

NCSC December Meeting Agenda

*Governing Board Meeting
Wednesday, December 18, 2024*

Meeting Called to Order: 9:34 a.m.

Advisor: Sherri Naumann (Not Present)

Advisor: Jamye Gore (Not Present)

President: Penny Ezell (Present)

New Business:

- **Next Members Only Event:** Friday, January 10, 2025, River Yoga and Hops Spot in Clayton. Join us for a relaxing yoga class and lunch in Clayton (maximum 20 due to space at the River Yoga)
- **DAR** reached out to me in November about sponsoring some of our activities to support spouses and families here at Fort Drum. The DAR representative is sending in a proposal at their December board meeting to sponsor our monthly socials for \$1500-2000. I will let you all know when we hear back from them.
- **Honorary Membership:** An invitation for honorary membership has been extended to the following people that have been a huge support of the Club.
Irene Carman, Karyn Carbone, Kelly Clark, Kendralee Kittleman, Kayla Jamieson and Shawna Cutuli.
 - So far, Irene, Karyn and Shawna have accepted the honorary membership. I have asked that they let me know by December 31st. This honorary membership would be for January 1- May 31st, 2025. Honorary memberships are given to those people in the community who have been a supporter of NCSC/ Fort Drum.

Old Business:

- **Holiday Board Party**, 6:00 pm, December 19, 2024, Mrs. Naumann's home.
- **Update on Blue Star Families and Dandelion Ball**
At the beginning of this year we tentatively scheduled a community event on our calendar for the month of April. We knew this event would be a social event where we could give back to the community and hopefully charge a small fee to cover expenses so we

wouldn't take away from our primary mission of our scholarships and grants to fund this event.

Fast forward to September, we had a conversation with Blue Star Families when we began

talking about our collaboration with them and they said they thought they could possibly have a law firm to sponsor the event and we would call it a Dandelion Ball. They planned to bring it up at their November board meeting and they would let us know. I reached out in November and they said their board meeting would actually be in December now.

There has now been some discussion of them doing a New York International Children's Film Festival in the Drum area as well.

Here is the last email from Erica with BSF:

Hi Everyone,

Apologies for the delay in getting back to you. The film festival is separate from the ball and I certainly don't want to take away from any efforts or progress you've

already made. We've recently been in touch with a donor who is interested in sponsoring an event at Fort Drum for MOMC and they are interested in bringing NYIFF, but I'm not sure they have the funding to support it. We're also in the process of receiving a significant grant from a major food company that has production two hours from your base and they may be interested in supporting MOMC as well, tbd. I think what might be best is to hop on another call to see where you are with the Dandelion Ball and how some of these other offerings might fit in, if at all. If they don't fit and we want to funnel funding into the ball, I can pitch that. Briefly - the New York International Children's Film Festival is an incredible organization and they're interested in working with us. Because April can still be so cold at Fort Drum, we're exploring the idea of renting out the local movie theater in town to have a day of free programming for families. Most likely one feature length film in addition to a series of short films. They are great at getting celebs to hold post screening Q&A's and that's my hope for this as well - either for MOMC or another time.

Let's connect though. It's been a minute and I'd love to hear about where you are with planning and how we can continue to support. Let me know if there's a time in early January that works for you.

Warmly,

Erica

I share all of this because as a board we need to think about what we want to do based on what Stephanie, Molly, Sarah Staib and I learn in this Zoom call that we can hopefully have soon.

1. Blue Star Families is able to use the grant from the major food company or the other sponsor that may be interested in sponsoring the Month of the Military Child event

"Dandelion Ball" and it is free to families. Blue Star Families promotes the event and reservations is done through them. We use their promotion on our page like the Coffee Connects. We would have a committee led by Molly, Sarah Staib,

Stephanie and I to collaborate with BSF. This committee would also need volunteers to help leading up to the event and the day of.

Dates will be determined by what works with BSF's calendar and the Peak's calendar.

Option A: Sunday, April 6, 2025 2-4pm (Molly, Sarah and Stephanie with BSF) Penny is unavailable for this date but will help with planning up until that weekend.

Option B: Saturday, April 12th or Sunday April 13th 2-4pm (Molly, Sarah, Penny with BSF)

Stephanie is unavailable for these dates but will help with planning up until that weekend.

