

NCJW MINUTES 11/1/17

Meeting was called to order by Rona Sterling (sitting in for Joanne) at 9:35am.

Those in attendance: Linda Finkelstein, Sharon Hotchkiss, Nadine Kaplan, Judy Traub, Laurie Alexander, Marlene Gropman, Janet Fabricant, Phyllis Weinstein, Rita Young, Gail Siegel, Sarah Rothschild, Susan Glabman, Ruth Zalaznick, Helene Askinazi, Lynne Eisman, Rona Sterling, Diane Wortman, Linda Geller-Schwartz, Merle Bassin, and Ann Mitchell.

PRESIDENTS REPORT-RONA STERLING (for Joanne Sininsky)

Since Joanne was not there, there was not much to report. On November 15th at 9:30am, the Vice Presidents, Evaluation Committee, Advisory Board and Directors, about 25 people will meet for an Executive Board Meeting to discuss Grant Proposals and how to make communications better. Please give Joanne an Agenda for what you would like to cover in the Executive Board Meeting. The last meetings minutes were approved as corrected.

TREASURER'S REPORT- GAIL SIEGEL

See line 39 of the Treasurer's Report for our net available funds, which has been increasing due to registration payments for the upcoming Card Party Event, on the Treasurer's Report.

Linda Finkelstein pointed out that \$1000 should be going under the Women in Power Special Events (not the Weekend Pantry) rather than showing it as Grant money because it was contributed as an "underwrite" from Publix. Gail Siegel agreed and suggested that we come up with a sub-category to capture these funds.

Motion: A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report. It was approved with all in favor.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH – CAROL LUBIN

PANTRY PROJECT

Lynne Eisman reported the Cholee Pantry Project will hopefully start by 11/30/17. The Plan is to keep five weeks supply for 30 kids. Questions were brought up about whether they need volunteers. Lynne said volunteers are not needed at this time. Linda Finkelstein feels that we should have volunteers for this program as that is the whole point of this project and it is a great way to get new members involved. Sara Rothchild reminded everyone that the school is trying to get the parents to participate and volunteer at the Pantry. Helene Askinazi having been around when other programs were left to run on their own and fell short of expectations, recommended that we provide for oversight to be sure that the program is run well. Diane Wortman wanted to read the contract to see what it said about volunteers, and Linda said that what is written cannot be changed but that moving forward we need to allow for volunteers in

future contracts. Rona said that it was a good suggestion, especially as we open up future schools.

BREAKING BREAD

Another dinner will be served November 30th at the Lewis Center. The following members volunteered to help: Rona Sterling, Carol Lubin, & Mary Schwartz.

HOLIDAY BASKET

Kosher, non-perishable food is being collected at the opening event 11/12. Gail then gave Diane **Gorbaty's (just add an apostrophe)** report about supporting our troops. Last year we did not have to pay postage as we used the USO to ship our boxes. The USO can no longer handle our shipping, so to keep the Program going in the future we will send about half the number of boxes (75) **I think last year we sent 250 boxes** at a cost of approximately \$1400. Rona Sterling said that people could donate money as well as supplies for this Program.

SPECIAL EVENTS – LINDA FINKELSTEIN

Merle Bassin and Carol Lubin were not at the meeting early because they were accepting the Grant money from Quantum.

SIGNATURE EVENT – WOMEN IN POWER

Rona Sterling congratulated everyone on the Charity Register listing and thought the pictures were cute. Linda Finkelstein said that we have received a tremendous response to this event because the price is so affordable. The Save the Date is going out in the next 10 days, and Fran has been in touch with Linda to make sure that 200 of her personal friends are on the list to receive invites. Nadine passed around a sign-up sheet for those who want to volunteer to help that day. Ruth reminded Nadine that she already has her own volunteers. There was discussion about whether those persons who volunteer should pay for their own lunch, or not. Linda made a motion.

Motion: Non-participant volunteers that attend the Card and Canasta Tournaments only need to pay for the cost of the meal, not the entire covert. Judy Traub seconded this and it passed with one vote opposed.

OPENING EVENT

Diane Wortman said at this point that they have about 140 people registered for the event, but that they are still getting calls. They will send out directions and a reminder about bringing non-perishable, kosher food as a donation.

AMBASSADORS – LAURIE ALEXANDER

Debbie **Mendelson** is going to be an Ambassador at Iron Horse. **Laurie** is presently looking for Ambassadors at Mirasol.

ADVOCACY REPORT - LINDA GELLER-SCHWARTZ

Monday Oct. 2nd (at JCC Boynton Beach) and **Tuesday** Oct. 3rd (at JCC Palm Beach Gardens), an important panel discussion, co-sponsored by NCJW (Palm Beach Sections), Jewish Women's Foundation and the Jewish Federation, "Feminist, Progressive and Zionist: Jewish Women Confront Anti-Semitism". Between the two events about 400 people attended.

On October 17th, 6-8pm, at the Delray City Library, Linda Geller-Schwartz presented another "You be the Judge", but this time using Reproductive Rights Case to about 60 people.

