

Minutes of the Meeting of October 1, 2009

Members present: Nancy Brent, Pam Kinnan, Debby Carey, Louise Ross, Enid Bates, Lynda Barksdale, Moselle Ford, Lynn Lowe, Myrna Raffkind, Eveline Rivers, Janice Joyner, Ron Long, Stephanie Kordas, Elayne Shults, April Sessler.

Nancy Brent announced that a member of the Community Advisory Committee, Tony Salazar passed away. Rosary was Friday, October 2, and funeral mass was Saturday, October 3.

Nancy reviewed the Fall 2009 report. She compared the number of students and the amount of funds that will be awarded from this year to last year. Unfortunately fewer students will be helped this year. Moselle Ford asked where donors should direct their donations, Nancy suggested the Adult Students Assistance Fund. Myrna Raffkind asked how it is determined which students will be awarded each semester. Nancy explained that the process begins with students who renew for the next semester and are in good academic standing.

The 2009-2010 calendar was reviewed. The Community Advisory Committee will be meeting on Thursdays in Library 113 this year instead of the Private Dining Room. The annual book sale will be held Tuesday, March 9, 2010 and Wednesday, March 10, 2010. The Spring Banquet will be on Thursday, April 8, 2010.

Nancy asked each member to share their news. Debby Carey spoke to Panhandle Community Services, and they have received some stimulus money for students. The student must meet income guidelines which will be based on the last 30 days. This is a one-time assistance.

Pam Kinnan discussed DAC, Degrees and Certificates Program, on the east campus. It is a partnership between AC and AISD for high school dropouts to earn a diploma and begin work on a college certificate or degree.

April Sessler talked about Amarillo College's partnership with San Jacinto Elementary School and their No Excuses University which encourages all students to attend college. AC has adopted the entire school.

Eveline Rivers announced that over 4,300 children were fitted with coats last winter, and it is now open this year. Wrapping gifts for the Christmas Project will begin November 9. She also shared that beginning in December, the Sunshine Cottage will be graduating girls every semester for the next two years. A memorial fund has been set up in memory of Wayne Rivers to purchase more property for the Sunshine Cottage. Eveline also asked that if anyone knew of a group that would like to adopt the laundry room at the Sunshine Cottage, please contact her.

Lynda Barksdale shared with the committee that Donna Moore had surgery recently and will be undergoing further treatment in the near future.

Ron Long stated the High Plains Kiwanis Club membership is low, and they are seeking new members. They are involved with many worthy causes through the year.

Elayne Shults announced that Polk Street United Methodist Church, Washington Street Christian Church, and St. Andrews Episcopal Church will be combining their choirs for a performance on October 4th.

Myrna Raffkind announced that the Amarillo Coalition for the Homeless will be hosting their Beans and Cornbread Luncheon on November 2. The speaker will be Liz Murray, who grew up homeless but attended Harvard on a scholarship. She is an inspirational guest speaker.