



ZONTA
CLUB OF
MILWAUKEE

NEWSLETTER

September 2025

Area 2 • District 6

2025–2026

Zonta Club of Milwaukee

Officers

Carol Mangold, President
Helen Ludwig, President Elect
Karen Smith, Vice President
Laureen Ward, Treasurer
Shari Januszewski, Secretary

Club Board

Pam Knackert
Diane Lindsley
Christine Todd
Barbara Wyatt Sibley

Foundation Board Officers

Cheryl Nowak, President
Joni Reese, Vice President
Donna Neal, Treasurer
Donna Conant, Recording Secretary/
Corresponding Secretary

Foundation Board

Diana Barnett
Joann Harris-Comodore
Debra Koller
Judith Lehman
Dawn Zehren

Send your newsletter submissions
to jonizonta@gmail.com

Visit us online at
www.zontamilwaukee.org

September 24th Club Meeting

5:30 PM social, 6:00 meeting

Program: Univ. School of MKE Z Club Update

Location: Shorewood Public Library,
Village Center Meeting Room
3920 North Murray Avenue, Shorewood

We will be hosting the University School of Milwaukee's Z Club who will be providing us with an update on their programs.

We may have several members of the Z Club in attendance, so this is a great opportunity for us to show up and give our support to this fantastic group of young people!

As usual we will have a light dinner at 6:00 PM and will need to be out by 8:00 PM. Any help with setting up at 5:30 PM or cleaning up would be greatly appreciated.

Please watch for an RSVP email from Karen Smith for your attendance.

Please RSVP no later than Monday Sept 22nd to Karen at ks65100@gmail.com.



www.zontamilwaukee.org

President's Message



ZONTA
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MILWAUKEE

Dear Zonta Sisters,

Welcome to our newest member, Janan Atta-Najeeb, who joined our club at the August meeting! We are so happy to have her on board and look forward to getting to know her better. Please take an opportunity to introduce yourselves to Janan and welcome her if you haven't had the chance to meet her yet.

We have several new and exciting opportunities coming up this Fall. Cathy Myers, our Area 2 Director, is proposing a Wisconsin Assembly Lobby Day at the State Legislature to End Child Marriage in Wisconsin and in support of a Wisconsin ERA. Improved funding for domestic violence may also be on the agenda. Staff at the legislature have informed Cathy that the bills can be worked up in time if given enough notice and suggested November 18th as the best date. That date could also tie in with the 16 Days of Advocacy. Cathy lobbied Congress in 2017 for the Citizen's Climate Lobby and has experience organizing teams and holding conversations with our elected officials. The Madison Club Advocacy Committee is hosting a Zoom meeting on September 23rd at 5:30 PM to start organizing, so consider joining the call and learning more about the plan. Also, Cathy plans to obtain a room in the State House for training and organizing before our appointments. If you've never lobbied before, or if you have, this is a great opportunity to participate in your government to advocate for the causes Zonta supports. I had the opportunity to lobby our Colorado representatives in Washington DC back in 2009 for a medical research funding bill and it was a good experience. Please let me know as soon as possible if you are interested in participating in a Lobby Day and I will send a list to Cathy.



The Madison Club is having their fundraiser, "Wild & Scenic Film Fest: 7 Short Films about Women Impacting Climate Change" on Thursday, October 16th from 5:30-8:00 PM at the Anderson Auditorium in Predolin Hall on the Edgewood University Campus. Tickets are available on Eventbrite for \$40. \$20 for students. This is a good opportunity to support one of our other Area 2 Clubs.

District 6 Fall Conference is approaching fast October 10-12 in Bloomington, IL.

Our Annual Fashion Show Fundraiser on November 15th needs the help of everyone in the club to make the event a success. If you haven't signed up for a role on the circulating list, please contact Pam Knackert or me to fill an open slot.

The program committee still needs additional volunteers to help obtain speakers, coordinate food and book meeting locations. Please consider helping with this important function to keep our meetings running smoothly. If you are interested, please contact Kate Gay.

*Best wishes,
Carol Mangold
President Zonta Club of Milwaukee*



September 2025

www.zontamilwaukee.org



Service

Looking Ahead:

Our Service Committee is now planning Service activities for the rest of 2025 and into 2026. We are looking at service opportunities with the agencies who applied for Foundation Grants in 2025 and the agencies that we have supported with service in the last year. If you would like to join us and offer your input, ideas and opinions, please email Donna Conant (conantd56@gmail.com), and we'll send you information and our Survey Feedback Form.

