



ZONTA
CLUB OF
MILWAUKEE
MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

NEWSLETTER

May 2017

Area 2 • District 6

2016–2017 Zonta Club of Milwaukee

Officers

Helen Ludwig, President
Maria Bellmann, President Elect
Joann Comodore, Vice President
Diane Lindsley, Treasurer
Karen Smith, Secretary

Club Board

Krista Betts
Debra Koller
Joyce McCrary
Donna Neal
La Toya Sykes
Laurie Ward

Foundation Board Officers

Jacqueline Beaudry, President
Joni Reese, Vice President
Pamela Knackert, Treasurer
Lori Peterson, Recording Secretary
Sheryl Dean, Corresponding Secretary

Foundation Board

Victoria Frazier
Susan Koepsell
Lynne Oehlke
Mary Staten

**Send your newsletter
submissions to Krista Betts.**

**Visit us online at
www.zontamilwaukee.org**

Zonta Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, May 24, 2017

Eliz Green – The Trouble with Busy: Shattering the Myth of Work-Life Balance

Work and life are both part of your environment. Expecting one to balance out the other is unreasonable. The key to solving the problem with busy is to feed resources back into the system so all of it works.

We need to prevent busy from standing in the way of productivity. We need to stop job stress from impeding creativity, problem solving and growth.

Eliz survived a heart attack at age 35 while pregnant with twins. Her mission for nearly two decades has been to inspire other busy people to pay attention to their heart health and stress. She is a spokesperson for the American Heart Association and received their HEART Hero award in recognition of her contributions.

In preparation for the meeting, please take this quick survey before Monday, May 22. It will take only a few minutes, and Eliz will discuss our confidential responses.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/zontasurvey>

Alioto's Restaurant

3041 N. Mayfair Road (just south of Burleigh), Milwaukee

5:30 pm – Social • 6:00 pm – Dinner; Speaker & Meeting to Follow

Menu: Choice of Breaded Pork Chops, Chicken Normandy, Baked Cod, or Entrée Salad with Chicken Breast (salt & pepper seasoning). All include salad, sherbet, coffee & water.

The entrée choice will be made when you arrive for the meeting. Cost is \$30 per member.

RSVP: Please contact Lori Peterson by Sunday, May 21 at 9:00 pm, preferably by email (lorapeterson@wi.rr.com), to make a reservation. Leave a message at 262-370-9540 if you must.

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President's Message



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Thank you to all who attended and participated in our annual meeting in April. Everyone in attendance heard about the fantastic work of all our committees. If you were unable to attend the meeting, I encourage you to read the committee reports in the Annual Report.

Once again, it is time to consider how you wish to participate in our club and to decide where you believe you can best contribute your talents and passions. I will be bringing committee sign-up sheets to the May meeting. It is our goal that all members belong to at least one committee. While the club will not be meeting in July, our committees continue to work over the summer.

The Service Committee is looking for co-leaders for both the Back-to-School Backpack Drive and the Career Fair. The Advocacy Committee will need to begin planning our third annual silent walk against violence. The PR Committee continuously posts pictures and Club events on social media. If you are involved in a Club event, please take pictures and forward them to Joni Reese for posting.

Our Membership Committee is always working hard to find new members and retain our current members. If you have a friend, family member, or co-worker who is interested in learning more about Zonta, please encourage her (or him) to attend our May meeting. Due to various conflicts, we did not have as good a turnout at our prospective member meeting as we had hoped. The club does pay for dinner for the first meeting attended by a prospective member.

The Program Committee is working to find a new location for our dinner meetings. If you have suggestions of specific locations or just comments or concerns, please contact either Lori Peterson or me. Also, feel free to send Lori any suggestions you may have regarding potential speakers.

NOTE: The Program Committee is also looking for suggestions of fun activities – and a location – for our June 28 Meeting. Bring your ideas to the May 24 meeting or send an email to Lori.

I hope to see many of you at Neu-Life's Art Show and at our meeting on May 24. Please note that we are having a mini service project this month (details on page 8). As always, contributions to mini service projects, while appreciated, are not expected or required.

Happy Spring!

– Helen Ludwig

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

May 9

Regina Young-Ferguson

May 21

La Toya Sykes

Meeting Minutes *for April 26, 2017*



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Helen Ludwig, President, called the meeting to order.

