

**Woman's Club of Ramsey
General Meeting
October 25, 2022**

Members Present: F. Allen, K. Ambrose, P. Bernius, B. Green, J. Klein, L. Korsen, F. Mahon, B. Moore, K. Parker, M. Wellman

The meeting was opened at 10:30 a.m. by Kathy Ambrose in the absence of Rose and Tina. The Collect and Pledge of Allegiance were recited.

Janet presented the Treasurer's Report, which showed a starting balance of \$3,579.91. Liability Insurance was paid this month in the amount of \$190 leaving a balance today of \$3,389.91. Janet added that a check for \$50 will be sent to the NJFWC in support of the Emmanuel Cancer Foundation State Project. This will be in place of the \$43 the club usually sends annually to support continuing funds collection.

Linda reported that the contact made to GoDaddy, our website server, has provided us with a grant providing free domain for one year and then a 40% discount on payments in the future.

Kathy created a binder including committee reports and Facebook posts that will be brought to all meetings for members to look at.

Toni reported club members collected dry beans and bagged rice for the Food Pantry donations for October -- 4 members donated 38 items for a value of \$68.18. Members are reminded to send Toni the number of items and cost each month. Her email is tonismall@gmail.com, phone 201-327-0699.

Fran and Bette presented information on a proposed wine and cheese fundraiser in the early evening in April after Easter. Contact was made with Ramsey Golf & Country Club and catering would provide a light cocktail reception including appetizers and wines for \$52 per person. If we charged \$65 per person this would only provide us with a \$13 profit for each guest. It was agreed that charging any higher would probably cause some people not to attend. We spoke about including a 'wine pull' or making baskets to raffle which would entail more work that members seemed not to want to do. A \$500 deposit would be needed to hold the date. It was agreed to further discuss this at our November meeting. Another idea suggested was to have one or two lunches for members/guests throughout the year and tack on an additional \$10 as a fundraiser.

Pat provided information on the Holiday Luncheon scheduled for December 1 at 12:30 p.m. at the Ramsey Golf and Country Club. Members/guests who plan to attend need to notify Pat to reserve a place, no payment is needed at this time. We will be ordering off the menu; each person will be given their own bill, although Pat advised some members to join together to combine their orders and make things easier for the staff. No discount cards will be accepted.

Linda was asked about the Safety Net Project for the Center for Hope and Safety. We will be collecting toiletries and small items that we will fill into individual safety net packs for people who turn to the center for help. Elaine has volunteered to transport the items once they are completed. Linda will send out more information to members on this project. The bags can be assembled at a meeting in 2023.

There was no report on membership by Francine, but she speaks about the club to people she meets.

Tina has contacted Tommy Strong Foundation and a speaker will visit us in February to discuss ways we can support them. There is no meeting on November 8, Election Day. The Community Center is used for voting.

Pat added that our next general meeting on November 22 will feature Tara, who has a company called WeBe Bags. She creates handmade bags and totes out of recycled coffee, bean, rice and feed bags and has sold her goods at the Ramsey Farmer's Market.

There being nothing further to discuss the business portion of the meeting ended at 11 a.m.

Nancy Boone from The Ramsey Farmer's Market was our first speaker in our series for 2022-23 Strong Women Who Make A Difference. Nancy has lived in Ramsey for over 70 years and her first experience with a Farmer's Market in Warwick gave her the inspiration to begin one in Ramsey. She was granted approval by Mayor Botta and the Borough Council and in 2010 the first market was held with 12 vendors. Today, over 50 vendors pay for space at the weekly outdoor market. Nancy publishes a weekly newsletter informing people of what vendors will be selling each week. She said the market runs on guidelines, not rules, and is operated by volunteers. The market is proud to pay it forward and donates to all emergency services in Ramsey as well as local non-profits and other organizations. Over \$250,000 has been donated since 2010.

Her most recent project was getting approval to fix the neglected exterior of the Ramsey Train Station. Approval was needed from NJ Transit and stucco repair and painting will begin soon.

The market is now held year-round outdoors saving them the cost of payment to use school auditoriums. Nancy brought handouts and jelly samples for members to enjoy and she was thanked for all that the Ramsey Farmer's Market does for our club. Pat presented Nancy with a framed copy of the Collect.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 for coffee and snacks.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Ambrose

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