

GFWC BILLINGS JUNIOR WOMAN'S CLUB

1st Presbyterian Church, 2420 13th St West

November 19, 2024

AGENDA

Remember to bring your own drink!

I will be setting my timer to ring at 6:30 to start the program. Come at 6:00 if you want to socialize.

We will have a short Children's Foundation Meeting after the regular meeting

Officers:

President – Marsha Hotchkiss

President Elect – Peggy O'Brien

Secretary – Kristen Stewart

Treasurer – Karin Green

Member at Large – Amanda Webber

Parliamentarian – Gayle Carter

Program 6:30 PM

Meeting Hosts : Domestic Violence

Speaker: Marcy Neery - Director of Billings Crises Center

General Meeting Opens 7:00 PM

Call to order by President

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CLUB COLLECT

INTRODUCE GUESTS, WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Minutes: Kristin Stewart

Treasurer's Report: Karin Green

Correspondence:

Announcements:

Unfinished Business:

- Collecting plastic - Bev Silkwood
- Collecting pop tops - Marsha Hotchkiss
- State Meeting Report - Deb Willis
- National Day of Service final report - Marsha Hotchkiss

New Business:

- Suffragette Memorial - Judy Senteney
- Reporting - Marsha Hotchkiss
- Volunteer of the Year - Marsha Price
- Christmas Party - Peggy O'Brien
- Youth Services Center Tree - Karin Green

Coming Events! Dates to Remember

February 5, 2025 Club Reports due to State

April 20-26, 2025 GFWC Volunteers in Action Week

April 26, 2025 MT Eastern District Convention, Big Timber

June 7-10, 2025 GFWC International Convention, Atlanta, GA

September 11-14, Western States Regional Convention,
California

September 26-28 GFWC MT Fall Meeting, Great Falls

Donation bins will be available at each club meeting to bring items for the various non-profits that we support. A note pad will be in each tote to make note of what you have brought and the dollar amount associated with it. You do not need to put your name with the information. We need this information for our monthly reports. Thanks so much for your donations and reporting help!

Things to Bring This Month

Items for Angela's Piazza bags

Pop Tops

Items for various non-profits if you have something

BJWC Billings

October 15, 2024

Meeting called to order at 7:32 pm

President: Marsha Hotchkiss

President Elect: Peggy O'Brien

Secretary: Kristen Stewart (Lynn Ehresman substituting)

Treasurer: Karin Green

Member at Large: Amanda Webber

Parliamentary Advisors: Gayle Carter

Members Present: Linda Altwine, Kathy Broyles, Heather Burson, Gayle Carter, Malinda Christenson, Florence Diede, Carrie Egan, Lynn Ehresman, Karin Green, Marsha Hotchkiss, Mary Huffmaster, Peggy O'Brien, Marsha Price, Jody Schofield, Joan Sleeth, Ellen Smith, Frances Sprengelmeyer, Amanda Webber, Vicki Hert

Meeting Hosts: Advocates for Children

Speakers: Tom Jacques from Aids Spirit

Minutes

The minutes were sent after this meeting for approval next time.

Treasurer's report

The treasurer's report was approved and placed on file. The investment account wasn't included and will be sent for review by email.

Announcements

Karen Gustavsen sent an email notifying members of the passing of Marian Hertel. If you wish to send a card to her sister-in-law, Dixie Hertell, her address is 2596 Nelson Road, Moore MT 59464

BEF=Billings Education Foundation. There was a question of what the initials stood for from the last minutes.

Barb Hogg-had three Barbie Baskets made to benefit Friendship House, Gratitude in Action and... for another organizations auction.

Nov. 1st and 2nd are a garage sale for Aids Spirit, they can take donations till Oct. 29.

Marsha Price-1949 cookbook will be in the document section at the garage. From Mrs. Audrey Pressman for BJWC in 1949.

There are pens for you to "lose" to promote awareness for Advocates for Children

Karin Green- the Friends of the library will have their Fall Book Sale October 18/19.