Finance: End of March balance is \$11,422.66. CD is currently at \$5,046.56 and will come due on May 22, 2018. \$174 for dues is needed before the last week of May.

Bylaw Changes: Changes have been approved by District 6. An amendment on page 7 changing the statement form “an annual audit” to “an annual review” was approved. The months the club will not meet has been changed to only July. The Z-Club Committee was added.

Elections: The following members were nominated and elected to the Club Board and Foundation Board by the club members in attendance. Club Board: Marge Holzbog, Janet Kloser, Regina Young-Ferguson. Foundation Board: Sandra Goldmann, Gloria Jones, Elizabeth Stull. Their terms start June 1, 2017.

Committee Reports: A member of each committee was asked to summarize the information included in the Annual Report related to their committee. Reports were given by:

Donna Neal – Service, Krista Betts – Advocacy, Cheryl Lucas-DeBerry – Membership, Lori Peterson – Program, Diane Lindsley – Finance, Krista Betts – Scholarship, Joni Reese – Public Relations, Pam Knackert – Fashion Show, and Joanne Comodore – Z Club. A report from the UN Committee is still needed to be added to the Annual Report. A summary was not given at the meeting.

Announcements:

- The next club meeting is May 24 at Alioto's.
- Sign-up and recommendations for new club committee members will occur in May.
- Compliments for the excellent job done on this year's Annual Report
- Zonta International requests that we update our passwords. The web browser Mozilla/ Firefox will not always work; use Chrome.

New Business: Donna Neal will provide ARTREACH training after today's meeting for anyone who is interested. The Neu-Life art show fundraiser will be held May 13, 2017, from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$10 for children.

*Respectfully Submitted by Deb Koller, on behalf of
Karen Smith, Secretary*

May 2017

The updated bylaws, approved by the Club on April 26, are included as a separate attachment and available on the www.zontamilwaukee.org website.

Club Calendar

Club Meetings

May 24 June 28*

Board Meetings

June 13 (for the new board!)

Please share your
ideas for the June
meeting's activities!

Foundation Meeting Minutes



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Zonta Club of Milwaukee Foundation, Inc. Annual Meeting Minutes

April 26, 2017 – Alioto's Restaurant, Wauwatosa, WI

This meeting was held immediately following the Annual Meeting of the Zonta Club of Milwaukee and included all attending members of the Club, who are also members of the Foundation. Seven of the nine board members were in attendance.

The purpose of the Foundation, as explained by Jackie Beaudry, Foundation Board President, is to raise money and distribute funds for the philanthropic mission of the Zonta Club. Annual monies are raised by the Club fundraiser (fashion show), donations, and interest on Foundation investments.

The fiscal year for the Foundation is the calendar year and the Annual Report (issued for calendar year 2016 by email and kept on the Club website) reflects this. Each year, 1/3 of the monies raised goes to Zonta International for various projects as noted in the Annual Report.

Joni Reese, Foundation Board Vice President, reviewed the accomplishments of the Foundation in providing funds to five local agencies and four scholarships. In September we awarded scholarships to the following women:

- Young Women in Public Affairs – Abigail Thompson – \$1,000
- Jane M. Klausman Women in Business – Kelley Hickman – \$1,000
- Jane M. Klausman Women in Business – Autumn Hackbarth – \$500
- Women in STEM – Carla Echeveste – \$1,000

We also awarded grants to the following agencies and programs at the Fashion Show in April 2016:

- CORE/EI Centro – Trauma & Healing Program – \$2,500
- My Home/Your Home – Lissy's Place – \$2,500
- Neu-Life Community Resource Center – ARTREACH and YELL and TELL – \$5,000
- Our Next Generation – Phenomenal Ladies – \$2,500
- The Women's Center of Waukesha – Empowerment Program – \$2,500

Pam Knackert, Foundation Board Treasurer, discussed the Financial Summaries as found on page 13 of the Report. Income for the year was almost \$51,000 and disbursements were just over \$40,000, for an increase in funds of nearly \$11,000. That included a bequest from a past member, dividend increases, and slight increases in fashion show revenue and corporate matching gifts. With the above and investment value increase, monies at the end of 2016 were nearly \$155,000.

