

**Newcomers of Catawba Valley**  
**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**September 27, 2023**

The meeting was called to order by Adra Kryszczuk, President, at 10:07 a.m. at Adra Kryszczuk's residence. Members present were: Adra Kryszczuk, Debbie Hindman, Sharon Snellings, Nancy Geiger, Evie Gibson and Rob Herman. The following members were absent: Sonya Reid, Cathi Montgomery and Kathy Rozea. Amy Chizen was present at the meeting and Evie made a motion to allow guests to speak at the meeting. Motion was seconded by Debbie Hindman; motion carried.

The minutes from the August Board meeting were presented and no corrections/changes were made. Evie made a motion to accept the minutes and Nancy seconded the motion. The minutes of the August Board meeting were approved.

Adra reminded everyone that the next General Meeting will be on October 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. and Karen Seguin-Barton, a representative from our 4<sup>th</sup> quarter charity, Toys for Tots, will be the speaker. Adra raised the issue of allowing a representative from United Way to sell Belk coupons at the meeting for the purpose of supporting the Christmas Teen Basket initiative. Debbie made a motion to allow the sale of the coupons at the meeting and Sharon seconded the motion; motion carried.

### **Membership**

Debbie reported 7 new members in July, 2 in August and 5 in September. Debbie also reported on the new member reception held on September 26<sup>th</sup>. A small number of new members attended the function which was held at Duke's for the first time. Erroneous information on the time of the event was sent out and despite efforts on the day of the event to correct the time, two new members arrived after the conclusion of the reception. Rob Herman requested that Adra contact these individuals to apologize for the confusion.

Discussion ensued on methods of contacting people about last minute cancellations or changes in events. Amy Chizen suggested the purchase of a call/text system that would send messages out to Club members. Based on the cost of the system (\$80/month) compared to the infrequent use of it, the Board did not adopt the suggestion. Rob suggested obtaining a no-cost Google phone line which would allow the Club to leave messages regarding the status of the event. All flyers and information about events would include a statement that attendees must check the phone message prior to the event to

ensure that no changes had occurred. Rob will check on the Google phone line option and report back.

Adra reported that this reception cost \$583.20 which was \$83.20 over budget. Discussion ensued on how to best use the funds allocated for these receptions as well as how to bring more new members to the events. Debbie noted that she would prefer to hold these receptions at the airport and arrange for food/drinks. The reception prior to the September event was held at the airport. The Board concurred that the airport would be the location for future receptions. Rob also noted that we may need to consider holding the events when a sufficient number of new members have joined, rather than planning these for each quarter. Debbie will plan to hold the next reception in January 2024 and will assess the number of new members at that time.

### **Treasurer**

Adra provided the Treasurer's report submitted earlier by Sonya.

Previous balance	\$5,307.74
Income	\$ 432.00
Expenses	\$ 766.05
Current Balance	\$4,973.69

### **Charities**

Nancy reported that the fundraising 5K run for Shining Hope Farms went very well. Several Newcomers ran in the race and several more volunteered to work the sign-in tables, etc. Nancy stated that the Newcomer donations to Shining Hope Farms was \$187 short of \$1000 and asked if the Board would approve an additional \$187. Adra made a motion in support of the extra donation and Rob seconded the motion; the motion carried. Nancy reported that the fourth quarter (Oct-Dec) charity will be Toys for Tots and that we will focus our efforts on getting members to donate toys during the November General Meeting in order to meet the organization's deadline.

### **Special Events**

Amy Chizen reported the following:

**Tour of Fort Dobbs** – September 26<sup>th</sup> – trip was a great success.

**Fifth Friday Craft (Acrylic Pour)** – September 29<sup>th</sup> - Jon Kiser leading this. 19 people signed up.

**Revolutionary War Play** – October 1<sup>st</sup> - \$27/person; carpooling from Amy's; dinner following at Hickory Tavern in Gastonia.

**Fall Fling and Historic Presentation at Maple Grove: The Streets of Hickory** – October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 - 4:00. “Everything Apple” reception on veranda then presentation. Limit is 40 people, and this event is fully booked with waiting list.

**Hike**- October 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 - Sonya Reid leading this.

**Souper Party** – November 4<sup>th</sup> – Karlene and Kathy P. Hike at 3:00 at Geitner Park. Gathering for dinner around 4:30. Club providing drinks and dessert, BYOB.

**Trip to Seagrove** – November 13-14<sup>th</sup>. Amy and Cathi leading this.

**Hickory Christmas Parade Float** – November 17<sup>th</sup>. Amy leading this. Theme “Getting to Gnome You”. Planning meeting October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 – 3:00 at the Library.

**Fifth Friday Crafts** - December 29<sup>th</sup> – TBD

Evie made a motion to reimburse Amy for the cost of any tickets to the Revolutionary War Play that are not used. Debbie seconded the motion; motion carried. NOTE: All of the tickets were purchased by members prior to the play.

Adra made a motion (amended) to allocate \$250 for the cost of registering for the Hickory Parade and for the construction of the float. Evie seconded the motion and the motion carried.

### **Garden Gurus**

Rob Herman reported on the following:

- Seed & Plant Exchange – Event was held at Glenn Hilton Park on September 21<sup>st</sup> at 11:00 with a potluck lunch following the exchange. 10 members attended and the event went well.
- Creekside Nursery in Dallas, NC on October 26<sup>th</sup> – this event may be cancelled due to the lack of cooperation from the nursery management. There is a possibility that a trip to Arbor Crest in Boone may replace it.
- Holiday wreath making on November 30<sup>th</sup> at Amy Chizen’s. Supplies will be provided for a small fee.

**Next General Meeting – Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 p.m. (Hickory Airport)**

**Next Board Meeting – Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 a.m. (Library)**

Respectfully submitted,  
Sharon Snellings, Secretary