

# Tyler A&M Mothers' Club General Meeting

## September 17, 2020

The general meeting was held at Pollard United Methodist Church at 6:30 p.m. with approximately 34 in attendance. The Gym had plenty of room to socially distance. A Mini-Boutique was set up for attendees to shop for Aggie-themed items.

At 6:35 p.m., Tracye Martin, President, welcomed everyone to the first general meeting of this school year. She introduced herself. The theme for the Aggie Mom Federation is "Aggie Moms Shining Together", and following that theme, Tracye's theme for our local club is "Beacons" to others. As Aggie Moms, we can "answer questions, offer advice, listen, and love on you". She offered an opening prayer and introduced the rest of the officers.

Christina Rook, VP – Programs, introduced **Shayla Rivera '83**, who spoke to us via Zoom. Shayla is an Aggie Aerospace Engineer who used to work for NASA. She is a motivational speaker and a current Professor of Engineering at A&M. She gave a powerful talk that offered advice for living:

- "Pay attention to your quantum moments."
- "Words are powerful: they can build, encourage or destroy."
- "Everywhere you are, learn." "Be present in all of your moments."
- "What I am unaware of, controls me. What I am aware of, I can change." Fleas learn not to jump against the lid on a jar. "We all have jars, which are things we believe, and these may not be true. What lies are you carrying with you? What is holding you back? Take a risk sometimes. Find the pearls in your story."
- "Don't make assumptions. You don't know the other person's story. Statistics do not apply to the individual."
- "What do you get when you squeeze an orange? Orange juice. Why? Because that is what is in there. Pay attention to your juice. When times get tough, what we have inside is what comes out."
- "Don't ever forget to laugh!"

At 7:40 p.m. Tracye started the business part of the meeting. Katie Latham, VP-at-Large, made a **motion** to approve the **agenda**. The motion carried with a "Howdy".

Copies of the **minutes** from the April 16, 2020 Zoom general meeting were available. With no corrections, they stand approved as distributed. The approved minutes are available on the website.

Becky Womack, Treasurer, gave the **Treasurer's Report**. We made \$1,240 from our summer BTHO Quilt Raffle. Our ending balance as of August 31<sup>st</sup> is \$1,537.26.

The next meeting will be October 15<sup>th</sup>. Christina Rook shared that **next month's speaker** (also via Zoom) will be from the Counseling & Psychological Services department at A&M to talk about the mental health issues of our students. Her "heart goes out to the freshmen". "College is hard. Then throw in COVID."

Tracye reported on two of our current fundraisers. "We are driven to raise money for our kids in addition to love and friendship." Tickets will be available soon for the **T-Shirt Quilt Raffle**. Tickets are \$2 each or six for \$10. The drawing will be at the **Christmas Party** where we also will have our annual Aggie ornament exchange.

We are also taking orders for an **Aggie Mom t-shirt** that says, “WE RISE BY LIFTING OTHERS”. The t-shirt is available in long or short sleeve in choice of maroon, grey or white. The long-sleeve is \$30, and the short-sleeve is \$25. Prices include tax. We have a minimum order of 48 shirts, or we will not purchase the shirts. We will not cash your check until the order is placed.

Paula Kimmey and Becky Womack passed out order forms for the **Butter Braids fundraiser** that starts tonight. Forms are due back at the next meeting on October 15<sup>th</sup>. Sellers from last year also got their past order forms so that they could contact those customers for repeat orders. Butter Braids are delivered frozen. They are easy to sell and are great for the holidays. The cookies are pull-apart dough so that you can just bake a few. Several flavors of both the Butter Braids and cookies are available. The orders will be delivered in early November. **Samples** of some of the flavors were the refreshments for the meeting.

You also can order Butter Braids online. Becky and Paula will send the link so that it can be posted to your social media accounts. The customer should select your name from the list because the Butter Braids and cookies will still be delivered in person since they are a frozen product. This means that you cannot sell to your out-of-town family and friends. There is a convenience fee of \$1.50 for ordering online. Ordering online does offer an option for those people who want to pay using a credit card rather than cash or checks.

We sold 535 items during last year’s fundraiser. The club earns 40% profit, and our goal is to raise more than \$3000.

Melissa Eeds, Parliamentarian, noted that we sell **Goody Bags** during both the fall and spring semesters that are delivered right before final exams. This is a way to encourage your Aggies and “love them from far away”. The Fall Goody Bags will be an umbrella with the A&M logo that will fit into a backpack. Order forms are available tonight. Each goody bag is \$25, and there is a deadline of September 21<sup>st</sup>. (Post-Meeting Note: The deadline was extended.) The goody bags are normally delivered in person on campus, but this fall we will have to deliver them from somewhere off-campus, maybe in a drive-by fashion.

Rebecca Mohr, Vice-President – Publicity, reminded Aggie Moms to visit the public (“Tyler A&M Mothers’ Club”) and private (“Tyler Aggie Moms”) **Facebook pages**. The public page can be seen by everyone, and only the administrator can post. The private page is only available to paid members, and anyone in the group can post. This can be useful if you need someone to take something to College Station. We also have a website, TylerAggieMoms.com.

We want to hear your **Aggie Mom Brags**. Brags announced at the meeting included a 100 on the first chemistry test, graduation from boot camp, and graduation of two Aggies in the same family this year during the pandemic. A new Aggie Mom thanked the club for delivering the yard sign to her new Aggie.

Members should email [TylerAggieMoms@gmail.com](mailto:TylerAggieMoms@gmail.com) if you are not getting the **club emails**.

Tracye and Karyn Ard, VP – Membership, held **door prize drawings**. Three attendees won prizes. Karyn also drew one name for a “care kit” in a special drawing for the new moms with their first child off at college.

Karyn Ard made a **motion to adjourn**, and Rebecca Mohr seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. Attendees gathered for a **group picture** taken by Jennifer Davin, Historian.

(Minutes by Jessica Knowles, Recording Secretary)