

SEDONAKIND MINUTES

January 17, 2020

ATTENDEES: Sandy Brandvold, Joy Sinnott, Laurie Dawe, Jawn McKinley, Gail Moore, Janet Marshall, Mary Ellen Hadley, Marcia Conley, Mary Feeney, Pam Hollenbach, Christine Schneider, Ruthie Parsons, Ruti Lovitt, Connie Levinson, Heather Molans, Lou Ann Scott, Teresa Ray, Linda Brecher, Cheri Baldwin, Lin Ennis, Lucy Paradise, Felicia Filep, Bonnie Bussar, Melissa Brammer, Lou Ann Bruck

GUESTS: Thomas Bruck, Marlyn Savage, Lisa Price

The meeting was called to order by Sandy Brandvold. She asked our guests to introduce themselves and tell us how they learned about SedonaKind. She then asked for kindness stories, and several touching ones were told.

January is our annual planning meeting. Jawn gave a brief synopsis of how SedonaKind evolved from Charming, which began in April, 2011 and is still going strong. The first meeting of SedonaKind was in November, 2015. At that meeting the name "SedonaKind" and our Mission Statement were passed. Progress was made on a logo, and numerous ideas for projects were presented. The group knew they wanted to be involved in schools, and the Kindness in Schools Committee was soon formed.

Pam gave the KIS Committee report. 800 Hats were distributed to students and teachers (along with scarves made by Mary Ellen) at West Sedona, Oak Creek and Sedona Charter Schools. Some of the knitters joined KIS members in handing out the hats. Both the students and the knitters enjoyed meeting each other. She passed around thank you notes from Charter School students, and showed a thank you card (made by Christine) that she will take back to the students from SedonaKind.

KIS members are reading regularly at West Sedona School and Oak Creek School. Christine makes small craft items for the Puppet Team to give out to the students.

Special projects for the KIS Committee include a school supply drive at the beginning of the school year and a mini drive to restock in February, hand-knitted hats for all students and teachers, and a teacher appreciation holiday lunch. They are working on end-of-the-year projects. Sub committees will be established for special projects.

Sandy commented on the difference the KIS Committee makes in our communities.

Cheri updated us on the great success of the 10 Gratitude Trees that were located throughout the community. There are 300 hearts to repaint. Thank you to Connie for storing all of the trees and supplies.

Cheri also informed us that the SedonaKind Gingerbread House won second place and an award for "Best Bling".

Sandy learned that one of the kindness benches needed repair. She requested that those of us who made benches periodically wipe them off and check to see if they need repair. If so, contact Cheri.

Gail let us know there will be changes in the website, and she is open to suggestions. She will send out an email when it is updated. She said the best way for us to get the word out about SedonaKind is by social media, such as sharing on our Facebook and Instagram pages. The top view last month was Janet's kindness story.

Jawn, Pam and Gail took a \$4,000 check (proceeds from the SIFF-donated movie showing) to Sedona Oak Creek Education Foundation Enhancement Fund for field trips, speakers, etc.

Jawn asked anyone who would be interested in speaking to groups such as PEO about SedonaKind and the "science of kindness" to get in touch with her. Two more PEO chapters have asked for talks in February and March. The previous two PEO groups visited have responded with support to SedonaKind.

Sandy commended the fabulous knitters. The first year they donated 300 hats to American Heritage Schools. Every year they donate more and more. When she told them SedonaKind wants to give them a thank-you party, one of the knitters, Karen Dansby, insisted upon hosting the party. More to come on that.

NOTE: SedonaKind meetings will be held at the Sedona Public Library Conference Room beginning in February!

After the business meeting was complete, we began our planning for 2020.

COMPLETED PROJECTS 2019

School Supply Cabinets: Pam and KIS. Continue.

Operation School Bell: Cheri, Joy, Gloria — School clothes for homeless and foster students. Continue.

Capturing Kids Hearts: Jawn — National program to raise awareness of kindness and communication. Students create a "Social Contract" and review it weekly with teachers. Very successful.

Boxes of Love: Joy/Cheri/Christine — New model with same message. Decided not to continue last year, but many love to make them, and they sell. Continue.

Kindness Garden Stones: Lucy/Lenore — Very successful fund raiser. 102 were made providing approximately \$7,000 in revenue. Lucy and Lenore donated incredible hours and supplies.