Your Service is Appreciated!

We received BIG THANKS from . . .

- Sojourner Family Peace Center for assembling "Period Supply Kits" on August 27th, before our Club meeting, and
- HeartLove Place for volunteering at their August 23rd Back to School Family Rally.



Club Updates



ZONTA
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Board of Directors

Dextra Hadnot, President
Stephen Edwards, Vice President
Pamela Bell
Clarissa Barnes
Jeff Saction
Vincent Crawford
Doris J. Hopkins-Brown
Dorothy Enriquez
Joseph DeRosa- Emeritus
Janis Hoeksema-Emeritus
Nickolas Pierce

Supportive Organizations

Crosspoint Community Church
Community of Grace Baptist Church
Oakwood Church
Meadowbrook Church
New Testament Church of Milwaukee
Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist Church

Collaborative Organizations

Fellowship of Christian Athletes
Solomon Community Temple
Above the Clouds
The Hope School

Executive Director

Viola Rembert

September 04, 2025

Dear Volunteers,

Thank you for volunteering your time at HeartLove Place's **25th Annual Back to School Family Rally!** Your energy and time contributed helped make this event a success. Your support of HeartLove Place allowed us to continue to fulfill our mission and provided over 300 youth with school supplies and book bags!

If you have any questions or feedback about your experience, please reach out to me via email at yhatchett@heartloveplace.org or at (414)372-1550 ext. 130

Thank you again for working so well with our students. We hope to see you again soon!

Sincerely,

Yvonne Hatchett
Program Coordinator

"People united in the love and purpose of Jesus Christ"

2207 N. 2nd Street • Milwaukee, WI 53212 • 414.372.1550 • www.heartloveplace.org



September 2025

www.zontamilwaukee.org

Club Updates



ZONTA
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Upcoming Club Meetings:

- September 24th meeting - Shorewood Public Library.
- October 22nd meeting – New Berlin VFW
- November 19th meeting - New Berlin VFW
- December 17th winter social meeting – Community room at St. Camillus

Upcoming Events:

- October 10th -12th – **District 6 Fall Conference and Service** in Bloomington, IL
- November 15th – ***Our one & only annual fundraiser!***
- November 7th, 2026 – **Centennial Celebration!**



DISTRICT 6 SERVICE PROJECT

Items requested:

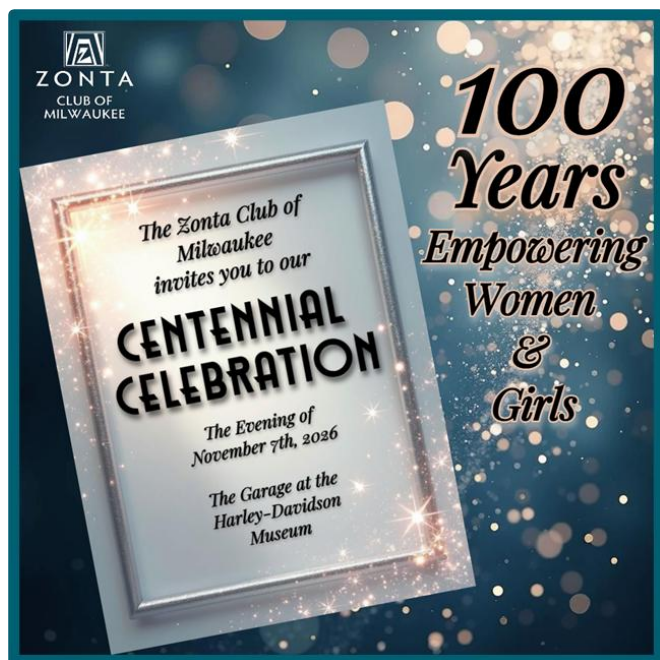
- women's underwear all sizes small to XXL
- tampons
- Mucinex
- Tums
- coffee
- paper towels
- tissues
- 5 lb bags flour
- 4 lb bags sugar
- oatmeal
- condiments
- sugar packets
- boxed mashed potatoes

They will pick up all donations on Saturday morning.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!

**303 E. Oakland Avenue
Bloomington, IL 61701**

Food. Shelter. Hope.
SUPPORT HOME SWEET HOME



News and Events

2026 Convention
Vancouver,
Canada

VANCOUVER
Zonta Convention 2026

Save The Date

Join Zonta International for our 67th Convention

11-14 July 2026
Vancouver, Canada

Save the Date!

