

Hanscom Park WIMPS Minutes  
August 15, 2019  
Submitted by Diana Styles, Secretary

**Present:** Jan Heikes, Louanne Gruidel, Brenda Ellefson, Cindy Gasper, Cathy Taff, Julie Zachmeyer, Susan Tarsikes, Marcia Jensen, Lorraine Henry, and Diana Styles

**Meeting:**

**Adrienne & Quincy talked about their trip to China**

- Kate had volleyball practice but her mom and sister gave her side of things from the trip.
- Kate was adopted in 2006 when she was 7½ months old. She is 13 now.
- The trip was sponsored by the adoption agency. It was called Bridge of Love – Heritage Tour. These tours started in 2011.
- It was a Tour Bus Trip with 10 families on the bus (about 40 people) and there were 4 buses.
- Kate's trip was paid for by the Chinese government
- The trip was 10 days long.
- They visited the orphanage where Kate lived and met the nannies that took care of her.
- Kate said it felt like a tour, not like going home. She said it was fun meeting the girls in similar situations as herself. They still text and chat with each other.
- They were all girls because it was not common for boys to be put up for adoption, especially in rural areas. The law at the time said you could only have one child. Boys that were adopted would be ones with disabilities (medical needs, cleft palate, etc.). They have changed the one child policy now, thus adoptions from China are less common.
- They went on Propaganda type events. Pictures were taken of the girls for the newspaper. Many cultural activities, Jade manufacturing, Terra Cotta Warrior Memorial, Hug a Panda, Hot Pot meal, traditional Chinese ear cleaning, tea ceremony, henna art on skin, Great Wall, and Tian'anmen Square.
- Records were not kept for the girls, so it is hard to say where their birth families are. Children were left on doorsteps, etc. Since it was not legal to have a 2<sup>nd</sup> child, they might have been paid to give up a child, or a safe sanctuary type program. Kate's family had her tested by 23 and Me. It might lead to locating some of her family eventually. 23 and Me can also help with medical genetics.
- Question: Was Kate glad about the trip? It was hard physically and emotionally. She still has unanswered questions.
- Most people they encountered spoke at least some English. They were treated well as tourists. They always felt safe, even at night. It is a heavily controlled state.
- School: 9 hours a day in Elementary School. High School is 18 hours a day, they eat all 3 meals at school.
- There is a lot of traffic all the time. They go by license plate numbers to control the number of cars on the streets of the city. One day a week you cannot drive into the city or get a heavy fine. You'll need to take public transit on that day. Example: If your plate ends in a 1, you cannot drive on Monday.
- There were also a lot of crowds.

It was a very interesting talk and enjoyed by all.

**Treasurer's Report**

- \$101 is in the house.
- Only 2-3 left to pledge for 2019. Ask Jan if you are not sure if you have pledged or not.

**Paint-a-thon**

August 10 & 17. We provided lunch on the 10<sup>th</sup> and will again this Saturday, the 17<sup>th</sup>.

## **Project Harmony**

We talked about making blankets for Project Harmony this winter. It has been awhile since we did that. Fleece is on sale right now, so Jan will pick some up. Due to this expected expense, some people donated funds for the house.

## **UMCOR**

Now would be a good time to buy supplies for the UMCOR school kits while prices are low. Below is a list of supplies needed.

### **School Kit Materials**

- • **One pair blunt scissors**
  - Round tips only
  - No plastic scissors
- • **One box of 24 crayons**
  - Only 24-count boxes are accepted
- • **Three one-subject notebooks**
  - No marble composition books
  - No 3 or 5-subject notebooks
- • **One pack of loose-leaf paper**
  - 100-200 page packets are acceptable
  - Wide or college rule accepted
- • **One hand-held pencil sharpener**
  - 1-inch or longer
  - Remove from packaging
- • **One ruler**
  - 12 inches or 30 centimeters long
  - Sturdy or flexible material accepted
- • **Six unsharpened pencils**
- • **One eraser**
  - Two inches or larger
- • **One two-gallon re-sealable plastic bag**

### **Craft Show & Garage Sale**

-September 21.

-Please put an ad on your respective "Next Door" web pages for your neighborhoods.

-17 Crafters so far.

-People can start bringing in their items for the garage sale.

-6 gift baskets are done.

-The theme for the WIMPs basket will be Italian Dinner. Bring items to Louanne by Labor Day.

Napkins/holders/tablecloth – Jan

Gift card – Marcia

Wine glasses – Cindy

Sauce/strainer – Cathy

Pasta – Julie

2 candles w/holders – Brenda

Pasta spoon/corkscrew – Diana

Italian dressing – Lorraine

Salad bowl -- \_\_\_\_\_

Tongs for salad -- \_\_\_\_\_

Wine – Sandy?

Parmesan cheese & spices – Susan

Kitchen towel/mitts -- \_\_\_\_\_

-We talked about a "Tool" basket. It was decided to keep that in mind, especially during Christmas sales for a possible basket in the Spring.

### **Future Meetings/Activities**

Oct. 17 – Clean out the pantry and wipe down the kitchen

Jan. 16 – Adrienne will talk about Women's Health

Feb. 20 – Make fleece blankets for Project Harmony

Food Pantry – A push for the food pantry at Together from August 4<sup>th</sup> to Labor Day.

October – Annual coat drive

??? – Sugar Eggs Lady – Lorraine will arrange

### **Calendar of Events:**

**August 4<sup>th</sup> thru Labor Day** – Food pantry donations for Together Inc.

**September 15** (Sunday) – Move items for Garage Sale upstairs.

**September 16-20** – Setup/stage items for garage sale

**September 20** (Friday) – 5:00ish. Help with final set up for craft show/garage sale

**September 21** (Saturday) – 9:00-3:00. Help with craft show/garage sale

**October 17** (Thursday) – 6:30 at church. Diana and Julie host. Agenda: clean out the pantry and wipe down the kitchen.

**November 21** (Thursday) – 6:30 at church. Kathleen & ([we need a volunteer here](#)) will host. Stockings for shut-ins.

**December ?** Christmas Party at Cathy Taff's

**January 16** (Thursday) – Adrienne will talk about Women's health

**February 20** (Thursday) – Make fleece blankets for Project Harmony. Cut out the blankets on a prior date.