From Peggy O'Brien, Nancy McManus has a swapped bag to return, it says Teacher on it and has a zipper.

Correspondence:

MT Tech University-Thanks for the support

Tumbleweed-Thank you for the pantry support

Unfinished Business:

Donation items lists were sent out. This project is ongoing for the whole year, please bring items as you find bargains on them. Please list estimated value of donated "in-kind" items.

Club Directory-Gayle Carter distributed printed copies of Directory

If there is someone missing from your committee list please let Gayle Carter know.

Gayle Carter shared Photography Contest information, deadline is Dec. 31st.

Readers are needed for the Middle Grade Poster/Books for High Plains Book Awards. Contact Karin Green if you can help.

New Business:

GFWC MT Fall Meeting reports from Florence Diede, Marsha Price, Gayle Carter, Deb Willis and Marsha Hotchkiss.

Marsha Hotchkiss reported that GFWC by-laws need to be reviewed every two years. By-laws changes were presented at the meeting. Most of the changes were grammar changes, specifically gendered language. Suggestions to change she/he to they/their was tabled. Lynn Foreman of the state GFWC suggests using "member" instead of a pronoun

Payment of dues-if you pay Jan-March wait to count the dues, it is for next

year in June.

Resolutions at International were 113, covering all different departments

One of the resolutions on Conservation of National Resources was changed was to replace "coastal wetlands" with "wetlands". This was a proposal by one of our GFWC MT members.

Marsha Price :the fundraiser for Project Care (Anaconda Food Bank) brought in \$901, Linda Sukow from Western District donated \$100 and challenged Eastern District (us) We donated \$101.

PDQ's Marsha Price- There are 17 current members. This group consists of former District Presidents.

Gayle Carter reported on the District Meeting. Last meeting it was voted on to help food insecurities. Big Timber and BJWC

were given \$500 to use in their communities. BJWC has donated \$250 to Tumbleweed and \$250 to MSU-B food pantry. Town Pump matched the funds

THINK April 26th is the Eastern District Meeting in Big Timber. It is the meeting, lunch at the Library, then a Spring Craft Fair/Boutique. We may book a school bus for transport.

Florence Diede-GFWC MT Spiritual Values Advisor presented gratefulness thoughts at the meals that included other nationalities (Russian, German) There is a booklet with prayers and some rephrasing available.

Deb Willis-discussed the 5 points of light endeavor.

Raffle Tickets- President's project aims for \$2000 to three reservations-Flathead, Cheyenne,

Supporting: Literacy programs.

Quilt-King size-blue jeans and lace design

Tickets are 10/each, 3/\$25, only 500 will be sold.

Marsha Hotchkiss will have the tickets available at all of our meetings.

Zoom reporting Workshop

Nov. 14th at 7pm is a workshop for doing forms and reports for committee chairs. Reports are due to Marsha Hotchkiss Jan 15 for her Feb report.

On the documents page on our website there is a section with all the information you'll need for the yearly report.

An email with the zoom meeting will be sent to committee chairs, let Marsha Hotchkiss know within a week.

Calendar Sales-Lynn Foreman of the state GFWC had calendars made with the pictures submitted, they are \$20 each. Marsha Price has the calendars.

Gateway Webinar-Florence Diede handed out webinar info for suicide awareness and the yellow tulip project. The goal is to give hope to those with suicidal issues.

October 23 at 5pm you must sign up for it.

Celebrate Child Advocacy Week

Oct. 12 News and Notes-David Coffee presenting "Safe Surfin" from a website safety foundation.

Sign up-Legislation Center

GFWC resolutions- If the proposed Congress Laws line up with our resolutions members get an email alerting them. The member can then send the enclosed general letter to congresspeople. You can also send your own message through this website.

Legislative priorities-Domestic Violence-list

Write to Genesis (in Honduras) 10/31, 11/30, 12/31-just a short note is needed.