COPENHAGEN
68th CONVENTION

8-11 JULY 2028

Join us in Copenhagen!

We are excited to officially announce our 2028 Convention host city: Copenhagen, Denmark.

Save the date and we will see you there!



Congratulations!!

Congratulations to Ruth & Al!



*Mr
AND
Mrs*



Club Updates



ZONTA
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Fashion Show 2025

Save the Date: Saturday, November 15, 2025 at the Marriott Milwaukee West

Theme: Fashion for a Cause: Build a Better World for Women and Girls

Chico's will be our vendor for fashions.

Invites were distributed to members at the August meeting or mailed to those not there or given to someone to get to you. Invites to our mailing list were mailed on Aug. 30th. Also an electronic version was emailed to you on August 29th. Eventbrite for online reservations is <https://2025-zonta-fashion-show.eventbrite.com>. (Just a note on anyone making an online reservation please make sure they make their menu choice, it does not ask until you purchase "ticket" so don't exit before making their menu choice). **Invite your friends, relatives and co-workers. Deadline for reservations is October 22, 2025.** All members are asked to sell or purchase a table of 10 or donate ½ the cost of the ticket, since this is our only major fundraiser of the year.

We will also be collecting raffle and silent auction items, so think of putting a theme basket together and soliciting from your businesses you frequent. Template solicitation letters and donation form were emailed June 23rd, but if you need another emailed to you please let Pam know. Laurie Ward is collecting raffle and silent auction items.

We will be collecting **bottles of wine** for our wine pull with a minimum value of \$20 or cash donations suggested of \$20. You can bring to the September meeting and give to Deb Koller.

If you received any **gift cards** you won't be using please consider donating them to the fashion show for our "gift card" tree or please purchase a few to donate. Looking for \$20 to \$25 gift cards (such as Panera, Target, other restaurants or stores). Please bring to September meeting and give to Deb Koller. **If you haven't volunteered for an activity for our Fashion Show, please contact Kate Gay to do so. We still do need a few more volunteers.**





Foundation

The Foundation Board reviewed the applications submitted this year and had to make some tough decisions at their August meeting. After interactive discussion and collaboration, consensus was reached to approve grants for 8 of the 15 organizations that requested grants, totaling \$21,500.

All agencies have been communicated to regarding their award status. The detailed agency write-ups will be shared in the October newsletter, and the awards will be presented to agency representatives at the Zonta Fashion Show Fundraiser scheduled for November 15, 2025.

Congratulations to:

- The Cathedral Center
- Chayil Inc.
- Franciscan Peacemakers
- Milwaukee Diaper Mission
- Milwaukee Women's Center (Division of Community Advocates)
- Muslim Women's Coalition
- Sojourner Family Peace Center
- The Women's Center (Waukesha)

Program Update

In October and November, we will be meeting at the VFW Post in New Berlin. The Program Committee apologizes for the changing venues. We were unable to secure the New Berlin Public Library for the fall of 2025 and are continuing to look for a venue that meets our needs of location, AV equipment and cost effectiveness for our members. We have checked with libraries in the Milwaukee vicinity, but 14 libraries close at 6:00 PM on Wednesdays. Please be patient with us as we work through this.



If you are interested in serving on the Program Committee, please let Karen Smith know. We really could use more heads and hands!

Membership

Please invite any prospective members to our upcoming September, October and/or November meetings. We will not be having a prospective member event this November because of the late fashion show, so if you have anyone interested, please invite them to a meeting and/or give Pam their name so she can follow up.

We inducted Janan Najeeb, Executive Director of the Milwaukee Muslim Women's Coalition at our August meeting. ***Welcome Janan!***



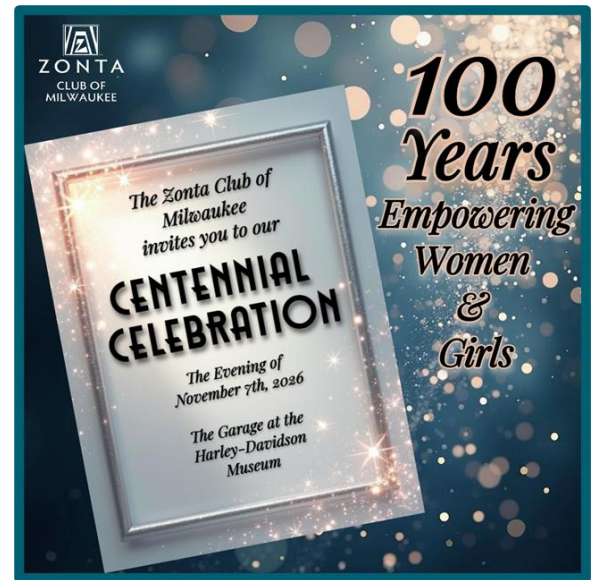


Centennial Celebration Planning

Centennial Committees have been established, several are well underway, and others are in process of scheduling start-up meetings. The committees are Venue, Program & Entertainment, Logistics, Fundraising, Publicity, and History. Get involved if you haven't already!