Sheryl Dean, Foundation Board Corresponding Secretary, mentioned the thank-you notes which were received from agencies that got the 2017 awards at the April 1 Fashion Show.

Mary Staten, Board Member, researched the International Service Projects which are supported by Zonta International through the Zonta International Foundation. Details can be found on pages 9-11 of the Annual Report. International Scholarships are mentioned on page 12.

May 2017

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Foundation Meeting Minutes



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While the fiscal year is a calendar year, the Foundation holds board elections in April at the same as the club. Each year three of the nine board members are up for re-election. This year, Sandra Goldmann, Elizabeth Stull and Gloria Jones were elected to the board for terms of years 2017 to 2020, replacing Jackie Beaudry, Lori Peterson and Susan Koepsell.

Pam Knackert led a discussion of how the monies to Zonta International should be divided. In 2016 this was:

Program	Amount	% of Total
Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship	\$850	10%
Amelia Earhart Fellowship Fund	\$1275	15%
Zonta International Strategies to End Violence Against Women (ZISVAW) Fund	\$2125	25%
Zonta International Service Fund	\$4250	50%
Total	\$8500	100%

Joni Reese made a motion and Gloria Jones seconded that we approve the same percentage split for our 2017 donation of again \$8,500 to Zonta International Foundation. The motion was approved.

In other business, Joni Reese said that if there were no changes to the Annual Report she would post it to the public portion of the club website. Jackie Beaudry mentioned that she is part of the Zonta International Foundation Centennial Anniversary Endowment Campaign. Expect to hear encouraging discussions in the future.

Respectfully Submitted,
May 13, 2017

Lori
Lora Peterson
Recording Secretary



Since 2008, Zonta International in cooperation with the **United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)** has supported the Liberia Fistula Project with contributions of US\$2.55 million to improve the health and socio-economic status of women and young girls in Liberia. For full details of the project, visit <https://foundation.zonta.org/Portals/0/Foundation/Programs/LiberiaProjectDescription2016-2018.pdf>.

In April, Zonta International reaffirmed its commitment to UNFPA's life-saving work for women and girls **in light of the United States' decision to deny future funding to UNFPA.**

The mission of UNFPA is to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled. The U.S. has long been a major contributor to UNFPA, and in 2015 was its fourth largest donor globally, giving \$75 million. UNFPA and other U.N. agencies are voluntarily funded by governments across the globe.



Early in April, the US State Department issued a letter announcing it will no longer fund UNFPA, citing as the reason agency support of coercive abortions or involuntary sterilization in China. UNFPA refuted this claim, stating that its work promotes the human rights of individuals and couples to make their own decisions, free of coercion or discrimination.

Zonta International's reaffirmation of UNFPA is included in full below.

Zonta International supports UNFPA

8 April 2017

Zonta International is dismayed to learn of the United States' decision to withdraw funding for the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), a decision that will ultimately have devastating consequences for women and girls worldwide.

For more than 10 years, Zonta International has proudly partnered with UNFPA to deliver critical life-changing and life-saving programs for the most vulnerable women and girls, improving health, eradicating violence against women and ending all forms of harmful practices.

In Liberia, Zonta International has partnered with UNFPA to treat and prevent obstetric fistula by providing surgical treatment for women and girls living with this condition and reintegrating them back into their communities, equipped with the knowledge and skills to lead full and productive lives. Fistula is a devastating but preventable childbirth injury usually caused by prolonged, obstructed labor without timely medical intervention. In most cases, the baby is stillborn; and often the mother is left paralyzed. In addition to the devastating physical consequences, women suffering from fistula are stigmatized and abandoned by their families and marginalized by their communities.

In Niger, Zonta International has partnered with UNFPA to reduce child marriage, and to help adolescent girls in Niger develop their health, social and economic assets, know their rights and be in a



strong position to defend them and be safer and have protection against violence. Child marriage is a form of sexual and gender-based violence with harmful physical, social and economic effects including the detrimental impact in the societies of early pregnancies. Niger has the highest child marriage rate in the world with 77 percent of girls married by age 18 and 30 percent married by age 15. Forty-two percent (42%) of adolescent girls in Niger give birth before the age of 17, a high proportion of school-aged girls are not in school and 73 percent of adolescent girls, ages 15-19, cannot read or write.