Karin Green-thanks Gayle Carter for setting up Summer University-consider next year!

Adjourned 8:22pm

Committee Reports

November 2024 Domestic Violence Committee

Chairman: Judy Senteney

Angela's Piazza: The Committee has been working on filling 35 Christmas gift bags for the Christmas Party.

Volunteer Hours: 90

Club Dollars Used: 700

In-Kind Donations: 465

Crisis Center: 3 of our members have been donating time each week organizing client files so they may be scanned into their computer system. Coordinator Mar-
Cee McNeary has been trying to accomplish this task for many months, and staff at the Center simply do not have time to do it.

Volunteer Hours: 32

Club Dollars Used: 0

In-Kind Donations: 25

Grand Total for November:

Number of Programs: 2

Volunteer Hours: 122

Club Dollars Used: 700

In-Kind Donations: 490

Arts & Culture

Education & Libraries

Chairman: Karin Green

Books for Babies

Chairman: Joan Sleeth

November 2024

Committee:Scholarship

Chairman: Linda Baker

An updated application was created for the Community scholarship. It was sent by email to Barbara Gustafson, the Community Education Coordinator.

Volunteer members: 1 (guest)
Volunteer hours: 1
Club dollars spent: \$0
In-Kind Donation dollars: \$0

November ESO Report

Chairmen: Karin Green and Marsha Hotchkiss

Ten members met November 4th. We reported on 12 books.
We meet on the first Monday of every month at Perkin's downtown. Please join us!

Hours: 25

Health & Wellness

Chairman: Deb Willis

Environment

Chairman: Bev Silkwood

On November 15th twelve committee members met to discuss our ongoing projects and to consider new projects. Heather and Kristen will finalize the plaques to go on the two benches

we've already earned and for future benches. The plaques will hopefully include a QR code that will link to our BJWC website. The NexTrex rules state that BJWC cannot apply for another bench until March, but we would like to continue to collect plastic and donate it to other organizations for their benches.

We reviewed the Treecard App which encourages people to reduce their carbon footprint. Their mission is to restore and protect biodiversity hotspots planting in 35+ countries with local organizations. If you get the app, Treecard will plant a tree for every 10,000 steps you take. It sounds like an easy way to help with reforestation as well as benefit the health of our members. The steps are cumulative and don't have to be done in one day, but they do need to be recorded on your phone or smart watch. For more information go to [treecard.com](#) or see it in the app store. At our BJWC April meeting we can celebrate the number of trees our club has contributed.

Marsha H. volunteered to take tab-tops to Ronald McDonald House. Please start collecting them – those from pop cans as well as the ones on soup cans etc. are acceptable.

There were several new projects discussed that centered on educating about recycling, living in a more ecofriendly fashion, opportunities to help clean or maintain a community area, and helping feed the pets of people receiving Meals on Wheels., We will share more about them when we finalize the logistics of putting them into practice.

We also looked into possibilities for a speaker for the April meeting, and ideas for Summer University.

Total for November
Volunteer Hours 12
Guest Hours
Dollars
In Kind Donation

Civic Engagement

Chairman: Barb Barrett

Advocates for Children

Chairman: Florence Diede

Blanket project

Do you have fleece blankets completed? Turn in to Florence.

Volunteer hours: 0

Club dollars used: \$

Youth Service Center

We have arranged to decorate the YSC tree on Saturday, Dec. 7 at 10:30 at the YSC. We will have hot chocolate and please bring a treat to share. Karen Green has volunteered to do the shopping but would like some help. Interested, please let her know.

We will put the ribbons on the items at my home, 535 Johnson Lane, on Thursday December 5 at 1:00.

Youth Service Center shopping will be on Friday, December 20 at 6:30pm at the Height's Target. This is especially a good event to involve husbands to mingle with the young men. Thank you for adding this to your calendar. Remember BJWC will provide each youth with a \$35 shopping card.

