



Officers Board Meeting
September 11, 2023
12:30pm
TLC Clubhouse
Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202

Minutes

1. Welcome and Opening Comments – Barbara Najmy, and Jennifer Alokeh opened meeting,

2. Roll Call: Barbara Najmy (via Facetime), Jennifer Alokeh, Josephine Coco, Lauren Hirsch, Sheila Lau, Nancy Lepain, Ruth Harshman. A quorum was present.

3. Reports

a. Chairperson's Report – Barbara Najmy.

We kicked off the year with Diane Cohen spearheading the Embracing our Differences Art Exhibit Tour - - a world-wide recognized exhibit featuring a display of children's art from around the world.

We ventured into 2 intimate Fundraisers: "Gals Galentines & Gratitude" and "Shake Your Shamrocks". These events created great friendship and camaraderie while raising money. The Circle and hearts organically transformed and evolved into making a difference through our Outreach efforts and activities.

Cindy Stimart was instrumental in organizing a full calendar of 2023 outreach activities and set up set up a seamless sign-up system.

Our hearts were full as we - - -

Provided linens to **Solve Maternity** – Cindy Stimart.

Assisted **Mother's Helping Mothers** in the organization of retail shop. – Cindy Stimart

Filled 775 bags for **Feeding Empty Little Tummys** – Susan Morris

Filled over 300 backpacks for the **Blue Butterfly Grief Center**. – Jennifer Alokeh

Julie Swan spearheaded another successful shoe drive - - and we were able to donate over 400 pairs of shoes for **The Twigg**.

Lauren, and The Finance Committee implemented a \$25 administrative fee.

A \$200 yearly contribution will be implemented beginning in 2024.

Our current membership is at 121 and currently 83 (68%) of the members have fully paid their \$1000 commitment.

We will hear from Lauren on our current balances of Fund 1 and Fund 2. In addition to how all contribution and the balance of member commitment \$\$ will be handled.



Thank you to the efforts of Lauren Hirsch and Jennifer working closely with Karen our website looks amazing and easy to navigate. It truly highlights what TLC Women's Giving Circle is all about. And thank you, Jennifer for working with Karen in keeping it current with outreach events and upcoming events.

501c3 organizations are now able to make grant applications through our website, and we have already received applications from several organizations.

Nancy will be the new Chair for the Outreach committee; therefore we are seeking a new chair for the Grant committee.

Governance

Thank you to Jennifer, Lauren & Ruth in addition a big thank you to Jeremy at Najmy Thompson and Mike Harshman for their legal counsel. The Bylaws and Standing Rules are ready for final review by all of us. We will send to all the members for review prior to Membership meeting.

As we look ahead to the last quarter of the year.

The Fall Membership Meeting is scheduled for October 16, 3:30 p.m.

Embracing our Differences October 19 to prep books that will be read at the fall reading day.

Tidewell Blue Butterfly where we will gift wrap holiday gifts for children and families they serve.

What is in store for 2024 - -

With the implementation of the new fee structure, we anticipate that we will see members decide to leave the Circle. I hope that does not happen however there is a high probability that will happen.

I see the Circle continuing to have an emphasis on the Outreach activities. With hopes that we will see strong participation.

With regards to a fundraiser - - this is an area that we will need to address at the Fall membership meeting. This will be considered an Ad Hoc Committee and will require member volunteers.

My final thoughts –

I see The Circle continuing to strengthen through our collective efforts with our outreach activities, touching the lives of those most in need within our community and finally - - - continuing to embrace the camaraderie and friendship that has been implemented.



Ruth moved and Lauren seconded to accept the chair's report and attach to the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

b. Vice-Chair's Report – Jennifer Alokeh.

Boys and Girls Club of Manatee Judging Opportunity – Outreach or special event, will send email to membership asking for 6 judges. Regarding the Boys and Girls Club of Manatee, they have generously offered to allow 6 of our members participate in their annual Youth of the Year program for 2023. Barbara and I had a zoom call with their former CEO a few months ago and discussed this opportunity. We will need to reach out to them in October to begin the process. The question is do we want to consider this an outreach event or a "special event" and who will oversee it? We also need to send an email out to the entire membership requesting anyone who is interested in this opportunity to please let us know.

Ruth moved and Nancy seconded to accept the vice-chair's report and attach to the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

c. Finance Report – Lauren Hirsch. In addition to Barbara's presentation, there are seven members who have not paid their \$25 admin fee; they will be billed \$50 for 2024. Remember that payments to TGC are not tax deductible, nor is Zelle. Jennifer moved and Nancy seconded to accept the treasurer's report and attach to the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

d. Committee Reports

- Outreach – Nancy Lepain. Outreach planned for October, November, January, February, March, April. Must check with Hope Family about painting/gardening. Ruth moved and Lauren seconded to accept the outreach chair's report and attach to the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

- Membership – Josephine Coco. Currently we have 121 active members. We confirmed that any new member will pay \$1025. Every year each member will pay \$25 admin fee & \$200 donation that would be put in fund 2. The membership committee will be setting up a cocktail hour to welcome potential new members. That is tentatively scheduled for 11/9 at 5pm pending response from the board. Jennifer moved and Nancy seconded to accept the membership co-chair's report and attach to the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

- Grants – Nancy Lepain. We have received 4 Grant Applications. Our committee has a meeting planned for 10/4 to discuss. Ruth moved and Jennifer seconded to accept the grants chair's report and attach to the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

- Communications & Social Media - Jennifer Alokeh. Over the last few months, we significantly decreased the amount of information conveyed to our members. This was in part due to no events/outreach opportunities occurring. Now that we have several items on our calendar, the communication will pick back up. The newsletter will be released in November/December, I



continue to post items in the weekly TLC Newsletter and on our social media pages. The website is kept up to date. Any additional items are communicated via email through Constant Contact. Recently, we were approached by LWR Life magazine who expressed interest in writing an article on our group. Barbara and I were both interviewed and will notify members once we are given a publication date. This is fantastic news for our circle! Lauren moved and Nancy seconded to accept the communication and social media chair's report and attach to the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Old Business - none

5. New Business – Sheila had raised two questions regarding the draft bylaws. First, the use of “board” and “governance board” terms. Jennifer moved and Lauren seconded to amend the draft bylaws such that the term “Governance Board (“Board”)” is used in the first occurrence and “Board” thereafter. Motion passed unanimously. Secondly, Jennifer moved and Lauren seconded to retain draft bylaw section 11.6 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer reported that she is in conversation with Margie Myers regarding the Artist Guild who will have an art exhibit in the TLC Clubhouse, with a percentage of proceeds from sales to benefit TLC WGC.

6. Open Floor

- Opportunity for board members to bring up additional matters for discussion. Nothing offered.

7. Motion was made by Lauren, seconded by Barbara to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.
2:00 p.m.