour of The Nest on March 18 11:00 - 12:00. We will go on a lunch after the tour. She is taking signups after the meeting.

### **WHO Gals About Town**

Teri Fierle spoke WHO Gals About Town. There will be a meeting this Wednesday, February 26, at 10:00 at the Starbucks inside Randalls. This meeting will discuss outings of interest to WHO members. Let's Go antiquing and have lunch! Other ideas are movies and cocktails.

## **Head Start**

Nina Stancil and Michelle Augustin are organizing a once a month activity for Head Start. There are flyers on tables to help out in the rooms to give teachers a break in the classroom. They are overworked and underpaid for sure!

## **Door Prizes**

## **Feel Good Message**

Cynthia Miller read a poem by Mary Anne Radmacher

Our next meeting is March 23, 2020 at 1:30. This is a reminder that there will be a supply drive for Hope House. They can use ANYTHING you would use in your own home — cleaning supplies, paper goods, personal hygiene items, etc.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.

WHO extends a warm welcome to our **newest members!**

Betty Gresham - N14  
Jeanne Dahl - N83  
Joan Feeley - N83  
Gladys Jeffery - N22  
Kathy Knapp - N83  
Karen Karnes-Ortego - N12  
Peggy Rosser - N64  
Jane Watt - N14  
Carol Pax - N9  
Gerry Charlebois - N48

**Respectfully submitted,  
Cynthia Miller, Secretary**