

January 25, 2005

The meeting was called to order at 4:30. Fifteen members were present and one guest. A correction of the Executive Board minutes was needed.

The Grant-in-Aid form is due to Mary Jo by March 21. It needs to be in early because our Birthday Luncheon is April 8 and we need to invite the Grant-in-Aid recipients.

Lynn presented Marianne Reinhard for membership. She is a SAFE teacher from Livonia. Danielle Jopek from Wayne-Westland is still interested in membership. We will initiate both ladies on April 8 at the Metro Council Luncheon.

The February meeting will be held at Elliott at 4:30. Esther and the Service Projects Committee are using the Wilma Adams Grant money Gamma Alpha received to purchase twenty-four canvas bags and toiletry items for the women residents of the Wayne County Family Center. We will decorate the bags and fill them with magazines and needed toiletry items. We want to keep the bags identical, so if you wish to donate items, make sure you bring 24! Jackie's dentist cousin donated toothbrushes and toothpaste. Light refreshments will be available for \$4.

Jackie passed out invitations to the Metro Council / Gamma Alpha Birthday Luncheon that will be held on April 8, 2006. We will initiate new officers at this time. RSVP to Cindy by March 17. Make checks payable to Gamma Alpha. Cindy will send one check to Metro Council. Grand Celebrations is located between Farmington and Orchard Lake Roads in Farmington at 32305 Grand River Avenue. Please arrive at 11:00. The buffet begins at 11:30. The cost is \$16 per person. Guests are welcome to attend.

The slate of officers presented to the membership was unanimously approved. Jackie Smart President Judi Fisher First Vice President Amy Wainwright Second Vice President Carol Anderson Recording Secretary Jackie Smart Corresponding Sec./Newsletter

Gamma Gamma, the Plymouth-Canton chapter, invited us to a meeting on March 7, 2006 in which Michael P. Flanagan, State Superintendent of Schools will be speaking. If interested in attending email Gamma Gamma president, Liz VanWestenburg, by February 28, 2006. Her email address is: vanwesc@pccs.k12.mi.us

January's guest speaker was Theresa Roy from Oakwood Hospital/Arbor Hospice & Home Care. Theresa presented a program called "My Voice, My Choice." This program explains the workings of advance directive, which is a method for people to communicate their health care choices before a medical emergency occurs. This is not the same as a Living Will. Theresa shared examples about when a loved one is seriously ill, that person's health care choices may not be known among friends and relatives. As a result, family arguments can ensue and the patient's wishes aren't always kept in mind. Some members shared personal experiences about the patient advocate designation. Theresa gave us folders with easy to follow steps to help us complete an advance directive. She also presented information regarding Patient Advocate Designation for healthcare. An attorney is not needed to fill out the forms, there is no cost and it is recognized by courts and hospitals. Theresa explained that people of all ages should sit down and complete an advance directive. Life is precarious at best and you never know when you're going to need to make those decisions. If you missed the meeting and would like an Advance Directive Packet or more information, call Theresa for a free packet to be sent to you at (888) 992-2273 extension 603.

Grace and Jackie are working on the Horses of Hope Project for the State Convention . Finished product is on the website.

Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Smart for Chris Smith, Recording Secretary