# Oriental Woman's Club (OWC) Executive Meeting

## **December 17, 2024**

The meeting was called to order by President Ellen Blackmon. Also present: Jean Chastang, Carol Young, Marguerite Garrett, Maryellen Bickel, Susan Van Meter, Liz Tooley, Donna Crothers, Kim Hutchins, Jen Walsh, Sally Farrell, Gay Webster, Julie Wiegand, Jody Riddle, and Sharon Morgan.

Ellen asked that we go around and introduce ourselves so that our new officers can put faces to names.

Minutes from the last Executive Meeting (EC) have been read, approved, and accepted for file. Volunteers to read and approve the minutes of the current meeting: Gay Webster, Donna Crothers, and Kim Hutchins.

<u>Treasurer's Report</u>: Liz Tooley noted that at the end of November, year-to-date, we are \$1,880.00 in the red as we have not moved money from savings in quite awhile to cover expenditures. As we currently have \$15,766 in savings and \$15,689 in scholarship savings, Liz plans to move the money before year's end to cover the shortage.

- The cemetery CD became due on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Liz met with Linda Caroon and Ellen to discuss further investment possibilities and decided on a 5-month CD at 4% (December 2, 2024 – May 2, 2025).

## Jean Chastang shared:

- A liability insurance letter which informed the group of a premium increase due in February. The new amount of the latest statement is \$2,890.00.
- She is also planning to send to the Girls on the Run a check for \$500.00 as part of the scholarship award.

<u>Correspondence</u>: Three notes were received with donations totaling \$160.00. A card was received from Nancy Kress sharing how treasured Carol Herman was to her and the community.

<u>Unfinished Business</u>: The Dessert of the Month Club will hold its annual ticket sale during 2025 with the deliveries beginning January 2026. Sharon Morgan is willing to assist a new chair. In 2023 we raised \$2,500.00 so the project is time well spent.

- Our annual Luminary Event/Fundraiser will not take place in 2025 unless the Village is willing to assist with access to the second pond.
- Our teacher mini-grants will now be named the Carol Herman Mini-grants.
- Executive committee members are encouraged to get their "member spotlights" to Jean Chastang for inclusion in the newsletter.

**New Business**: The annual Chowder Cookoff is March 15<sup>th</sup> so mark your calendars. We will continue to invite restaurant chefs as well as home chefs. Julie Wiegand cannot chair this year but is willing to mentor a new chair prior to the event.

- A discussion took place regarding the "Words for Thought" portion of our general meeting. In 2024 Marguerite utilized the word "Gratitude". This year she is going to explore a "one Word Challenge". More details to follow.

Next executive meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2025.

- The next General meeting will be January 7, 2025.

### **Reports from Program Chairs and Activity Managers:**

<u>Arts/Education</u>: Carol Young stated that the program is preparing for the Arts Festival which will be held on January 26, 2025 at which time volunteers will be needed to assist in hanging the submissions on Thursday, prior to the event. Cookie bakers are also needed.

<u>Community Life</u>: Gay Webster announced that the American Red Cross Blood Drive in December was a success without any deferrals. The next Blood Drive is scheduled for February 7th.

- This year's Christmas family received everything on their wish lists plus \$75.00 gift cards. We had an OWC budget of \$400.00 plus generous donations of members and holiday luncheon guests to bring our total to over \$700.00.
- Volunteers for hosting the general meetings was requested. Gay still had a few openings.

<u>Garden Program</u>: Julie Wiegand and Linda Parker will co-chair in 2025. Julie shared that during the January meeting a calendar will be decided regarding activities.

- The plant sale is scheduled for May.
- The program will continue to meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 10:30.

<u>Ladies of the Neuse</u>: Taking a break until Spring when the trophy construction will begin for the Croaker Festival. Marguerite will continue to chair but is looking for someone to mentor.

Building Maintenance: Sally Farrell asked for Monday Girl volunteers.

<u>Fundraising</u>: Ellen shared that this is all member's duty.

Hostess: - Hostesses are needed for 2025.

<u>Membership</u>: Sharon Morgan reported that as we go about our days to remember to invite others to our meetings. Many of us also belong to other organizations. We need to get the

word out of our Club's mission. A club orientation will be offered in March with "Learn About Your Club" at the January General Meeting.

<u>Newsletter</u>: Jean will continue to write, edit, etc.

<u>Cemetery</u>: The OWC is not responsible for the cemetery itself, just mowing and trimming.

Past President:

<u>Property Rental</u>: Sharon Morgan will continue in this role.

<u>Publicity Manager</u>: This is really a duty of all club membership.

<u>Scholarship</u>: Susan has agreed to continue in this position.

Website:

Yearbook Editor: Jean informed the group that the Yearbook is ready for e-publication.

**Announcements**: Please remember to call our Google voice mail monthly to keep it active. **252-699-0307** 

### Adjournment

Respectfully submitted by Marguerite Garrett and Jody Riddle