These programs are examples of UNFPA's work in making a difference for thousands of women and girls worldwide. Today UNFPA works in more than 150 countries and territories covering more than 80 percent of the world's population. Thanks to partnerships with organizations like Zonta International and the critical support of governments, UNFPA was able in 2016 to save the lives of more than 2,300 women from dying during pregnancy and childbirth and to ensure more than 1,250 fistula surgeries, among many other achievements.

Today and every day, Zonta International stands in support of UNFPA and its work to promote and protect the rights of women and girls worldwide.

What Can You Do? Zontians Can Advocate to Restore Funding

UNFPA does not promote or coerce abortions, but does promote human rights. Tens of thousands of mothers have been saved from preventable death or disability. The projects funded by Zonta International Foundation have empowered women in five countries that needed our help. ZIF funding alone cannot meet the needs.

We need your help to educate the administration on this issue – through your representatives. Tools include:

- Zonta International Statement Supporting UNFPA, <https://www.zonta.org/Media-News/News-Feed/News-Detail/zonta-international-supports-unfpa>
- UNFPA FAQ, <http://www.unfpa.org/frequently-asked-questions>
- Zonta policy on Women's Reproductive Health, <https://membership.zonta.org/Portals/0/Membership/Policies/WomensReproductiveHealthPolicy.pdf>

“The support we received over the years from the government and people of the United States has saved tens of thousands of mothers from preventable deaths and disabilities, and especially now, in the rapidly developing global humanitarian crises.”

– UNFPA upon notice of the end of U.S. funding

UN Committee



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Suggested Reading:

Madame President – The Extraordinary Journey of Ellen Johnson Sirleaf

By Helene Cooper, born in Monrovia, Liberia; author of the New York Times bestseller The House at Sugar Beach

In 2005, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf won the Liberian presidential election demolishing a long-standing barrier, defying centuries of patriarchal rule to become the first female elected head of state in Africa's history. In taking office, she vowed to do everything possible to prevent a return to the senseless war that had taken more than 200,000 Liberian lives and left the country a wasteland.

"Madam President" is an intimate as well as gripping look at Sirleaf's extraordinary story. Of humble beginnings, as well as on a continent where the culture treats women as possessions or objects of conquest, that Sirleaf rose to political power is simply astonishing!

Lad Lake Centers Could Use Our Help

If you were at the March meeting, you will be familiar with Lad Lake Centers. Donnelle Hauser, the Chief Program Officer for Lad Lake Centers, was our guest speaker and shared information about the Lad Lake program for anti-sex-trafficking and sex-trafficked victims. Lad Lake's mission is guiding at-risk youth, including exploited and abused girls, and families on the path toward independence and achievement.

One of the donation/need suggestions was artwork for the rooms that the girls reside in. We talked about a great idea...buying artwork from the Neu-Life Art Show to donate to Lad Lake!

Besides the idea of artwork, the following needs were communicated for the teen girls:

- Teen Bibles
- Swimsuits
- Hygiene items, soap, face cream, hair products for all types of hair
- Arts and craft supplies

Please bring all donations to the May 24 meeting. If you wish to donate items but can't be at the meeting, please contact another member of the club or Joni Reese to coordinate a "club buddy" for your donation. Lad Lake Centers will also take monetary donations if you prefer.

All mini service project donations are completely voluntary.
Thank you in advance for your consideration and generosity.

– Joni Reese

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Service Committee



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Opportunities for hands-on service continue through the summer.

Career Fair and Back-to-School Celebration

The Neu-Life Career Fair and Back-to-School Celebration is scheduled for **Thursday, August 10, 1:00 to 3:15 pm**. The backpacks will be distributed at 3:00 pm. About 100 youth are expected to participate in each. The event will be held at the Neu-Life main site building at 2014 W North Ave in Milwaukee.

Career Fair

We need volunteers to conduct short interactive presentations with groups of youth of different age groups. The target is 5 or 6 presentations of about 10 to 15 minutes each. In the past, we've presented on running your own business/nonprofit, marketing, marketing research, fundraising, training, metal-smithing and jewelry-making, and information technology careers, as well as interviewing tips and skills. We're looking for new topics or new takes on past topics this year.