On **October** 28-29, there was a Florida NCJW Advocacy Workshop held in Pompano Beach, where we **talked** about the upcoming state Legislative Session and learned about effective advocacy tools. Seven people attended from Palm Beach Section.

Upcoming Event: A Taco Party for Reproductive Rights – Thursday, 11/9/17, from 6-7pm at Cabo Flats co-sponsored with EMA. \$10 registration required.

Presented petitions for proposed Constitutional Amendment for the 2018 state ballot to restore voting rights to individuals who have been convicted of a **(I will ask Linda G-S about this- it is not all felonies but non-violent such as rape or murder but I want to get the exact wording)**felony, but have served their sentences.

A discussion followed about whether we, as an organization, are being **unduly** influenced by the advocacy beliefs and convictions of our President's **newsletter articles** which are somewhat liberal. It was mentioned that NCJW is historically left of center and has been this way for years, and that we should not change as we cannot satisfy everyone who wants to join our organization. **However, several board members mentioned that they have friends who won't either join or re-join because they think the organization is too liberal.** Linda Geller-Schwartz said that in answer to people who do not like agree with our politics, that we should say that our mission is to support women, children, **families** and those in need. We do not support individual candidates. Laurie Alexander is concerned that there needs to be stronger parameters for what goes in all of our communications to keep it more focused on what NCJW is about and less political.

KIDS'COMMUNITY CLOSET (KCC)

Sara **Rothschild** said we have 13 closets and are serving almost 10,000 students. She asked that all packing slips are saved and returned to her. The **Allegany Franciscan Ministries** Grant has been extended **(was it extended or suspended- I'm not sure- Linda or Judy would know)**for another year because sanitary products did not cost as much as the Grant gave them. This has been a learning lesson for the committee to get Utilization Reports from each school documenting what has been used. A Thank You was read from the Roosevelt School thanking

them for the composition books and uniforms. The closet at Forest Hills School is being renamed for Fran Weisler, who is receiving the Women in Power Award in 2018.

COMMUNICATIONS – RONA STERLING

Rona informed the group that Connie is coming in January to give us help with Social Media skills. She has 11 people already signed up. More information will be coming. Rona wants to encourage people to subscribe to the Jewish Voice, which is free online. They will publish nearly anything we need as they are not as large as the Jewish Journal and want to be heard and read. This then brought much discussion about JAFFCO's calendar of events that you can register for online through PayPal. Linda F. called PayPal to see what it would cost to list our events. Rona Sterling is going to speak to Connie about helping with this project. Rona Sterling made a motion.

Motion: Hire Connie **Christian** to set up this promotion calendar asap to schedule all of our events for registration and payment through PayPal. Sharon Hotchkiss seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

MEMBERSHIP – LYNNE EISMAN

Lynne and Sharon H. have a sheet of member names who have not paid up their dues for the past two years and are going to be deleted from our membership list. They have all been informed and hopefully the Ambassadors will take this project over so that someone will be calling lapsed members in the future. Linda G-S recommended that we use PayPal to handle payment of our annual membership dues.

NEW MEMBER TEA

Helene A. and Laurie A. had a long discussion about having a New Member Tea. Helene and Susan have volunteered to host a Brunch on 12/18 for new members **at Villaggio**. Linda G-S suggested having three or four of the Committee VP's attend the Tea to discuss their programs and new members could sign up to volunteer for the programs they want to support.

NEW MEMBERSHIP BROCHURE

Judy T. informed the group that the new brochure has a tear-off reply card for easy return. We currently charge \$30 for associate members, but will change to \$10 with the new fiscal year (as of July 1, 2018). The membership fee for associate members is being lowered to entice more snowbirds to become active members while they are here. The feeling is that if they are committed members in another section, then they could have valuable contributions to our section, too.

ADMINISTRATION – MARLENE GROPMAN & SUSAN GLABMAN

Installation of new officers date is Wednesday, 4/18/18.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE – RUTH ZALAZNICK

The Nominating Committee will be meeting at Ruth's house on 11/7 at 10am.

OLD BUSINESS

Gail Seigel said last meeting we spoke about potentially moving the money from the Liz Murray Event to other needs within the homeless coalition. Helene said the Invitation and Response Card were created with specific wording to allow for flexibility in how the money was spent. The word "can" was purposely used to allow for movement and application of funds as needed. This was a new program and no one had any idea as to which part would be more successful, so a motion was made by Helene.

Motion: Money collected from the Homeless Coalition Program from last year's Signature Event may be moved within the Program as needed, pending legal advice. Laurie A. seconded the motion. All were in favor.

EVALUATION COMMITTEE – GAIL SIEGEL

At the end of November, there will be another meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

SECRET CINEMA

The Secret Cinema is at Villagigo. There will be a lunch with a speaker, Frank Eberling.

TRIBUTE CARDS

Phyllis W. has tribute cards available, six for \$25.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/GOOD & WELFARE

Debbie Mendelson had a new grandchild and her other son got married.

The next Board Meeting is 12/6.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:45am.