

# First Junior Woman's Club General Meeting Minutes January 10, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 am.

**Meredith Lamberton** welcomed FJWC members as well as **Jorge Quinones** and **Chris Gonzales**.

Jorge wanted to let everyone know that the room we meet in at the Community Center will get new carpet and paint since they received enough donations to cover those costs. Also, the Community Center's fundraiser, *Casino Night* is in the process of being organized. Jorge also wanted to let us know that the Community Center has been selected to house the Harbor House, which will provide childcare for pre-K children and younger for \$12 per month. This will help make those families' lives better, and that will impact future generations.

## 1st VP Programs – Karen Alexander

Karen introduced our guest speaker, Chris Gonzales, a member of the SBISD Board of Trustees. Chris spoke to us regarding the Texas School Finance Reform bill and how it is impacting SBISD. Today Chris was speaking as a concerned citizen and not as a representative of the SBISD School Board. Recapturing (better known as "Robin Hood") is the State's attempt at equalizing wealth among districts. Recapture was designed to take revenue from property-wealthy districts and pass that revenue to property-poor districts. Recapturing started in 2004. SBISD is considered property-wealthy under the State's Robin Hood Fund Formula, even though 56% of SBISD students' families are considered low-income. In 2011 Texas cut state funding for public education by \$5.4 billion dollars. Right now, Texas ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> nationally in the number of students and 44<sup>th</sup> in the nation for spending per student. Without legislative change, SBISD anticipates recapture payment for 2014-18 (4 years) to be \$200 million. The payment to Austin for this year is \$67.4 million. Approximately 22% of SBISD school property taxes are going to other school districts. As property values increase annually, the SBISD "Robin Hood" (recapture) payment also increases. Action needs to be taken. Contact your legislators and get involved with the group *Spring Branch Speaks*. Contact Dan Patrick's office: Tina (512) 463-3836. The PTA will host a "Rally Day" trip to Austin to meet with legislators on February 27<sup>th</sup> if you are interested.

## President – Meredith Lamberton

Meredith passed out *The Top Ten Resolutions for Kicking Off 2017 with a FJWC Bang!* Number one on the list was a reminder to members that they must attend 6 out of the 9 meetings to remain a member in good standing per our Bylaws. Also, members and Provisionals must log their service hours and visits online at [www.fjwc.org](http://www.fjwc.org). Members are also encouraged to join our FJWC Facebook group for up-to-date information, photos, and contests. Meredith also reminded members that all auction donations, either 3 \$50 items or \$150 payment are due today. Also due today is the auction table reservation form that needs to be turned in to Diane Fishman. We need new officers for next year's Junioresettes and Work Crew. Officer application forms will be coming out soon and will be due at the end of March. Also, it is time to start working on the FJWC Leadership (Executive Board) for 2017-18. In addition to our usual

leadership roles we must fill, we will have a new liaison position open for the brand-new student group that is being organized for middle school boys: Jr. Work Crew.

## 2nd VPs Ways and Means – Nancy Cofran and Rhonda King

The auction is scheduled for one month from today, February 10<sup>th</sup>. It is not too late to make a \$25 donation for auction decorations, and you will earn service hour credit for donating. Please either donate your 3 \$50 items or make your \$150 payment for the auction today.

## Treasurer - Allison Moak

Current cash on-hand for FJWC is \$59,608.76.

## 3rd VPs Membership – Terri Stroube and Kim Wood

Please remember to keep logging your Provisional visits on our website.

## 4th VP Philanthropy – Diane Fishman

Liaisons reported on some of our charities:

**Ronald McDonald House** – Cindy McGinty. The ice cream social is March 26<sup>th</sup>.

**JDRF** – Cindy Stein. The Gala is approaching, and more information will be coming next month.

**CanCare** – Debbie Green. Volunteers are still needed to cheer on the Marathon runners on Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Houston Symphony** – Jennifer Bradshaw. There is a list of volunteer opportunities for the Houston Symphony on the front table.

## Recording Secretary – Debbie Green

Since there was no General Meeting for the month of December 2016 (Holiday Luncheon), there are no minutes to approve.

## Work Crew Liaison – Robin Howell

Help is needed at the CanCare Hoopla Station at the Houston Marathon this Sunday. On January 29<sup>th</sup> at James Coney Island there will be *Souper Bowl of Caring* at 4 pm. This event will benefit Blessings in a Backpack. On February 10<sup>th</sup>, Work Crew will help host the Valentine's Day party at Family Point Resources.

## Juniorette Liaison – Patty Moses

Patty was not in attendance at the meeting.

## JJ Liaisons – Joci Moss & Kaci Guy

The JJs will have a short, one-hour meeting this Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting adjourned at 10:12 am.

Respectfully submitted by Debbie Green, Recording Secretary