Furloughed Forest Service Employees Relief: Connie

Gingerbread House: Jawn/Cheri/Joy — Heritage Museum

Paws 4 Kindness: Felicia/Linda

ON GOING PROJECTS

We reviewed our on-going projects:

Charming. Continue.

Knitting Hats and Scarves: Amazing Knitters. Continue.

KIS (Kindness in Schools): Pam. Continue.

Veterans “Coffee with the Vets” at the Library: Laurie. On schedule November, 2020

Veterans Blessing Bags: Heather. Continue.

Season of Kindness (formerly Kindness Week) Gratitude Trees: Cheri. Continue.

Season of Kindness Movie: Joy/Jawn. Continue.

Operation Special Delivery. Continue.

Kindness Cards. Continue.

Homebound Food Participation: Cheri. Continue.

Speaking (Outreach): Jawn. Continue.

Heather suggested Operation Special Delivery gifts be given by an “anonymous” person in the future so they appear to be from all of SedonaKind.

It was suggested that Kindness Cards be brought to every meeting for us to purchase.

Cheri emphasized the increasing need for Homebound Food Participation, currently supplying 40-50 people. SedonaKind funded for one month in 2019. Individuals are welcome to donate coffee, Ensure, etc., which can be dropped off at the Food Bank and designated for Homebound.

Gifting Container Gardens is ongoing.

SUGGESTIONS FOR PROJECTS IN 2020

Tea Parties: Marcia. This will be put under Operation Special Delivery. Marcia gave tea parties for 8-10 people for Hospice patients when she was a Hospice Nurse. Jawn has put them on for around 25 people at Sedona Winds. Felicia has everything needed

in large quantities. Gift Certificates could be sold as a fund raiser for SK. Teas for teachers and veterans were suggested. A sign-up sheet was passed around for a committee with Marcia as the designated Chair. The committee will need to determine requirements and a process to select recipients and provide the parties, as well as a budget, which would be given to Joy.

Dress A Girl: Lin. Lin has put together kits for dresses for girls in 3rd World countries. The kits have everything needed except thread, and it takes about 2 hours to make a dress. She has enough fabric for about 200 dresses. The budget is zero. Lou Ann Bruck has a video of the dresses being made. The project meets our Mission Statement to spread kindness "locally and around the World". Gail commented that this is a great project involving a lot of people. She needs a paragraph describing the project and Lou Ann's video to put an article on the website.

Verde Valley Sanctuary Garden Party: Jawn/Gail/Mary Ellen. VV Sanctuary is creating a garden at the Cottonwood sanctuary, and needs help to put together a celebratory party (perhaps a tea party?!).

Kindness, Kids 'n' Kritters!: Felicia. This is a fund raiser for the Humane Society of Sedona. Felicia requested that SedonaKind fund \$250 scholarships for students to attend this week long summer camp centered on pets. Jawn suggested using funds from Kindness Blooms, which designated proceeds to be for pets, vets and kids. Joy suggested and it was agreed to fund 3 scholarships, one for each session. It was also agreed that SedonaKind would have a speaker give a 1-hour talk to the campers, and Pam agreed to find a speaker for each session. The question of transportation for the kids was brought up and Felicia will determine the best way to get the kids there without any liability to us.

Wind Chimes: Lisa. Lou Ann introduced her friend, Lisa, who makes beautiful wind chimes for a fund raiser. It was suggested a heart be added to each one. Lisa will provide a budget and suggestion for where to sell them. Gail mentioned they could possibly be sold on the website, however, it is not set up for shipping, etc.

Clothing Room at Sedona School District Office: Jawn/Gail/Pam. There is a storage room available for collecting clothing for kids who need it, including a place for them to try things on. In order for it to be pleasant, it needs the following donations: an 8X10 or 10X12 rug, a clothes rack, 2 chairs or a love seat, a small table, and a folding screen. A 3-way mirror was already donated by Bonnie Bussar. Gail will put these requests in the Newsletter and Heather will submit them to the Red Rock News Wish List with Jawn's and Gail's phone numbers.

Operation School Bell: Jawn. Deana DeWitt has requested new or like new shirts for girls, sizes Small, Medium and Large. Please bring them to the next meeting.

Sandy expressed Congratulations to all, and Jawn closed with a Kindness quote.