The Core Team thanks all members who attended the August meeting and provided feedback and input on our fundraising signature project. There was lots of healthy, constructive discussion. Housing was raised as an important area to look for a project, and the Core Team will bring a new idea in this space to the Club meeting next week, along with short initial write-ups of the three paths we're pursuing at this point.

The History Committee will be sharing "stories" through the next year, as we all become more knowledgeable about our past and our predecessors and their achievements.



What were the Confederation of Zonta Clubs and the Zonta Club of Milwaukee up to 100 years ago?

National President, Ethel Francis of Detroit, attended the "birth" of the Milwaukee Zonta Club in January 1926. In her address she spoke on the aims and ideals of Zonta:

"The national aims of Zonta is (sic) vocational guidance. We want to help the younger generation of girls who are entering the business world. We are doing this by sending questionnaires to each Zonta in the country, to find out conditions among women who are in business. These, when compiled, make a valuable source of information for girls who are entering the business world. They can learn what chances there are for them in their chosen occupations in every part of the country, what the salaries are and whether there is a surplus of workers of their kind. In fact, anything about the business conditions that they might want to know.:

(Milwaukee Journal, January 9, 1926)

Within the first month of its existence, each of the Club's 45 members received the extensive survey used by the Detroit Club. Questions included:

- Type of work: people/things, responsibilities, decision-making, public-facing
- Extent, status, and schedule of work: hours, overtime, frequency of overtime
- Working conditions: healthy pleasant atmosphere, standing/stooping/lifting, physical/nervous strain
- Compensation: starting wage, next advance, maximum wage, salary/commission/service fee, promotions
- Methods of entering the workforce

Scholarships for girls entering the industrial workforce were one of the Club's first service projects, and workforce issues remained a priority for decades. A key partner was the School for Workers at the University of Wisconsin, created in 1925 so also a "newborn", only the second school of its kind in the nation. Zonta scholarship students attended the special 2-week summer sessions for years. The school continues to this day.

(Milwaukee Journal, February 14, 1926)



Awards

Zonta Women in STEM Award: The Due date is Oct. 15th!

2026

ZONTA WOMEN IN STEM AWARD



Encouraging women to pursue
education, career opportunities
and leadership roles in STEM fields



1 APPLICATION, 2 OPPORTUNITIES

Club award
\$ 2000

16 international awards
US\$10,000 each

Applications must be received by the applicant's local Zonta club's deadline. To locate a club near you and download an application, please visit zonta.org/womeninstem.

CLUB DEADLINE:

October 15, 2025

SUBMIT APPLICATION TO:

zcscholarship@zontamilwaukee.org
OR
Debi Koller
210 S. Water St. Unit S21
Milwaukee, WI 53204

The Zonta Women in STEM Award is a Zonta International program funded by contributions to the Zonta Foundation for Women. Zonta International is a leading global organization of individuals building a better world for women and girls.

Club Updates



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Advocacy

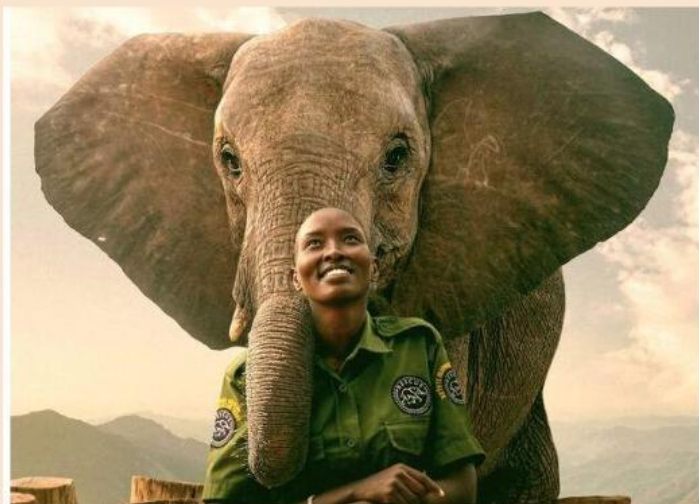
If you haven't watched the moving "Finding Nicole", it's available on Amazon Prime Video for \$3.99 and perhaps other streaming services. This movie is based on a true story about domestic violence and overcoming odds. There is also a book with the same title.

