**Rarity Bay Women's Club General Meeting Minutes**

**Location:** Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
**Date:** February 4, 2025
**Time:** 9:30 am Sign-in and sign-up for activities

**Opening by Amy Steward**

* Amy Steward called the meeting to order at 10:00 am, expressing her excitement for the start of the Rarity Bay Women's Club year. She welcomed all attendees and noted how wonderful it was to see everyone together again.
* She acknowledged the hard work of the board over the past months in preparation for the new year, emphasizing the fun activities planned.
* Amy introduced the theme for the year, which focuses on celebrating the wonderful women of Rarity Bay. She expressed eagerness to learn more about the members and their stories.
* To facilitate introductions and foster connections among members, Amy facilitated an ice breaker activity. She encouraged members to share their experiences and find out who has been in Rarity Bay the longest and the shortest.
* Amy highlighted the increase in new members joining the club and expressed her enthusiasm for integrating them into the community.
* She concluded her opening remarks by stating that most meetings will be held at Rarity Bay Country Club this year, with two major events at Tellico Yacht Club. She also mentioned that there would be a couple of evening meetings to accommodate working members.

**Ice Breaker at Tables**

* Members participated in an ice breaker activity to foster connections and introduce newcomers, sharing stories about their time in Rarity Bay. Each table shared with the club who at their table had lived in Rarity the longest and the shortest amount of time.

**Presentation to Past President**

* Amy Steward presented a special recognition to the past president, Bobbi Carraway, expressing gratitude for her leadership and contributions during her term.
* Amy highlighted Bobbi's innovative ideas and her supportive nature, which greatly benefited the board and the club.
* As a token of appreciation, past historian Pat McDonald, presented Bobbi with a remembrance book filled with photos and memories from the past year, capturing the essence of the events and activities that took place under her leadership.

**Treasurer’s Report by Trish Dianetti**

* Trish reported that the club started the year with over $17,000 in the checking account.
* Currently, there are 333 paid members, down from 387 last year due to several members moving or not renewing membership. Trish noted that efforts are underway to contact members who have not paid dues.
* Trish encouraged members to ensure her email is in their contact list to avoid missing important communications regarding payments.

**Social Report by Jan Muir**

* Jan highlighted the recent "Cozy Up and Wine Down" event, which had a wonderful turnout and was well received by attendees.
* Jan announced that the next event would be a Winter Wonderland gathering at the Community Activity Center (CAC), where the club would be decorated festively.
* Jan also mentioned that in March, there will be a Blooms and Blossoms event, which will be a cozy gathering to celebrate the arrival of spring.
* Looking ahead to April, Jan teased a Cinco de Mayo celebration, promising a big party with festive activities.
* She encouraged members to sign up for these events through the club's website.

**Charity Report by Amanda Looney**

* Amanda provided an update on the club's charity initiatives, emphasizing the importance of community service.
* The first opportunity will be a Mobile Food Pantry event in Madisonville on March 27th from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. There will be 20 volunteer spots available, which is live on the club's website for sign-ups.
* Amanda mentioned that there will be additional opportunities with Second Harvest, including a Saturday morning event in Merryville for assembling food boxes, aimed at accommodating members who work during the week.

**Sunshine Report by Amanda Looney**

* Amanda reported that the new Sunshine Director, Marleise Cook, could not attend the meeting.
* Amanda shared that Marleise is enthusiastic about her role and will be sending out an email to last year's volunteers soon, asking for confirmations to stay on or opt out of the Sunshine Committee.
* Amanda also emphasized that the Sunshine team is available to assist any members in need and encouraged everyone to reach out if they require support.

**Webmaster Report by Amy Steward**

* Amy introduced the new webmasters, Andrea Williams and Sharon Marks, who are excited to help improve the club's online presence.
* She encouraged members to reach out to the webmasters if they have issues logging in or are not receiving emails from the club.
* Amy mentioned that a cheat sheet was provided on the tables to help members navigate the website and reset passwords if necessary.
* She announced plans to implement a newsletter that will be sent out twice a month to keep members informed about upcoming events and important updates.

**Newcomers Report by Wendy Claus**

* Wendy reported that there are currently 28 newcomers in the community, and she encouraged members to welcome them.
* Wendy noted that the newcomers' list is updated regularly, and if anyone knows of new residents, they should inform her or Cary, the Co-Greeter Director.
* She mentioned that information for newcomers is now available online.

**Learning Labs Report by Cindy Willbee**

* Cindy provided details on the upcoming learning labs, which have been very popular among members.
* She announced that there will be a ukulele class starting with an orientation on March 26th, and she encouraged members to sign up quickly as spots fill up fast.
* Additionally, Cindy mentioned CPR/AED training sessions that will be offered, highlighting the importance of these skills in the community.

**Lunch Bunch by Laura Corcoran**

* Laura mentioned that the next Lunch Bunch will be held at a The Lazy Beagle, on March 12th at 12pm. Please submit a check for $20 to hold your spot.

**Birthday Bash by Deb Robinson**

* Deb provided an overview of the plans for upcoming Birthday Bashs, inviting all members to celebrate their birthdays together.
* She mentioned that the events will include cake, games, and a chance for members to share their birthdays with the group.
* Deb encouraged members to RSVP to ensure enough supplies and treats for everyone.

**Bereavement by Michelle Humphrey**

* Michelle reported on a recent bereavement in the club, the passing of Mary Russell, who had battled Alzheimer's disease.
* The club made a memorial donation of $50 to Alzheimer's Tennessee in her honor.
* Michelle noted that a celebration of life will be held in the spring in Mary's hometown in Illinois, attended by family and close friends.
* She encouraged members to keep the family in their thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

**Vice President Report by Shelley King**

* Shelley shared her vision for the year, emphasizing the importance of member engagement and participation in club activities.
* She encouraged members to take an active role in planning and attending events, highlighting that the success of the club relies on everyone's involvement.
* Shelley expressed her excitement about working with the board and the community to create memorable experiences for all members.

**Past Presidents Presentation by Shelley King**

* Shelley invited past RBWC presidents to share their experiences and insights, fostering a sense of continuity and community within the club. Presidents commented in person and by written letters. These women included: Joyce Sabo (1998), Pat Shannon (2009), Kim Wood (2011), Linda Riley (2012), Betty Giardeau (2013), Judy Gibson (2016), Carol Strunk (2018,2019), Sue Kelly (2017), Kathy Laws (2020), Trish Dianetti (2022), Danna Caller (2023), and Bobbi Caraway (2024).

**Closing Thank Yous by President and Vice President**

* Amy and Shelley concluded the meeting with gratitude for the members' participation and enthusiasm for the upcoming year. They also thanked the Loudon High School Culinary Club for catering lunch.

**Meeting adjourned:** 11:23 am

**Date and Time of Next Meeting:** Tuesday March 4th at 10:00am
**Location of Next Meeting:** Rarity Bay Country Club

**Minutes submitted by Heather Risany, Secretary**
**Date:** February 6, 2025

Attachment – Treasurer’s Report

