

SedonaKind General Meeting Minutes
October 18, 2024 - 10:00 am @ West Sedona Library

Meeting, Chaired by Christine Schneider, called to order at 10:10am, 21 SK members present (current & new)

Welcome - Christine welcomed everyone and our new members, Denise Waldrop, Lori Reinhart, Candace Wilson Bush, Iris Yang & Devon LaHar introduced themselves.

Kindness Stories were shared by Jawn, Lin, Pam, Karen, Joy and Devon.

Board Member Changes – Ellie DeBo was welcomed as our newest Board Member. Jawn & Joy were presented with flowers as it was announced that they will be stepping down from the Board as of December 31st. We thank them so very much for all they have given to the Board and while we will miss their Board participation, we look forward to working with them on future committees and projects.

Hula Event – Julie Lilly shared that the 19th Annual Hula Ho'ike, is being held Saturday, November 9th from 1-3pm at the Phillip England Center at the Camp Verde School, 280 Camp Lincoln Rd. Presale tickets are \$13.00 which you can get from Julie by contacting her at 214-455-1198. At the door they will be \$20.00. Proceeds will go to a charity organization in Hawaii.

Committee Reports

Kindness in Schools (KIS) – We will be going back into the schools to read four (4) times this year and are very excited about it. In October, at West Sedona School (WSS) we will be reading, Fiona Flamingo, The Kindness Quilt & Kindness is Cooler Mrs. Ruler. We will be supplying acorn shapes for the WSS and Oak Creek Schools (OCS) Gratitude Trees this year.

SK will be attending the November 100+ Women's meeting to report on how the money they granted us was spent. A picture of one of the teachers with their cart full of supplies for their classroom was displayed. A very big thank you note that the teachers and students of WSS made and signed was passed around – it was amazing.

Charming – Charming has been working very diligently to make enough charms for the Season of Kindness uptown distribution which will be held on November 11th beginning at 11:30am at the Agave Restaurant. A picture of last year's distribution group was shown as well as pictures of 3 new members of this committee displaying their newest charms.

Knitting/Crochet – The knitters and crocheters have worked very hard to create 726 one of a kind hats (with more to come) for the children at OCS and WSS. We so appreciate all their efforts and applaud their creativity! If anyone needs yarn or needles, please contact Katie Hamilton who will “hook” you up.

Pet Blessing Bags – Linda Brecher did an amazing job collecting tables full of supplies which were distributed at the Food Bank on October 9th. Everyone that was able to pick items up for their pets was so appreciative. Pictures of the event were displayed and as Linda didn’t need to use any of the budget that had been allotted to this event, we are looking into using it during the upcoming spay/neuter event the Humane Society is having to help those that otherwise might not be able to afford it.

Dress-A-Girl (DAG)– Lin gave us a report on the successful year they have had, including 1,044 dresses distributed! Deborah Anderson went to the DAG convention in Iowa and her dress won 2nd place in the creativity category. A picture of the dress, with a turtle theme was displayed. Carol Palmer & John Martinez travelled from Sedona to Tanzania with stops at Village of Maasai, the Village of Iraqw and a local school in the Village of Karatu with 93 dresses. A picture of the classroom full of children with their new dresses was displayed. DAG is looking for help with managing the financial side of things and organizing the sewing days they have monthly as well as anyone who might be travelling abroad that could take some dresses with them.

Verde Valley Caregivers (VVGC) Luncheon – We are sponsoring the VVCG luncheon again this year, on December 6th at the West Sedona Library. We are anticipating that there will be 30 “neighbors” and 15 helpers attending. Those that signed up for the committee will meet after the General Meeting to go over the details.

Heartfelt Connections – There were two requests made over the summer for cards to be sent. Christine went over how to submit a request and reminded everyone that the request can be for celebratory things as well as get wells, condolences, etc.

Season of Kindness – Jawn described all of the events that will be happening during the Season of Kindness including the receipt of the Proclamation of Sedona’s Kindness Day at the City Council Meeting, the distribution of the Gratitude Trees to West Sedona Library (main lobby & children’s area), VOC Library, Adult Community Center, Yavapai College Sedona Campus lobby, Sedona Winds, Alma de Sedona, the Charming distribution, the delivery of the hats to WSS & OCS, Veteran Blessing Bags and our movie fundraiser.

Sensational Movie Shorts Fundraiser – Joy announced the shorts that will be shown at this year’s movie fundraiser along with a short synopsis of each: Critique, Forgotten Place, Fundamental Shapes, Tikkun Olam, These Final Hours, Pee Pee Monster, Space Race, Ballad of Tita & The Machine, Gum and Andy.

Movie Short Sneak Peek – Andy – we watched, and thoroughly enjoyed, a viewing of Andy!

New SK Format – Over the last few years we have tried various meeting formats in order to improve attendance: programs, speakers, general discussions. We recognize that, for some, life happens and it isn’t always possible to get to a meeting. What became clear was we were not meeting our members’ needs and had to do something different.

Last spring the current board and former board members met to discuss what the future of SedonaKind would look like...and we reimagined SedonaKind. Instead of a general meeting every month, we are going to have two general meetings (October & April) and two Kindness in Action Days (November & February). Last February’s Project Work Day (now titled Kindness in Action Days) was very successful and well attended and allowed us to complete many projects that would have otherwise fallen upon a few. Therefore, as a whole group, we will come together 4 times a year instead of 8.

Our ongoing Committees will still meet as usual – the Charmers will charm, the Knitters will knit (or crochet) and KIS will still go into the schools. Our other hallmark projects will also continue, like the Vet Breakfast, Vet & Pet Blessing Bags, Gratitude Trees, Season of Kindness activities, etc.

We are going to try this format for a year and will get your feedback at that time.

SedonaKind Kindness In Action Day - We discussed the upcoming November 16th Kindness In Action Day which will be held at the West Sedona Library in the Community Room from 10am to 1pm. We will be working on various projects including, Garden Wands, Teacher Holiday Gifts (decorating wooden silver hearts), hat distribution for the schools, a gift for Meals on Wheels recipients, Boxes of Love and beaded hooks for the Gratitude Trees. Everyone is welcome to come help with any or all of these projects – no skills are required, there will be something for everyone...and you’re welcome to bring friends. We are looking forward to this being a productive and social event.

Summer Reading Review – There was a brief discussion, but as quite a few of the attendees had not received the reading list, we will be including it in the upcoming newsletter and will perhaps take up the discussion at a future meeting.

Kindness Quote – “Today I bent the truth to be kind and I have no regret. For I am far surer of what is kind than I am of what is true.” Robert Brault (American operatic tenor)

Adjourned at 11:50 am

Minutes respectfully submitted by Christine Schneider