Nicole Beverly was one of the speakers at the North American District Meeting.



Madison's Upcoming Event – Oct. 16th

Zonta Club of Madison / Zonta Madison Foundation
7 Short Films About Women Impacting Climate Change



A Fundraiser in Support of Empowering Women & Girls

tickets

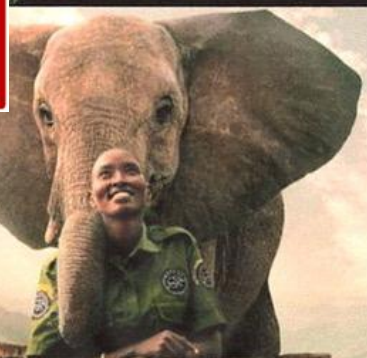


October 16, 2025
Time: 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Tickets: - \$40 - Students: \$20



Edgewood University, Predolin Hall,
959 Edgewood Drive, Madison, WI

Zonta Club of Madison / Zonta Madison Foundation Present:
7 Short Films About Women Impacting Climate Change
A Fundraiser in Support of Empowering Women & Girls



October 16, 2025
5:30-8:30 pm

Tickets: \$40, \$20 students

Edgewood University
Predolin Hall
959 Edgewood Dr, Madison, WI

Tickets:





Communications

It is with great pleasure that I share with you that the board has approved the operational costs of a much-needed technical upgrade of our 10-year-old Zonta Club of Milwaukee website. Along with that upgrade will come a newly rebranded website look that will be cleaner and more modern.

Over the next year, we plan to use this platform to showcase our rich history in preparation for the Centennial Celebration!

Through this process, we will be reviewing current content on the website and archiving old and outdated information. We also plan to keep the archive of newsletters for historical reference purposes in the members-only section.

Our focus on the website is to highlight who we are and what we do; and being an informational source for our members, prospective members and others who want to learn more or stay connected to our Club.

The new website is expected to be done within a couple of months. Let Joni know if you are interested in participating!

One of our most common conversations is why people haven't heard of Zonta.

The short answer is because we don't talk about the Zonta organization or our clubs enough!

A few days ago, I was on my personal Facebook page and saw this post in one of the retired women's groups I follow.

It made me so happy! I also recognized some of the people who were in the photo from NAIDM.

The message resonated with me, since I have seen many previous comments regarding people not knowing what to do with themselves after they retire. Their work defined them.

There are **210 thousand members** in this group! When I last looked, there were 279 reactions on it, and 62 comments from people! Some were interested and others jumped in from all over the Zonta world to comment on it like I did!

Let this be a lesson for all who read this, including me! Let's share Zonta with others!

Recently, some members have mentioned that they do not have enough meaningful activities in their retirement. I would like, if allowed, to introduce this group to Zonta International. I have been a member for 25 years and it is keeping me busy in my retirement. Zonta works to build a better world for women and girls and is broken down into districts, areas, and clubs. Zonta International holds General Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council and Participatory Status with the Council of Europe. We work both locally and internationally and are active in 67 countries. One major international project right now is to end child marriage worldwide and we are always working on ending gender based violence. Interesting note: Zonta was the only non aviation related organization Amelia Earhart ever joined and we give many graduate fellowships to women in her name. More information, including how to join, at zonta.org. Photo is of District 11 (my district, which includes several southeastern states, Bahamas, PR and BVI) members who recently attended the North American Interdistrict Meeting in Detroit. I am in back on the right.



News from Allies for Teens in Foster Care

Since 2019, Allies for Teens in Foster Care has been dedicated to supporting teens living in group homes – providing shoes, meals, essentials, art supplies, educational support, and most importantly a reminder that they are seen and valued. As an all-volunteer non-profit, Allies distributed high quality goods and services to teens in over 20 teen foster care group homes in Milwaukee County. Carrying out our mission with respect, safety and integrity for the youth and adults we serve has been the foundation of our service.

After thoughtful planning and reflection, our board has made the decision to sunset our organization. This is not a result of crisis, but rather a proactive and values-aligned choice to bring our work to a close with intention and care, ensuring that our mission lives on through partnerships with aligned organizations.