2. If Blue Star Families cannot sponsor it and we have to fund it ourselves-
Option A: We use some of the money that DAR gives to help us offset the cost of January Social but also the Dandelion Ball as well, we find a cheaper venue and Stephanie and a team of volunteers would create an event that would be at a cheaper venue, cheaper food etc. Stephanie would need a lot of volunteers to pull this event off. Do we have the volunteers to do so? Do we feel this is a good use of those funds?

Date: Sunday, April 6, 2024 2-4pm

Option B: We think that the socials, subclubs, and members only events are enough and we do not need to have another big spring event or we do not think we will have the volunteers and/or feel we have the funds to do an event if it is not sponsored by Blue Star Families.

Vote Needed: Vote for Dandelion Ball

Income: None

Expenses: None

Volunteer hours: Entered into VMIS

Added Notes:

- *DAR contacted me back saying that she's 99.9% sure that it was approved for the \$1,500-\$2,000, but still waiting on the final word.*
- *Kendra Lee has emailed me back about the honorary membership. We will send out a welcome to the club letter and pin.*
- *Blue Star Families: Dandelion Ball (added notes as well from Molly Culley and Sarah Staib)*
 - *Have not heard back from BSF about Zoom Meeting dates. Hopefully that can be scheduled in early January.*
 - *Molly and Sarah points: We have talked about this a alot and feel that we are not opposed to the Dandelion Ball but we want funding before we start planning.*
 - *There is no way we could use The Peak*
 - *If BSF doesn't fund it, it would go back to Stephanie and 1st VP place to plan and execute the ball.*
 - *Stephanie: We are not doing a Spring Fundraiser. We really want to focus on our community involvement and this is a great way to give back to the military*

community.

- *For this to work it has to be cheap. Which is why we were hoping BSF would fund it and we would plan it. It would cost us money, but we would fund it via volunteers.*
- *Do we want to make this work or do we want to say, maybe another year?*
- *Penny: Do we use the DAR money for the Dandelion Ball and Socials?*
 - *Allie votes that the DAR money go to the Dandelion Ball. She has the funds for socials and would not need DAR funds.*
 - *Nicole: We could ask for sponsorships as well.*

Vote: Dandelion Ball vote is tabled till our January 15 board meeting.

1st Vice President: Stephanie Spika Hickey (Present via Zoom)

New Business:

- We made over \$15k at Tree & Wreath and smashed our fundraising goal for the year!
Thank you to everyone who volunteered and helped make this event a success. I was very pleased with the amount of help we had – nearly every board member volunteered in some capacity! “Many hands make light work.” I will not be sending out a post-event survey. 1) This is a “nice” event and those types of events don’t send surveys and 2) looking at prior surveys, it was only board members who filled them out. Therefore, if you have any feedback, please let me know so I can add it to my AAR.
- I am not planning on hosting a large spring fundraiser. However, I will entertain smaller ideas, like doing Flock the Yard again in the spring. Please let me know if you have any Ideas!
 - The Exec Board brought forth the idea of doing a food fundraiser, where we partner with a restaurant and they donate a portion of that day’s (or timeframe’s) sales to our club. We could also promote it as an opportunity for members to meet up at that restaurant. Current suggestions are Chipotle or Red Robin.
Thoughts?

Old Business: None

Vote Needed: N/A

Income: None

Expenses: None

Volunteer hours: November – 40 hours

Added Notes:

- *25% would be made if we did Chipotle, Red Robin or a restaurant fundraiser*
 - *How do we feel as a board doing one of these fundraisers?*
 - *I will start looking into this and get numbers and report back at our next board meeting.*

2nd Vice President: Allie Iacovelli (Present)

- Did not receive a board report

Added Notes:

- *January's event will be half priced. It will be lowkey, but fun. Shelly is catering. Luau themed.*
- *Will make sure I get a volunteer sign up sheet out sooner for socials for setup and tear down.*

Corresponding Secretary: Brittany Ferguson (Present via Zoom)

New Business: Mail and Mimosas! January 6 - 10:00 a.m.. Please RSVP to the event created on our board facebook page.

Old Business: None

Vote Needed: N/A

Income: None

Expenses: None

Volunteer hours: 10 hours

Added Notes: We have over 100 thank you notes to write. Please consider coming to help. Thank you guys.

Recording Secretary: Sarah Wright (Present)

New Business: Thank you for your board reports. Due to personal reasons I will be resigning as Recording Secretary on December 31, 2024. I have loved working with you all and look forward to seeing the club thrive. Best of luck to everyone!

