

**ALTRUSA OF COLUMBUS BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 6, 2011**

Altrusa of Columbus, Inc., held a Board meeting on January 6, 2011 at 5:30 pm at Lai Lai Restaurant, Reynoldsburg, Ohio. Our special guest was Mrs. Kathy Carmack, Governor of Altrusa District Five. Board members present were: Marilyn King, Linda Nusbaum, Chris Reimer, Claudia Speakman, and Cari Wolfe. Also present were Club members Joan Arnold and Lois Borin.

President Marilyn King opened the meeting with a welcome to Kathy Carmack. Minutes from the last Board meeting were not available to discuss. Treasurer's report not discussed as Judy Montjoy unable to attend. Judy had given Marilyn a statement of the balance of the Altrusa club accounts.

Marilyn acknowledged the resignation of Gail Page from the Club Board. Gail resigned due to demands on her by her business. Marilyn will ask club members if anyone would like to fill the remainder of Gail's two-year term.

Lois Borin discussed the Club and Foundation's use of a credit card terminal provided under contract with Fifth Third Bank. Linda Nusbaum believes the contract is for 4 years. Lease of credit card terminal is for use by members and others at special events (Style Show), meetings, dues, on-line donations, etc. Costs include \$150 to set up; payment of taxes for 3 years up-front, and a \$30 a month charge. Linda asked why Altrusa was not exempt from the tax cost as the Foundation is a tax-exempt organization.

Kathy Carmack suggested the possibility of purchasing instead of leasing a credit card terminal. This would require further research. Kathy also said she would inquire as to whether Dayton club would want to use the credit card unit at the District conference.

Lois said all club members need to promote the use of credit/debit cards for club costs/dues. The committee informing the lease of credit card unit had recommended that the cost of unit be shared between the Foundation and the Club. What would be a fair amount? Linda suggested, and Board agreed, that a review needs to be done at end of club year as to the use of the unit and any charge-back from the Foundation to the Club.

Marilyn said club committees would need to anticipate the cost of the credit card unit in planning their budget. Lois urged that the committee chairs, Board, and all promote the use of the credit card unit so that it will be beneficial to the Club and Foundation.

Lois reported that a \$5000 grant was sent to the Women's Fund of Central Ohio (WFCO) before Christmas. WFCO will use the grant to fund child care in three programs that have been funded by WFCO. These are: CMAA Refugee Services which helps Somali women; Rwandan Women in Action to certify refugee women to become child-care providers; and the OSU ACCESS Collaborative Program for college and high school mothers' partnerships.

On January 27, 2011, the three grantees and WFCO will meet to discuss additional needs; their "wish list." The Women's Fund will share this information with Altrusa so that a discussion may be had as to whether we want to choose a grantee to work with directly next year on a literacy-based service project. This information will let us identify and form a relationship with a grantee and use the Women's Fund as a resource. This may give us a chance for hands-on service if the Club chooses to do so.

Lois provided information on the Spring fundraiser on April 9, 2011 – the program by Ladies of Longford at the McConnell Art Center in Worthington. The Fundraising Committee will meet on January 18 to discuss the event, price of tickets, etc.

Marilyn asked what the Board could do as to the April 9 event. Lois said a number of club committees need to be encouraged to attend the January 18 meeting. Fundraising Chair Candace Knight will need help in coordination of the event.

Joan Arnold, Co-chair of Service Committee, presented a recommendation that the Columbus Club sponsor an ASTRA Award for an ASTRA Club in District 5, starting with April Conference. This would be the first award sponsored by the Columbus Club. The 7 ASTRA Clubs in District 5 would be asked to submit an application for the \$50 award for a "best project." Our club would review the applications; make a decision; and provide the \$50 – perhaps from Happy Dollars. Claudia mentioned that Club members would need to vote on the use of Happy Dollars for the award. Kathy Carmack suggested we might use "outside" reviewers if the Columbus ASTRA Club sought the award.

Cari Wolfe moved the recommendation/motion made by Joan as to the ASTRA Award. It was seconded by Chris Reimer. Motion passed unanimously.

Marilyn asked about process for a 2011 nominating committee for Club Officers. Response was that the committee is named by the Club, possibly by volunteers to serve.

Kathy Carmack gave a summary of the items she will present to the Club members. There will be updates as to activity by Altrusa International. On January 22, 2011, there will be a conference call among District Governors and International Officers as to the Executive Director search and other matters. There will be a "branding" workshop at the District Conference in April. The rollout of new marketing materials will be in July at International Convention. The materials we received last year were "temporary."

Kathy encouraged our Club to make applications for awards at District level. She also said the Hamilton Club has been helping the Cincinnati Club (3 members) with ideas for new members. The call to the District Conference will be in her February DSB.

Marilyn adjourned the meeting at 6:25 p.m.

Submitted by Claudia Speakman, Secretary, as revised 1-20-11