In addition to presenters, we need a volunteer to coordinate the Zonta Club of Milwaukee's involvement at this event. You have much to share with these youth, perhaps more than you realize.

Back-to-School Collection

Club members gave the thumbs-up to participate in another year of the school supplies drive. The need is for 20 kindergarten, 40 elementary, and 40 middle/high school backpacks filled with supplies. Keep your eyes open for sales on the wish list items.



Back-to-School Wish List		
Backpacks (small and large for elementary and high school)	Pens (blue or black)	Loose leaf paper
Loose leaf filler paper	Crayons	Glue sticks
Folders	Markers	Regular glue
Regular pencils	Colored pencils	Erasers (pencil top or regular)
Mechanical pencils	Pencil sharpeners (basic ones)	Scissors (kid size and regular)
Pencil pouches/cases	Notebooks (wide or narrow ruled)	

We need a volunteer or two to help coordinate this project, including the collection of the items and the packing of the backpacks at Neu-Life late in the afternoon of August 9, the day before the event. And of course, we need volunteers to purchase/find supplies.

Respectfully submitted by Donna Neal, Service Chair



YOUNG WOMEN IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS 2017 RECIPIENT: ERICA LOFTON

We will welcome Erica Lofton, our 2017 Young Women in Public Affairs Award recipient, to the May meeting. Here's a brief background:

Erica Lofton is completing her sophomore year at the University School of Milwaukee. She has been the 9th and 10th grade student representative on her school's student council, where she works to create a positive school culture. As a freshman, she spearheaded a Black History program that had not been done in over 5 years; because of her advocacy, the Black History program is now mandatory. According to the Dean of Students, "The activities Erica planned were not only engaging, interesting, and encouraged our school community to have thoughtful conversations about the contributions of African Americans in society and race relations in contemporary America."

Erica also represents the 2nd Aldermanic District of Milwaukee as a member of the Milwaukee Youth Council, where she participated in the drafting of legislation creating Milwaukee's first-ever youth-focused restorative justice initiative.

At the age of 7, she founded the charity Girls in Action, Inc., through which she teaches girls ages 8 to 12 how to become leaders. She uses teamwork to promote manners, self-esteem, social skills, and communication skills. Among the work: Helping the girls start a violence prevention campaign that earned recognition from President Barack Obama and the opportunity to travel to the White House, where Vice President Joe Biden presented them the Champion of Change National Award.

Erica wrote in her application, "We face things such as body shaming, unequal payment in the workplace, human trafficking, underrepresentation of women in strong leadership roles, health disparities, and the list goes on and on. But, I feel that the way these things can be dissolved is if we teach girls to love themselves and instill in them leadership qualities that can flourish once they realize their natural leadership skills. The key to doing this is teaching them while they are still young and impressionable. When Girls in Action did our research while formulating our curriculum, we found that between the ages of 8 and 12, the formative stages are taking place, making it easy for someone to persuade that child. This was the leading factor on us choosing the focus age group we wanted to work on."

Erica is also owner of a related business, Girlz in Action, LLC, where she does keynotes, small group presentations and workshops for girls and other youth about leadership. Erica's career goal is to obtain a law degree to advocate for women and children and make a positive impact on gender equality and children's rights. As a congresswoman, she would like to pass laws that also advocate for women and children.

Join us in celebrating this outstanding young woman's achievements – current and future – at our May meeting.

Advocacy Committee



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3rd Annual Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women Walk

We're looking for volunteers to help plan the 2017 Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women Walk. The walk will be scheduled for a Monday in late September, timed with the release by End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin of the list of those who died in 2016 as a result of domestic violence.

We need your help to organize the logistics and, importantly, recruit like-minded groups to join us in this effort. Planning activities will take place over the summer.

If you are interested in being part of the planning, please send an email to Krista Betts (bookmaster04@yahoo.com) and Donna Neal (donnajneal@gmail.com).



ZONTA SAYS NO
TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Membership

Thank you to all who participated in the May 3 Prospective Member Reception at the Northwest Family Activity & Event Center. Please invite prospective members who were unable to attend the reception, and others who may be interested in joining Zonta, to the May club meeting.

— Joann Harris-Comodore