



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

Meeting: January 14, 2016 (Monthly Meeting)
Time: 5:30PM
Location: Pecan Campus, Building F, Room 102

In attendance: Alejandra Arredondo, Alicia Gomez, Claudia Mercado, Diana Llamas, Estela Cantu, Irene Zavala, Irma Sierra, Lee H. Etheridge, Marcela Gonzalez, Merari Vasquez, Monica Jean Alaniz- McGinnis, Katarina Bugariu, Lisa Walters, Kelli Davis, Cindy Sanchez, Marjorie Yates.

Online attendance: Maria J. Sustaita and Marissa Salinas

Official meeting called to order at 5:41pm.

Welcome and Overview

Alicia welcomed all members and thanked everyone in attendance and online for attending.

Professional Development

Strengths Finder

Alicia informed the members that the Strengths Finder Professional Development was successful and very helpful to those who participated. Lee Grimes agreed that this definitely helped the member, since we need a collection of each other strengths and build from there. Lee asked for those members who took the test, to please email her the 5 strengths/insights, so that we have a more official document of everyone's strengths. Alicia is requesting to focus more on the group and wanted to know if we can tailor more trainings towards the group. Lee stated that there are various leadership series available for styles and skills that the group can look into.

Funds

Norma informed the members that the chapter had a good turnout for the Holiday Bazaar and made \$375.75 in profits; the overall total in the chapter's account is now \$2,280.99.

AAWCC Items

Alicia received a lavender polo shirt, size Large, from PRStoreChicago with the AAWCC logo. This was passed around, so members could see what type of shirt we would be ordering. She did indicate that the shirt ran a size smaller, which were probably a Ladies Large. Monica Alaniz-McGinnis indicated that we should probably order the Men's shirts instead or at least have the 2 options available. The members agreed that a darker purple may work better, so that the logo can stand out. Monica Perez suggested that we use the AAWCC-STC Chapter logo that was created, to place on the shirts. Some members indicated on splitting up logos and having the STC logo on the sleeve and the AAWCC on the left side of the shirt. Monica Perez will work with the vendor to get an order form created for the shirt and will request different proofs of polos with the logo on various locations of the shirt.

Alicia indicated that scarves will be ordered. She showed the members the new scarves found online and showed the color variation between the existing and new one. These will be ordered in bulk (150), so that we can be ready when we begin recruiting. All members will receive a new scarf, so the color is consistent. Pins will also be given for those who have not received them.

Fundraising Activities and Community Service

Parent-to-College Event

The Parent-to-College event took place on December 16th at the Cooper Center beginning at 8:00am. McAllen ISD reached out to STC, so that we could work closely in bringing in parents (primarily female, total of 60) to STC and showcase the various opportunities that are available. These sessions were held in Spanish. Alicia Gomez, Lori Treviño, Lee Grimes, Marissa Salinas, and Marjorie Yates helped out with this event. Lori gave presentations to the group of parents in attendance. Marissa and Marjorie spoke about their experiences. The group was very excited and engaged.

Valentine's Day Bazaar

Alicia informed the group that we will be hosting a Valentine's Day Bazaar on Thursday, February 11th, which is the day before CWPD. The previous bazaars were located inside Pecan, Building H, 1st floor, Atrium. However, this bazaar will be setup outside in the courtyard across from Building H. Hopefully, this will give us more exposure, not only to sell items, but to also gain new members (faculty, staff, and students). Monica Perez indicated that we will be replicating the same process used for the Holiday Bazaar: members can bring their already made items or can bring the supplies, so that the members can help in creating the item(s). Monica stressed to the members that those who would like to be cash handlers must receive Cash Handling Training prior to the fundraising event. She will be sending out an email to all members requesting volunteers to help sell items and setup. She will also be requesting a member to be the point-of-contact, so that members can drop off items that they would like to sell prior to the bazaar. Estela Cantu suggested that we need to create a flyer, not only about the bazaar, but about the organization, since many students inquire during the bazaar. She suggested that we have these ready by the time the Valentine's Day Bazaar begins, so that we can pass these out.

Pancake Breakfast

Alicia informed the members of a potential fundraiser, which was hosting an all-you-can-eat Pancake Breakfast at Apple Bee's, which consists of 2 pancakes, 2 slices of bacon, coffee/juice/water/milk. Second servings are available, but guests will only be served pancakes. This will be held on a Saturday or Sunday from 8am to 10am and is only for dining-in. The restaurant will be closed at all outside during these 2 hours and only those with tickets are allowed to eat. The chapter needs at least 12 members to participate in the fundraiser and the members would be serving, hosting, and seating guests. We cannot have more than 300 people in attendance during the 2 hours. Tickets are priced at \$7.00 and the chapter keeps \$4.00; this is guaranteed that we will make a profit of at least \$1,200 on the basis that we sell all 300 tickets. Each member would more or less sell around 7 tickets. Dates that are being considered are: Saturday, March 5th; Tuesday, March 8th (International Women's Day); and Saturday, April 30th. If the members agree to this fundraising event, it is mandatory that we receive training prior to the event, which begins at 7:30am on the day of. Our chapter must give at least a 30 day notice and provide 2 alternate dates. Alicia will begin the application process and will update the members on the status once received.

Membership

Irma informed the group that we currently have 40 paid members and 2 members are pending payment. The goal for our chapter is to have 50 for the year. We need to spread the word and encourage others to join. Alicia suggested that we need to have a table set up at College-wide Professional Development Day to advertise and gain more members.

Webpage

Alicia informed the members that Alex Kolahdouz has been assisting the chapter in creating a webpage that features the registration form, calendar of events, and community service events/opportunities. Thus far, the registration page works and Alicia gave a run-through of the process after the form has been submitted online. Alicia indicated that she has received approval from VP Elizondo to automate the payment soon through MarketPlace. The webpage address is <http://aawcc.southtexascollege.edu/>.

Presentation

Food Educator

Lebby Salinas, Fooducator, provided professional development for the members at no charge. Mrs. Salinas is a professional Food Educator who presents on reflections from her troubles with health issues from past to present and educates people of healthy habits. She also has a connection with a Life Coach who may be able to provide another session free of charge. Alejandra and Alicia will follow up with these individuals. The presentation can be found online at: <http://aawcc.southtexascollege.edu/>.

Meeting adjourned at 7:16 pm.