Old Business: None

Vote Needed: November Meeting Minutes

Income: None

Expenses: None

Volunteer hours: 8 hours

Vote: November Meeting Minutes

Moved by: Allie Iacovelli

Seconded: Stephanie Brady

All in Favor: 17 votes (passed)

Parliamentarian: Nicole Lockhart (Present)

- Did not receive a board report.

Added Notes:

- *We have the revisions for the constitution and bylaws. I will be working with everyone to get the people I need for that meeting. Jan 23. Final meeting will be at the end of the Ex meeting Feb. 6.*
 - *If you are thinking about being on the board for next year this would be a great committee to join*
 - *Please look over your job description to make sure it captures the overall scope of what you do. Any feedback I could get would be great. Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns.*
- *Old Business: Please work on your AARS and maintain your binders. That is coming up soon and we are starting to get prepared for next year.*

Treasurer: Patti Aguard (Present via Zoom)

New Business:

[NCSC November Report](#) and [OTBP November Report](#)

Tree and Wreath went amazingly well - final numbers are \$15,488.87 after all expenses - We are saying this publicly at "We have raised over \$15,000." Complete numbers can be found [here](#).

January Budget Revision:

- Please review your budget by January 10. (Found [here](#), under the Tab with your Chair Title) and let me know if you have any additions or changes you have!
- There will be a brief review with the board at our January 15 meeting to make sure nothing was missed prior to presenting it to members for feedback
- Revision Meeting will take place virtually via Zoom on January 17, 1:00 ET, and is available for all NCSC Members to attend. - I will ask for two non board members to be present, it is optional for all board members.
 - Cait can we include the information in our January Newsletter and do one post on the FB after the new year? I can write up what I need shared out for you

Old Business: None

Vote Needed: N/A

Income: None

Expenses: \$697 for Bookkeeping

Volunteer hours: November - 19.5 hours

Added Notes:

- *Please reach out if you have any questions about the budget and review*
- *Please review your budget for your position*
 - *If you need anything added or changed please email me know by Jan 10*
 - *Jan 17 I will be posting a meeting (zoom) for the final budget meeting*
 - *Cait can you please add this information to the January Newsletter*
 - *I want this super transparent for our board and members*

Blue Star Family Liaisons: Molly Culley and Sarah Staib (Present)

New Business:

- Sarah and I have an ongoing dialogue about BSF. From where we sit, we don't see any firm plans beyond the Coffee Connect, and even getting the first month's boxes to us was kind-of an ordeal, and monthly Coffee Connects are not set in stone due to funding. At this time, unless something radically changes, we're not in favor of doing anything Dandelion Ball-like at this time until we know that BSF is 100% funding it.
- We recognize that BSF is a large organization with many chapters and events, and we're not necessarily at the top of their priority list, especially since we're just getting our events here at Fort Drum off the ground, but we're not getting a lot to work with. We're hopeful that the Zoom call, presumably in January, will give us some answers.
- Just a reminder that Sarah and I are the BSF Liaisons to NCSC, so any other funding sources other than BSF (or an entity that they secure) for a spring event would not be in our seat's purview.
- Finally, we will be consulting the January meeting, social and sub club calendar to choose a date for the Coffee Connect. As a reminder, all RSVPs are handled through BSF and are based on the attendance limits they set.

Old Business: December Coffee Connect was cancelled due to weather.

Vote Needed: Discussion and vote for Spring event

Income: None

Expenses: None

Volunteer hours:

Community Outreach: Stefanie Brady (Present)

- Did not receive a board report.

Added Notes:

New Business:

- *For January (tentative) we are inviting a representative from Samaritan Hospital (unless February/ daytime meeting is better for her) and a Salvation Army representative to receive donations on behalf of their warming center. With the Salvation Army we are working on a volunteer opportunity to offer to NCSC members.*

- *Their needs list is:*
 - *Hat's, gloves, scarves*
 - *Ground coffee*
 - *Sugar packets and creamer singles*
 - *Individually wrapped snacks*
 - *Men's shampoo and conditioner*
 - *Toothpaste and toothbrushes*
 - *Deodorant*
 - *Laundry soap*
- *Can we support two lunch purchases through member sponsorship?*
 - *Allie says yes not a problem.*

Old Business:

- *November's NCO Mountain of Toys drive was very successful with a total of 35+ toys donated.*

Volunteer Hours: 14 hours

Donations Coordinator: Alyssa Faughnan (Present via Zoom)

- Did not receive a board report.

