



SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE CHAPTER
**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN
IN COMMUNITY COLLEGES**

Meeting: October 8, 2015 (Monthly Meeting)
Time: 11:45AM
Location: Pecan Campus, Building H, Room 216

In attendance: Monica Alaniz-McGinnis, Maria J. Sustaita, Monica M. Perez, Alejandra Arredondo, Edna Leal, Alicia Gomez, Marcy Gonzalez, Elizabeth Dietz, Irma Sierra, Cynthia Blanco, Irasema Avila, Mayra Avila, Norma Jimenez, Rosemond Moore, Irene Zavala, Marissa Salinas, Elena King, Diana Lamas, Claudia Mercado, Ana Pena, Marcela Gonzalez, Sara Gomez, and Sussy Palomo.

Official meeting called to order at 11:51 a.m.

Welcome and Overview

Alicia welcomed all new members and thanked everyone for attending. Alicia asked all new and existing members to introduce themselves by providing their name and job title.

Alicia gave an overview of the events, fundraisers, and drives that the organization participated in the previous year. Informed the group of the goals and mission of the organization and how this ties into the local chapter. "The Past the Present and the Future" video from the AAWCC organization was shown to the members, so that they could have a better understanding of the significance of the organization.

Professional Development

Alicia informed the members that we are planning to have a guest speaker during the College-wide Professional Development Day, scheduled for Friday, February 12, 2016 and had thought about inviting our regional director to speak. Elizabeth Dietz suggested to speak to Lee Grimes, Associate Dean of the Office of Professional & Organizational Development, to see if she could assist in covering the speaker costs/fees, and also consider Lee Grimes as a speaker, so that we, as members, could partake in the Strength Finders training/activity.

Monica Alaniz-McGinnis explained to the group Mrs. Elizondo's suggestion to offer an Etiquette class to the local chapter. We begin with group and eventually venture out to the community and/or college and fundraise during this process.

AAWCC Items

Alicia mentioned that an order of new pins and scarves will need to be placed (seven of the new members who attended the meeting don't have a scarf). The group agreed that during PD Day, members should wear their purple scarves and pins, so that we can attract more members.

Alicia informed the members that they have the option to order t-shirts/ polos (recommended), so that this can be worn during events and fundraisers. These are approximately \$22.00 per shirt. The group agreed to purchase their individual shirts on-line, the link is provided below:
<http://prstoresouthloop.com/dev/aawcc/>

Monica Perez informed the members of the sash that can be worn during Graduation. She will follow-up with Tony at The PR Store Chicago to inquire about sashes, so that they can be used during Graduation this December. She will send an e-mail to the members inquiring on number to order.

Membership

Alicia informed the members that our goal is to have 50 members for the year. She encouraged all members to spread the word to all faculty, staff, and students. Monica Perez mentioned that male faculty, staff, and students are highly encouraged to become members in our local chapter.

Alicia informed the members that the student rate is \$20 and the employee/spouse rate is \$30 per year.

Funds

Norma Jimenez informed the members that as of today, the total amount of membership dues is \$730. However, Alicia indicated that some of those will need to go towards the chapter dues, which is \$10 per members. This fee is due at the end of June, but in the meantime, we will need to fundraise and recruit more faculty, staff, and students as much as possible.

Meetings

Alicia informed the members of the reasoning behind the meetings being held on the 2nd Thursday of each month, since this is what was done in the previous year. She informed members that the next meeting will take place after 5pm; this is to see if more members are able to participate after working hours versus during the lunch hour. The group agreed to look into using Technology to connect the Mid Valley, Technology and Rio Grande Campuses in order to have more attendance. Pecan F102 was suggested as the meeting room for next time since it has the video conferencing technology equipment.

Activities and Community Service

Alicia informed the members of previous activities that generated funds, which were Holiday Bazaar and Valentine's Day Bazaar. She explained, the Board of executives met previously and agreed that those two activities raised plenty of funds and agreed to continue organized those unless the rest of the group had a better idea. She explained STC policy and procedure of having 2 activities per year, and explained that in order to participate items can be crafted, time can be donated, and monetary donations from members are accepted (reasons for No perishable items for sale in STC campuses were explained). In addition, she discussed Community Service activities such as the school/clothing drives and outreach (McAllen ISD Parents Involvement, Women in Technology Event, Dress for Success) activities that involve the local community and only require AAWCC members to contribute time/participation.

Monica Alaniz-McGinnis suggested assisting the Kinesiology Department during the annual Turkey Trot held at the STC Pecan Campus. She also suggested that with the help of Faculty, we could hold Mock Interviews for students. This would help better prepare them for job interviews and write resumes and cover letter.

Mary Jane Sustaita suggested working with HEB to help serve and/or deliver Thanksgiving Dinners around the RGV. In addition, we can help sort cans at the local RGV Food Bank.

To generate more funds, Sara Gomez suggested BINGO (prizes/entry fees) and Alejandra Arredondo suggested a 5k run/walk (fundraiser/identify cause). The group agreed that if we were to have a BINGO we would need to hold this off campus, since this could potentially be considered as gambling and/or a raffle, since the winner(s) would win a prize. A 5k run/walk hold the College liable should a participant get injured; this may involve some type of insurance/limited liability that we would need to obtain prior to the event taking place. Alicia suggested to consult Mrs. Elizondo as she is more familiar with all STC rules and policies.

Meeting adjourned at 12:51 p.m. Next meeting to be held on Thursday, November 12th at 5:30 p.m. Location To Be Determined.