Volunteer hours: 1 to arrange

Family Tree Nurturing Center

Festival of Trees is December 5th - 8th.

Tea in the Trees is Friday December 6. Thirteen members are attending and several members are modeling for the Dillard's Fashion Show.

Be sure to stop in and see the Billings Junior Woman's Club tree.

Volunteer hours: 20 hours

CASA

Barb Hogg, Deb Willis, Joan Sleeth and Florence Diede continue their work with Yellowstone CASA.

Deb works with the Family Advocates Court

"In the past decade, Yellowstone County has experienced a significant increase of children removed from their homes and placed into foster care. Nation-wide, the state of Montana has one of the highest populations of children in foster care per capita." 490 of the 600 children in foster care in Yellowstone County are awaiting a CASA.

A few donated fleece blankets have been delivered to the CASA office.

Volunteer hours: 80. Always a guess.

Club dollars used: \$00

In-Kind donations: \$15

Plan USA

Several members will be writing Genesis (11) from Honduras.

Volunteer hours:1

Club dollars used: PAID July 2024

Pillowcase Dresses

About 45 kits to make pillowcase dresses were handed out at the October meeting. Please feel free to embellish or NOT. As they are completed turn in to Florence. Let's try to have them all back to Florence by early March. AidSpirit volunteers will take them on their next visit in July 2025. We will add tee shirts and panties to complete each dress. Thank you all for helping.

Please include a note with your time as you turn in the dresses.

Club Program

October 20-25 was GFWC National Child Abuse Prevention week. BJWC participated by distributing ball point pens with a message of child safety on each. Members attending the October meeting each took several to distribute throughout our community.

Tom and Jean Jacques founders of AidSpirit attended the meeting and presented information on the orphanage in Kayunga, Uganda. What an amazing, life changing gift they have given the orphans of Uganda. They described it as, "Eating an elephant, just one bite at a time."

Volunteer hours: 1 to arrange

Club dollars used: \$00

In-Kind donations: \$50 (treats for the meeting)

All-City High School Graduation Party.

We have donated \$500 again this year to this worth cause.

Volunteer hours: 1 to arrange

Club dollars used: \$500

School Medical

Chairman: Barb Hogg

1. Purchased materials and filled 15 "Period Packs"

2. Purchased Head Lice Shampoo and Feminine products for distribution to Billings Schools.
3. Ordered Head Lice Shampoo from CVS. 50 boxes ordered. They will store them and we can pick up and pay as needed.
4. Communicated with Jessica N at Riverside, referred meds request to Riverstone.

Volunteer members: 1

Volunteer hours: 5

Club dollars spent: \$174.83

In-kind Donation dollars: 0

Communications/PR

Chairman: Gayle Carter

Volunteer hours: 11

Club dollars spent: \$791.25

In-Kind Donation dollars:

Project 1

Books were put into bags with a bookmark. 100 books for Pooch's Too were counted out and on the table ready to go. Time will be scheduled the week before Thanksgiving to present them with the daycare Books and bags for that project equaled \$625.00.

Books: \$500.00

Bags: \$125.00

Volunteer hours: 5

Club dollars spent: \$625

Project 2

Free Store project – New books and bags will be delivered to the Free Store for their

Annual Shopping day on December 21. The store is set up for parents to find Christmas gifts for their children.

20 books and bags \$125.00

25 large empty bags \$31.25

10 small bags \$10.00

Total: \$166.25

Volunteer hours: 2

Club dollars spent: \$166.25

Project 3

General Communications – A variety of messages are sent to members during the month. At the Board meeting Kristen Stewart agreed to work with Karen Durfey and get the Facebook set up and maybe Instagram,too.. Kristen will manage Facebook.

Volunteer hours: 2

Club dollars spent:

Project 4

The Club Directory was passed out at the October meeting and at the Board of Directors Meeting. Extra copies will be brought to the November Meeting for members that did not receive their directory. Members that did not attend any of the listed meetings will receive their Directory in the mail.