For the past four months, Allies has been working with our partners to distribute our remaining donations. The principal project took place on August 5th - "Shoes for Teens." Teens from over 12 group homes came to the DSW in Wauwatosa in a two-hour window, and Allies purchased over 125 pairs of shoes for over 75 teens in Milwaukee group homes.

The project was such a success that Allies secured it for two more years with financial support in a targeted donation to the fellow non-profit, Bridge to Brighter. Allies reached out to Bridge to Brighter because we deeply admire their work with young men who aged out of foster care and recognize a strong alignment between our missions.

A sincere thank you to our current and past board members, Reagan Jauch, Sarah Dupee and Matthew Byrne. Allies would not have had the privilege of serving youth in our community without your time, talent, and commitment.

Thank you to our community donors and volunteers. Allies touched the lives of so many because you shared our mission. The gratitude Allies received is gratitude to you. You made kids feel seen.

I, Allison Byrne, will continue to help "Shoes for Teens" as a volunteer. I will also remain connected to several group homes, including the local group home working with pregnant teens and their young children. I will remain a volunteer bridge to Allies' partners wishing to continue support.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly at byrne1011@gmail.com or 414-531-2862 with any questions.

Best Regards, Allison Byrne
Executive Director
Allies for Teens in Foster Care
(414) 531-2862



Zonta Club of Milwaukee Club Meeting Minutes August 27, 2025

President Carol Mangold called the meeting to order at 6:30pm CDT following the blessing and social/dinner time.

Pam Knackert led the induction of new member, Janan Atta-Najeeb. Donna Neal is her sponsor, and Diane Lindsley will be her mentor.

Treasurer's Report: Laurie Ward reviewed the financial statements for the months of June and July. Expenses were related to the Spring Workshop and the donation in place of the outstanding/now void check for the speaker. Beginning balance June 1, 2025: \$10,210.35. Ending balance July 31, 2025: \$8,373.71. CD balance: \$5,940.01 (Maturity date is 5/13/26.)

Committee Updates:

Awards (Scholarship) - Jackie Beaudry reported that the S.T.E.M. award application deadline is 10/15/25. The recipient will receive \$2,000 and be eligible for \$10,000.

100th Celebration - In place of a program, Dawn Zehren facilitated a working session outlining the initial planning and soliciting input from members on the event to be held November 7, 2026 at The Garage at the Harley-Davidson Museum. The goal is to net \$100,000 in funds raised, remit \$30,000 to ZI and retain \$70,000. Committees identified include: Venue, Program/Entertainment, Logistics, Fundraising, Publicity, and Club History. Volunteers are needed and all are asked to participate. Tracking the progress of each committee will be visible in a Google shared document.

The broad discussion was regarding how the funds raised should be spent. Choosing this in advance will provide greater publicity opportunities as it should be a signature project associated with Zonta. Suggestions raised included Sojourners Summer Hope Camp, the Waukesha County Technical College new AI and STEM scholarship program and community advocacy for housing. Key points raised were ideas about leveraging existing/affiliated relationships that are well known, spending funds over several years for a long-term impact, and engaging other City authorities on what the need is.

100 Year lapel pins were given to members.

Fundraising/Fashion Show - Pam Knackert passed around the sign-up sheet for day-before and day-of activities. All members are asked to participate. Printed invitations were distributed. Note that when registering, the menu choice is to be made following payment. Karen Smith is collecting \$20 or bottles for the wine pull.

Program - Venues have been chosen for the Club meetings: Shorewood Library in September; VFW on Beloit Road in October and November; St. Camillus Community Room for December social.

Z-Club - Carol Mangold reported that a new coordinator will be chosen as Kate Gay has retired. Some of their members may attend our Club meeting in September and we would like to see a strong showing from Club members.

Strategic Planning Update: Carol Mangold solicited interest from any member(s) who would like to join the Board Meeting when this topic is discussed. As time was limited this evening, the Board will share its initial thoughts on planning at a future meeting.

Announcements:

- Next Board Meeting - September 9, 2025 - Zoom
- September 24, 2025 Club Meeting - Shorewood Library - in person
- Fall Conference - October 10-12, Normal, IL
- October 14, 2025 Board Meeting - Zoom
- October 22, 2025 Club Meeting - VFW on Beloit Road - in person

President Elect Helen Ludwig adjourned the meeting at 7:50pm EDT.