October 9, 2024

❖ **Members in Attendance:** Laura Tobias, Kristen Monnot, Paige Button, Brenda Cacucci, Kate Nikolai, Shannon Frey, Toni Tuey, Anita Nguyen, Nicole Ongwijitwat, Megan Britton, Gina Farrar, Valerie Riley, Stacy Johnson, Laura Issacson, Donel Hakes, Jen Morris, Krissy Schenck, Meghan Turner, Myra Miller, Julie Morton, Robin Hines, Manjari Malaiya Puri, Sarah Bright

❖ **President's Report –Laura Tobias**

Laura asked all chairs to provide a background report on their committee so the new members would understand what each committee does. We need to know what each committee is spending so that the Guild can set a budget. Laura asked members to submit a reimbursement form for expenses and send it to Julie.

The Guild is invited to the House on Wednesday, November 6. The House Board is hosting a member appreciation event from 5 to 7 p.m.

❖ **Secretary Report- Sarah Guthrie Bright**

Sarah will send a reminder email to Guild members regarding the November 6 event. Sarah advised members to attend at least five meetings, which can be tracked on the back of the directory.

There were no changes to be made to our last meeting minutes. All approved of the September 4 meeting minutes.

❖ **President-Elect Report - From Emily Winters**

Laura Tobias gave a report. The new badges are finally in, and you can pick them up from Emily. The Halloween party plans were finalized. The party will be on Wednesday, October 30, at 10 a.m.

❖ **Treasury Report – Julie Morton**

When submitting a reimbursement form, be sure to use the Tax ID found on the cover of the directory. All expenses should be turned in with the form to Julie. Sales tax cannot be reimbursed. Please notify Julie before submitting the form if you have a considerable expense. Julie reminded everyone to pay dues if they still have not done so. Members can only receive a directory from Julie if dues have been paid. Checks are acceptable to pay dues.

❖ **Christmas at Christamore- Brenda Cacucci and Giovanna Burris**

There are five events the committee is planning for during Christmas at Christamore:

- Decorating the house on December 4, after the general Guild meeting. Please stay to help decorate if you are available. You may also donate holiday decorations.
- The senior brunch will also happen on December 4 after decorating in the auditorium from 10 am to 12 pm. This year, the brunch will be catered. They will need help serving food and helping with Bingo.
- The after-school Christmas party for the preschoolers and teens will be held in the auditorium on December 12. The preschool party will be from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., and the teens will arrive after 3:30 p.m. The party will end at 5:30 p.m. Approximately 40 kids will be in attendance, and the committee needs lots of volunteers to help with shifts during the party.
- Adopt a preschooler to help a family for Christmas. The House anticipates around 20 preschoolers for the gift adoption. Members will receive a sign-up sheet and then receive the wishlist.
- The decorations are taken down after New Year's. Usually, the scholars help, which is an excellent opportunity for members to meet them. The Guild provides breakfast.

❖ **Book and Author - Meghan Turner and Kate Nikolai**

Author hospitality has secured hotel reservations. The committee is still putting together ideas for the gift bags. A total of seven bags are given out. Let the committee know if anyone knows of a business that might like to provide a product in the gift bags. The authors unveiling event will be on Tuesday in February (2/4/25) at District Tap on the north side, from 7 pm

to 10 pm. The author reception will be held at Meridian Hills Country Club this year on Thursday, April 24, from 6 pm to 9 pm.

Author selection has one author confirmed and two more offers sent out. The committee will provide an update on book sales later. Jamie Britton Blanck is handling reservations and sponsorship. This will better serve how many tables or chairs sponsors need or if the bigger sponsors will use all the seats that come with their donation.

The committee has sent out event invitations to potential MCs but has not heard back. They have decided on a blue and peach color scheme against a French-style hydrangea pattern.

- **Sponsorship - Kristen Monnot**

  Kristen is working on getting as many new sponsors as possible. She is contacting past sponsors to see if they want to retain sponsorship this year. She also asks members to send her ideas for potential new sponsorships. Members can pick up a sponsorship form from her tonight. Sponsors only receive a certain amount of tickets, but this is the best way to secure a table for the luncheon.

- **Website/Database - Jamie Britton Blanck**

  No report

- **Scholarship/ Strategic Planning - Manjari Malaiya Puri and Nicki Griffin**

  The committee and board have been discussing how to award the scholarships this year. There are ten active scholars. The scholars receive payment each semester if they maintain the GPA requirements. They also discussed providing a holiday gift to the scholars.

  Today, the House Board approved the endowment for the barrier-bridging initiative. This endowment will help bridge the needs of families using the House, including tuition. The board also approved the HOT (House of Teen) initiative.

- **Social Media and Marketing - Alyssa Riddhagni**

Laura Tobias gave the report. Please send photos of committee events, House events, or meetings to Alyssa.

❖ **Associate Report - Paige Button**

Paige is the liaison to the associate members. If there is anything you want to provide to the associates, please send it to her. The associate luncheon was held on October 4 and was well attended. Latoya came to the luncheon to discuss updates on the House. Paige advised that Latoya provides Bingo prizes with her funds. Paige sent out an Amazon wishlist to the associates to help support Latoya. Associates also made donations at the luncheon.

❖ **Additional Notes:**

Question: Is it possible for the Guild to get an ebook option for book sales? This does not work because Amazon wants to be reimbursed.

❖ **Next Meeting/Event:**

- Guild Appreciation Night at Christamore House - November 6 from 5 pm to 7 pm
- General Meeting - Wednesday, November 13, at 7 pm, at the Home of Wava Raymond