OWC General Meeting Nov 5, 2024

Meeting called to order at 1:30

Welcome speaker, Alice Petree, and guests.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Susan Van Meter

Inspirational Reader: Marguerite Garrett

**Program:** Alice Petree, Volunteer Income Tax Assistant, spoke of the tax preparation program available at no cost to low income families, elderly and disadvantaged individuals. This service is provided in New Bern at Christ Church Activity Bldg on Middle St. and at the Pamlico County Senior Center – January thru April. They are able to provide simple tax returns and are always looking for volunteers of two kinds: "Greeters" to check folks in and "computer people" who can input info into the form on the computer. They provide training for both positions. You do not have to be an accountant or bookkeep. Training is provided.

## **General Meeting:**

Minutes of the previous General Meeting have been read, approved, accepted for file and posted. Carol Young, Sharon Gilbert & Sharon Dougherty volunteered to read and approve minutes for this meeting.

The Treasurer's Report for the previous month will be accepted for file and will be posted.

**Nominating Committee:** -Slate of Officers presented by Sharon Morgan & Carol Young.

President, Ellen Blackmon – V-Pres, Maryellen Bickel – Co-Secretaries, Donna Crothers & Kim Hutchins – Treasurer, Jody Riddle. No nominations from the floor. The vote was held and was unanimously accepted.

**Membership:** Sharon Morgan 27 members attending, visitors Janice Hines, Lil McKinnon Hicks and Tammy Farrell were welcomed. Nov. birthdays recognized.

**Arts:** The Student Art Festival will be January 26, 2025. Teacher Dawn Wilson has spoken with Maryellen about having her kids with their ukuleles perform at the reception. Dawn used her mini-grant to purchase the ukes for her class.

**Education** Maryellen reminded us of the December Holiday Luncheon pot luck with sign up sheets in back. Donations gratefully accepted for the fundraising aspect.

**Garden Program:** Joyce: Contact Ann Parker if you would like to attend the garden club luncheon at Chelsea in New Bern, Dec 3 11:30.

Christmas trees will be installed Town Hall Nov 22, Post Office, Nov 26. An ornament workshop scheduled for Nov 19 in the morning

**Community Life:** (Gay) OWC is hosting the American Red Cross Blood Donation Drive on Friday Dec 13, 2024.

Heartworks is providing a family for us to 'adopt' for Christmas

Hostesses filled for first 6 months. If not filled, Gay will put in names and that individual will have to find a replacement if they cannot do it.

**Ladies of the Neuse:** Marguerite indicated she is looking to mentor someone to oversee the Luminary event. Please contact her if interested.

**Building Maintenance Manager:** Sally Farrell reported on new LED lighting and the generous donation of new hanging fixture in Board room that better matches everything else. Thanks to electrician, Chris McPherson.

Old Business: Landscaping out front continues

OI Front Porch Sweets table netted \$558.00

**New Business:** Fine Arts & Crafts/ Cookies by the Pound, Bake Sale Nov 9. Please bring items Friday 9-12 or Sat. morning

OWC General Meeting Nov 5, 2024

Thank you, Lee, for suggesting a way to make the call to Google make more sense to the caller.

Thank you to hostesses Donna Falquero, Jenn Walsh, Deborah Powers

Next EC Meeting is Tuesday Nov 19, 2024 at 10:00 am. The Next General Meeting will be the Holiday Luncheon, with installation of Officers, Dec 3, 2024. 11:30 a.m.

Please call our Google phone # 252-699-0307 to keep our Google Voice number active.

Meeting adjourned At 2:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Marguerite Garrett Co-secretary