Any changes such as additional committee members can be located on the website. Periodically a virtual updated directory will be emailed to members.

Volunteer hours: 2

Club dollars spent:

Building & Grounds

Chairman: Marsha Price

Bathtub faucet dripping. Called Precision Plumbing to repair- replaced washers and ordered new handles

Volunteer members: 1

Volunteer hours: 1

Club dollars spent: ?

In-Kind Donation dollars: -0-

Front door Ring floodlight/camera not working. Had electrical issue checked out and found the sensor no longer working (10 yrs old).

Ordered a replacement and Denise is going to have it installed.

Volunteer members: 1

Volunteer hours: 1

Club dollars spent: \$249.99

In-Kind Donation dollars: -0-

Tour of the building with members of the committee who had not visited before.

Volunteer members: 4

Volunteer hours: 8 Club dollars spent: -0- In-Kind Donation dollars: -0-

Total Volunteer members: 4

Volunteer hours: 10

Club dollars spent: \$249.99 so far

In-Kind Donation dollars: -0-

Leadership

Chairman: Florence Diede

GFWC

Have you read the most recent News & Notes?

Plan to participate in the Gateway Series of educational opportunities.

See email on November 16.

GFWC of Montana

GFWC Montana Vice President Linda Suckow presented a Zoom workshop on the newest reporting forms. You will be impressed. Each event is reported throughout the year so no end of year reporting if we use this method. Much like our monthly club reports.

Seven BJWC members took advantage of this short, one-hour, training. Stress was given to reporting In-Kind Donations. Remember to include your donation when you bring treats to the meetings.

The new form can be found on the RESOURCES tab or at gfwcmontana.org/reporting/

Hours: 8

Western States

GFWC Western States now has a newsletter. Yes, you should have received it in your email. Please enjoy learning about our Western States group. Remember WSR Convention will be in Montana soon. (every 10 years)

Membership

Chairman: Peggy O'Brien

The membership committee met on Friday, October 18, at 1:00 in the conference room at the library. Four members were in attendance.

We discussed ways to promote our club and gain new members. We looked at a trifold informative brochure that the Bitterroot Women's Club uses. It included information about their club, their history, and some of the programs and projects. It also included contact information. We felt that a brochure such as this highlighting our Billings Junior Woman's Club might be a way to get the word out about what our club is doing. These brochures could be available at the Chamber, churches, and available for members to share with friends. Then, at the Board of Director's Meeting, I discovered that Gayle Carter had created a trifold brochure years ago! We already have one! I shared the information I had been working on with Gayle, and we will look into printing some more brochures to highlight our club.

We also thought that we could advertise our club on Facebook and Instagram. Our current Facebook page is not functioning, and Kristin Stewart will work with Karen Durfey on getting it up and running again.

We also discussed making a new membership application. Peggy worked on that and shared it at the Board of Director's meeting held in November. It will be available on our website.

We made some plans for the Christmas dinner. It will be on Tuesday, December 17, at the Windmill. Members can select from a limited menu. Happy hour will be at 6:00, with dinner around 6:30.

A card and flowers were delivered to a member recovering from surgery. Cards were also sent to two of our members that are veterans, thanking them for their service. Two more cards were sent to members, one who was recovering from surgery and another to a member whose child was in the hospital.

Volunteer members: 4
Volunteer hours: 10
Club dollars spent: \$22.79
In-Kind Donation dollars: \$5.00

History & Resources

Chairman: Judy Senteney

Document Organization

Chairman: Marsha Price

Discussion for future meeting and supplies needed

Volunteer members: 3
Volunteer hours: 1
Club dollars spent: -0-

Committee: Bylaws

Chairman: Marsha Price

Printed bylaws and reviewed (have a meeting scheduled for 12-5-24)

Volunteer members: 4
Volunteer hours: 6
Club dollars spent: -0-
In-Kind Donation dollars: \$10.