Historian: M.A Scott (Present)

New Business: None

Old Business: I took pictures at tree and wreath and the holiday trivia social.

Vote Needed: N/A

Income: None

Expenses: None

Volunteer hours: 11 hours

Hospitality: Brittany Young (Present)

- Did not receive a board report.

Added Notes:

- *December social:*
 - *Opportunity Ticket Sales \$316.00*
 - *Expenses \$103.58*
 - *Profit of \$212.42*

Membership: Morgan Sims (Present via Zoom)

- Did not receive a board report.

Added Notes:

- 170 Members (not including honorary members)
- Less than 50 pins left, so I am ordering those. Once I give her size and logo so I can get a quote on price
 - Discussion from board - get a quote on what the price of which logo would be better. To create a new mold or keep the old one.
 - Get a quote from another vender
 - We could do an E vote if we need to
- Half priced membership for January

ODYD: Tiff Gallo (Present via Zoom)

- Did not receive a board report.

Added Notes:

- Deployed 22 dresses
- Received 37 dress donations
- Two racks of cocktail dresses present at Kelly's Holiday Etiquette Class in November. I did deploy one dress at that event.

Off The Beatin' Path Representative: (Board position open)

Property Manager: Cara Arterburn (Present)

- Did not receive a board report.

Added Notes: Inventory is pretty much done and I am starting on the tagging. Should be done soon.

Publicity: Caitlin Lesco (Present)

- Did not receive a board report.

Added Notes:

- *If you haven't gotten to me about the newsletter and need any information added, please get that to me as soon as possible*

Reservations: Rachel Klahs (Present via Zoom)

- Out of town, but will report on numbers during the meeting.

Added Notes:

- *Going to need information for January social so I can update the Cheddar Up link*
- *Old Business: Tree and Wreath Sales for Cheddar Up*
 - *RSVP Ticket Sales: \$5295 (SOLD OUT)*
 - *Opportunity Ticket Sales (Cheddar Up): \$690*
 - *Backwards Bingo Card Sales (Cheddar Up): \$825*
 - *Total collected: \$6705*
- *Stats for December Social:*
 - *RSVP Ticket sales: \$902*
 - *41 Tickets Total*
 - *8 Codes Used*
 - *1 Donated Ticket*
 - *1 Guest Ticket (unsure if attended - Emily Parke)*
 - *Opportunity Ticket sales: \$316*
- *Selling the opportunity tickets at the same time as RSVPs definitely helped get the numbers up!*

Retiree Representative: Shelley Matthews (Present)

New Business:

Please come to next month's Beat the Blues Luau...tentative menu is grilled Huli Huli chicken, Kalua pork w/cabbage, pineapple fried rice, Mac salad, tropical tossed green salad w/honey lime dressing, chocolate haupia pie and butter mochi for desserts.

Old Business:

Baked desserts for Tree and Wreath Gala

Vote Needed: N/A

Income: None

Expenses: None

Volunteer hours: 9 hours

Retiree Representative: Kelly Bice (Not Present)

- Did not receive a board report

Scholarships: Brianna Van Matre (Not Present)

- Did not receive a board report.

Social: Rayna Gossett (Present)

New Business:

Sub club events are still going well. Still seeing new faces which is wonderful.
Here are upcoming event dates.

DECEMBER

17th-Crafting Club 6pm

20th-Book Club 7pm

JANUARY

8th- Book Club 11am

9th- Toddler Club 10am

11th-Beer Wine & Spirits 4pm

13th- Lunch Bunch

16th-Game Club 6pm

17th- cooking club

19th- Purple Pals Club

21st-Social 6-8

22nd-Book Club 7pm

28th-Craft Club 6 pm

30th- Toddler Club 10am

Old Business: None

Vote Needed: N/A

Income: None

Expenses: None

Volunteer hours: 10 hours

Volunteer Coordinator: Sarah Vanderleest

- Did not receive a board report.

Added Notes: From Penny

- *Stephanie and Alyssa are our volunteers of the month for November. Thank you for your hard work*
- *Cait is Volunteer of the Month for December. Thank you for your hard work.*

Meeting End Time: 10:50 a.m.