

Rip N Sew General Meeting
February 2, 2023
Social Hall

Debbie Dorn called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.
Pledge of Allegiance
Welcome new members
Birthday song for February celebrants

Debbie called upon Mary Jo Monten to introduce our guest speaker, Bethany Eglestin, Director of Development for AZ Helping Hands. Our club sewed 110 drawstring bags for foster children in just January, with more to come. Bethany was amazed at the size of our group. Other groups number 10-20 people and we have reached the 250 mark this year.

AZ Helping Hands, in business for 25 years, is the largest supplier of goods for foster children in Arizona. There is a warehouse filled with goods for children: a toy land, boutique, beds. There are now 12,000 foster children in our state. They also service 22 tribes. According to Bethany, it is a challenge getting to kids when and where needed, and that is an immediate need to respond. People may not be able to get to the warehouse, a concern that the agency hopes to address. It takes many community partners, of which RnS is just one. Our recent project validates to foster children that people care about them at an emotionally low point in their lives, as they experience loss of home, school and local friends, AZ Helping Hands is in a different category than 501(3)(c) charitable organizations; donations can be \$500 for individuals and \$1000 for couples when filing taxes.

Meeting resumed:

Secretary report: Motion to accept minutes as posted – Sue DeLucia; seconded by Sara Tavares. Motion carried.

Treasurers' report attached

1st Vice Presidents' report: Jolene Piakowski explained that you will no longer get a receipt when you sign up for a class. The book that records class registration will mark you paid, and you will get the class materials list. The fee paid is non-refundable. If you do not attend, your fee will be regarded as a donation to the club, although you have the option to sell

your slot. You can call the monitor to see if there is a wait list and contact that person. Please take responsibility for yourself.

The bulletin board continues to show samples of upcoming class projects.

Gentle reminder to monitors: please follow the checklists, especially the points to secure the cash box in cabinet 7 and locking the door when you leave.

Linda Logan is organizing Show & Tell. It will be held on a different day each month, which should give more people a chance to attend, given various personal schedules. Check the calendar!

Robyn Reynolds said that the ½ day class fee is now \$5.00 - no needle. Please bring your own new needle to class.

If a teacher cancels class, you will get a voucher for another class.

If there is a problem, adjustments will be made at the discretion of the 1st Vice Presidents.

2nd Vice Presidents' report: Jennifer Steele – drawing for January monitors was Melanie Reckford. Remember, if there are 5 or more people sewing, you need to do your monitor job. If there is a smaller group, you may sew or cut fabric, as long as you have a view of the front door to greet people. Please do not use the embroidery machine, as that activity is a distance away and requires your attention.

Presidents' report: Jeanne Phillips said the 2023 Budget will be sent out by email and we can vote electronically. Debbie announced that we are looking into changing the club's status from Social – 501 (7)© to 501(3)(c), charitable organization. Harley Reckford, retired CPA, has volunteered to be involved with this.

Rodeo and luncheon – Thank you to Sue Ambler and Dianne Repsholdt for hosting this fun event.

Hospitality: Monday, February 20, 4 pm...Favorite Things exchange
Bring an appetizer, BYOB, gift for \$10 and under

2/10 no Sewing from the Heart

2/11 Car Show – Club will be open

Respectfully submitted by:
Diane Stern, Co-Secretary