September 4, 2024

❖ **Members in Attendance:** Toni Tuey, Annie Poynter, Karen Momper, Brenda Cacucci, Gina Farrar, Valerie Riley, Nicki Griffin, Julie Morton, Stacy Johnson, Wava Raymond, Giovanna Burris, Sarah Beth Jones, Kerry Lett, Megan Britton, Angela Woodley, Kelly Garverick, Anita Nguyen, Myra Miller, Kristen Monnot, Mina Alikas, Emily Winters, Manjari Malaiya, Brittany Wright, Sheryl Weaver, Robin Hines, Natalie Winters, Donel Hakes, Cara McMains, Sarah Bright

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

A new signup sheet for volunteer opportunities with Dine and Drive at the house has been sent out. Multiple shifts and days are available. The new directory will be coming out soon. Please provide any updates for contact information this week before the directory goes to printing.

The fall Family Unity Night is next Wednesday, September 11, from 4 to 6 p.m. Contact the FUN chair, Angela Woodley, if you are available to help with games, crafts, or food. The committee needs help during the event and after for cleanup. Guild members are also welcome to bring their children to the event.

A fundraising boxing event for the House will be held on September 28 at Fitness Farm. This all-day event will feature boxers of all ages, wellness vendors, and food trucks. Tickets are between $10 and $15.

Mark your calendars for a Guild appreciation event hosted by the Christamore House board. This event will be on Wednesday, November 6, from 5 to 7 p.m. The board would like to meet as many Guild members as possible. Drinks and appetizers will be provided.

❖ **Secretary Report- Sarah Guthrie Bright**

Any information you would like to have sent out to all Guild members can go directly through the secretary. Email Sarah at secretary@christamoreguild.org

There were no changes to be made to our last meeting minutes. All approved of the August 21 meeting minutes.

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

New Guild members introduced themselves. Planning for the Halloween party is well underway.

❖ **Treasury Report – Julie Morton**

The dues letter will be sent out in the next couple of weeks. Dues are $250 for a single Guild member and $300 for a married Guild member. Dues payments can be made online with an additional processing fee. Members who pay online are asked to pay the processing fee so that the House receives as much as possible. Members can write a check to pay the dues. Please give all checks to Julie. The dues will also cover the author unveiling ticket, two tickets to the author reception for married members, and one ticket for single members. Additional tickets may be purchased.

Reimbursement forms are on the table with the sign-in sheet. A digital copy can also be emailed out. When completing a reimbursement, remember that sales tax cannot be reimbursed.

❖ **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, which happens after the general meeting. Please stay to help decorate if you are available.
- The senior brunch will also happen on December 4 after decorating, around 11 a.m. in the auditorium. The committee will need help with food service and games. Seniors also receive a gift bag.
- Adopt a preschooler to help a family for Christmas. There are currently 12 preschoolers, but the House anticipates around 20 preschoolers for the gift adoption.
- The after-school Christmas party for the preschoolers and teens will

be held in the auditorium on December 12. The party will start at 2:30 p.m. and last until 5:30 p.m. The committee will need help setting up, during, and after the cleanup. Food, games, and crafts will be provided.

Guild members can help by making a donation or purchasing items for the parties on the Amazon wishlist.

The committee will take down all decorations at the House the first week of January. Many of the scholars will also be there to help, making this a great opportunity to meet them.

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

  Report provided by Laura Tobias. The committee will have its first meeting at the end of the month. Meghan and Kate have met with the designer Rita Bloom for the digital images. These will be coming out soon. They are working on determining a table gift. They are waiting on a confirmation from one of the speakers.

- **Sponsorship - Kristen Monnot**

  Outreach to businesses for sponsorship will begin next month. If you know of anyone or a business that would like to sponsor the event, please send the information to Kristen. Sponsorship forms have been digitized and will be sent out to all Guild members. Some adjustments have been made for table sponsorship. This year, we will ask sponsors to confirm the number of seats they plan on using for the event. Sponsoring the event is the only way to get early access to a table.

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

  Jamie has been working with Laura on moving everything from One Drive to Google. The dues letter will include an updated password to the Guild website. If anyone needs a new nametag, please reach out to Emily Winters. She will be ordering the new member name tags soon.

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

There are ten scholars this year, and checks have already been issued. The scholars receive a check each semester. The extra funds in the Guild account will go toward increasing the scholarship amount and the endowed funds for youth services. The youth services include preschool tuition and before/after school care. The House receives 3-5% from those funds each year. After-school care is around $5,000 each year. The Guild wants to help bridge the funding gap. Chrissy is also reaching out to former scholars to develop a mentor relationship. This is something that we have not done in the past.

❖ **Associate Report - Paige Button**

Laura Tobias provided the report. The Associate luncheon is on Friday, October 4, at 11:30 a.m., at Woodstock Country Club. Alyssa Riddhagni designed the invitation for the event. La'Toya will attend the luncheon and provide a House update.

❖ **Additional Notes:**

Kristen Monnot reported that the building at 2520 W. Michigan has been closed so that the House can use the property.

❖ **Next Meeting/Event:**

- Family Unity Night at Christamore House - September 11
- Regular Meeting - October 9 at Brenda Cacucci's
- Guild Appreciation Night at Christamore House - November 6