

Neighbors and Newcomers
Board of Directors Minutes
July 23, 2026
Mountaineer Realty

In Attendance: Mary Ann Webb, Jan Bernhagen, Vicki Hajny, Liz Middleton, Denise Kozon (late), Mary Wieczorek, Cindy Leckvarcik, Billie Mitchell, Brenda LaVigne, Mary Burnett, Terry Renaud, Shirley Butka, Nan Wallace, Barb Todd, Karen Duczemiskyj, Terri Curran,

Opening: Assistant to President Mary Ann Webb opened at 9:08 with prayer. Informational meeting only. No voting. Mary Ann presided and all other past presidents in attendance agreed to help Jan B. as she ascends to the duties of president.

New Business: Resignations have been received from Vicki Hajny. Incoming President, Candyce Corcoran and Karine Andrew, Programs and Assistant Programs, and Carolyn Spencer and Barb Todd from Publicity. Vicki H. has agreed to chair the Program committee for one year. Robbie Corban has agreed to be Assistant Fundraiser for one year. If Jan B. moves up to President it will be for one year and we will need a Vice-President. The above openings are in addition to the other open positions which are Assistant Web Master and Assistant Nominations.

Opinions were shared regarding possible dissolution of the club. Several expressed how they would vote should it come to a vote, though in April it was decided to continue as usual. Contents of the survey taken at the last general meeting were again discussed, acknowledging that those who made the comments probably were not willing to put in the work to reach the goals.

- Meetings are too long.
- Can't hear what is being said.
- Too many door prizes. Need less and better quality.
- Made to feel they must donate to everything.
- Would like to go to Playhouse as a group.
- Would like to hear from family members of those who cleared the land prior to WWII.

Publicity and reaching out to younger people is essential but all agreed that the younger generation are not joiners—at least not to a club like ours. Shirley found a source for printing 250 business-size cards for \$35 which we could hand out to potential members. Barb Todd read an email that she sent to Brenda with several suggestions for revitalizing the group. Cindy pointed out that attaching a 501c3 to a 501c4 is against Tennessee law. Among Barb's suggestions were opening the silent auction to the public, having our bake sale in the mall, and raising dues while lowering the price of lunch. Shirley suggested that maybe some

of the members of the volunteer committees would be willing to step up to an open Board position if their committee was abolished (such as decorations).

There was discussion about photographing donation presentations for the newspaper rather than mailing the checks. In the past representatives of recipient organizations were invited to the May meeting to receive their checks. The bottom line seemed to be that this club is organized for people like us and younger people aren't like us.

Mary Ann asked if everyone present received the policy book for their position. If not, they need to get it from the previous person and become very familiar with their duties, the constitution and bylaws. Ask if you have questions. If you have not been installed you will need to do so at the September meeting.

Much work has already been done in preparation for our Fall meetings. Vicki has programs organized. Mary Ann has meeting locations and caterers lined up, with Cook Road Baptist being a new addition. Grace Community Church will be September, Cook Road Baptist will be October, December and April will be at the POW camp, January, February and March will be at Cook Road Baptist, May is TBA. The December and April meals have been verified. Perhaps Willow will cater September. Shirley has already secured door prizes.

If the club continues we need a committee to revise the constitution this year.

Mary Ann read a note of appreciation for our \$500 donation from Crab Orchard Church of God of Prophecy's new senior pastor. He said that the Red Shed ministry to which we donated has been dissolved for safety reasons. He said that the church still continues their outreach by making meals for the needy three or four times each week. They do this strictly with donations like ours. He wanted to know how to treat the check. Mary Ann will contact him and ask him how he wants a replacement check to be made out.

An executive board meeting was set for Monday. Since our bylaws indicate that we can vote by email that will be done after the meeting using Bcc so that it is anonymous. Jan, Brenda and Mary Ann will craft the message to be sent to the Board. Brenda will create an accurate membership list before Monday.

The meeting was closed with a prayer led by Billie at 11:08

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Wieczorek, Secretary