

**Oriental Woman's Club  
General Meeting Minutes  
January 2, 2018**

The General Meeting was called to order at 1:39 pm by president Elizabeth MacDonald at the clubhouse. All four officers were present.

Lynne Rousseau gave the inspirational message, "Like a Child," and summarized with the question "What areas of your life would be improved if you were more childlike?"

President MacDonald welcomed everyone and thanked them for their interest in the five booths. Selections were not exclusive, however, attendees were asked to indicate their number one preferences by a show of hands.

Cindy Porter introduced seven guests and former members who were present.

Vice President Marlene Miller spoke on her vision for who we are as an organization and who we want to be. Highlights of what she would like to see included the following: 1) OWC become more visible in the community; 2) OWC be among the first choices when women in our community consider a service organization; 3) Keeping intact what we value in our organization and letting go of that which we do not; and 4) Getting to know each other better.

President MacDonald added that she too would like for everyone to get to know each other better. She added that she would like to see the membership increase to 70 or 80, and for members to participate in all activities in any way they were able. Her vision is to put OWC back in the center of what's happening by participating in all town-wide events. She summarized with comments on both the negative and positive reasons individuals leave organizations and concluded that both she and Marlene would appreciate any complaints going directly to them.

A table game was played at each table in order for members to get to know each other better. Questionnaires were then collected to determine various opinions regarding certain activities and ideas that have been presented during this transition phase. A flip chart was used to illustrate what members liked about the meeting and what they felt could be improved. The friendliness, informality, and the table activity received favorable comments. We could improve on this by moving people or sitting with those we do not know in the future, as well as having an occasional evening meeting during summer months when daylight hours increase.

**Announcements**

- Sally Belangia announced the 10th Annual Chowder Cook-Off for March 17 from 11 am to 2 pm. She is seeking volunteers to serve on the committee which will have its first meeting at the First Citizens Bank on January 24 at 4 pm.
- Rosalyn Kutchins announced the January 28 Student Arts Festival and encouraged members to pick up invitation cards. The winners will have their art displayed at the Village Gallery in February.
- The Steering Committee will be on January 9 at 10 am at the clubhouse.
- The next general meeting is scheduled for February 6 during which we will continue to get to know members better, and hear about the history of our building by Marlene Miller and conclude with information on rentals and maintenance by Sharon Morgan.
- Linda Parker announced that the Garden Club meets at 9 am the third Tuesday of every month at the clubhouse.

- Lee Duer announced that yoga will resume tomorrow at 8:30 am.

**Announcements (continued)**

- Elaine Wolfinger announced bridge and bridge lessons are every Monday at 1 pm in the clubhouse board room.
- Fay Bond made an announcement regarding caring for the Oriental Cemetery that the club manages.
- Elaine Wolfinger asked members to let her know of any member needing a sympathy or get well card.

There being no further announcements, the meeting adjourned at 2:45 pm.

Read and approved by Jean Chastang, Sally Belangia and Suzanne Jantzen.

Submitted by Ann Stackhouse, Secretary