March Business Meeting

- Minutes & Financial Reports
- Committee Reports
- Program speakers: Kait Gallager, Development Director, Concord Coalition Against Homelessness & Teri Gladstone, Administrator

Upcoming Committee Meeting Dates:

Service
Tues., March 15 @ 8:15 pm via Zoom

Ways $ Means
Thurs., March 10 @ 6:00 pm via Zoom

CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY

International Women’s Day is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity. Significant activity is witnessed worldwide as groups come together to celebrate women’s achievements or rally for women’s equality.

Marked annually on March 8th, International Women’s Day is one of the most important days of the year to:

- celebrate women’s achievements
- raise awareness about women’s equality
- lobby for accelerated gender parity
- Fundraise for female-focused charities

The campaign theme for 2022 is #BreakTheBias. Whether deliberate or unconscious, bias makes it difficult for women to move ahead. Knowing that bias exists isn’t enough. Action is needed to level the playing field.

Purple, green and white are the colors of International Women’s Day. Purple signifies justice and dignity. Green symbolizes hope. White represents purity, albeit a controversial concept. The colors originated from the Women’s Social and Political Union (WSPU) in the UK in 1908.

From: Internationalwomensday.com

YOU CAN STILL ADVOCATE!

If you didn’t get a chance to voice your support over the many Zonta Fast Action Fridays provided by the Zonta USA Caucus, you can still go onto the www.zonta.org website, log in, click on the “Get Involved” tab at the top, and then click on the “USA Advocacy Action Center”. Review the various topics that are outlined there and click on the one(s) that you would like to support. “Take your action” on the right-hand side of each described bill. Submit your support. It’s so easy!
**THE 2022 ZONTA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION IN HAMBURG, GERMANY**
**JUNE 24 - JUNE 28, 2022**
You will be able to register as a “virtual attendee” for this international convention. The cost is $189 until May 15 and then the fee goes up to $210 from May 16 until the event. Check the Zonta International website www.zonta.org/convention to register.

**SAVE YOUR SMALL TOILETRIES WHEN TRAVELING THIS SPRING & SUMMER!**
The *Hearts for Kindness* purse program and the new *Brigid’s House of Hope in Manchester* (a long term, transitional safe house for survivors of human trafficking in NH and surrounding areas) are looking for these types of items. Bring any items you might like to donate to one of our Business Meeting and give to Susan L. or Laura.

The Zonta Colorado Foothills Club was sent $360 to their foundation earmarked for the Marshall Fire Relief Fund.

This money was from personal donations by members of the Zonta Club of Concord. Thank you to Sue M, Susan L, Lorrie, Janice, Donna & Sharon.

We are hoping this money helps in some small way those affected by this horrific event.

**REGISTRATION**
Registration is free! Log on to https://ngocsw.configio.com/
The NGO CSW Forum is the civil society side of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). The Forum runs parallel to the official CSW session taking place at the UN Headquarters. This provides civil society the opportunity to engage in the processes and CSW sessions.

Over the two weeks of the UN CSW, NGO CSW/NY organizes hundreds of events that inform, engage and inspire grassroots efforts and advocacy needed to empower women and girls.

Register to attend the NGO CSW66 Virtual Forum to have access to the virtual platform before the start of the Forum on March 13, 2022. Use the platform as an advocacy tool by seeing who else is registered to the platform and networking with them.

This is the link to the schedule of virtual side events: https://teamup.com/ksjgjdxx23dqs947md (control & click on it)

**“Empower girls and everything changes”**
- Jane Fonda
A huge “thank you” to Lorraine Bartlett for coordinating the YWPA application process this year! Your efforts to reach out and then follow-up with the many school guidance counselors, principals, and home-school reps was so detailed and impressive. You are certainly an asset to our club! Thank you, too, to the application review committee: Lorraine, Carolyn, Donna, & Susan D for your time commitment to this service project!

Lorraine will announce the decision of the review committee at our March Business Meeting.

The Zonta Club of Concord’s Service Committee Needs Your Thoughts & Suggestions on our Period Poverty Project!

The Period Poverty Project has been gaining momentum and the Service Committee is looking ahead to how we will shape this project next year. We have the supplies to make two more deliveries this program year. We will now turn our focus to: Making this project sustainable and expanding our support to more women and girls!

For sustainability, we want to partner with more organizations with like-minded goals. To this end, we are asking members to identify and open the conversation with like-minded groups. If you know anyone affiliated with a service-minded organization of any size, please ask them if they would like to talk with us about how they can be part of this support system. We in the Service Committee would love to have a brief Zoom meeting with anyone who would like to explore how they might become involved - but we need your introduction for this to happen. Support could be anything - even including the project in their newsletters, having a brief drive, whatever they can think of. The period project will be longer lasting and stronger if it is not limited to our membership and wallets. If we are able to build partnerships that support this project, then we can (cautiously) expand and be confident of the project’s longevity.

We hope to reach more women and girls next year. At this time, we are looking into supporting the homeless shelter in Manchester run by Families in Transition, and Brigid’s House of Hope, the new shelter for trafficking survivors. So...

• What are your thoughts for reaching women and girls in smaller, low-income towns?
• Do you know of a group in Pittsfield that serves women and girls?
• Do you have a suggestion for the Committee to consider about other towns?
• One member of the Committee is reaching out to the Business and Professional Women group in Franklin to see where supplies might be needed there.

Expansion will go hand in hand with sustainability, so that we do not surpass what we can support.

Please email or call me with your ideas. Thank you for your participation in this much needed community service project to empower women and girls.  

Article submitted by: Susan Lombard, Service Chair