

**ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
DISTRICT 11**

2008 AREA MEETING

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR FOCUS

- I. **“Spotlight on our focus”** deals with our mission and how we can achieve it:
- A. Zonta’s mission “IS” our mission
- B. Describe **Zonta mission** or ask attendees to do so:
Zonta International is a global organization of executives and professional working together to advance the status of women worldwide through service and advocacy.
- C. Zonta objects – can be found in the Club Manual sample Bylaws in Article II.
The objects of Zonta International are:
- To improve the legal, political, economic, educational, health and professional status of women at the global and local level through service and advocacy
 - To work for the advancement of understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of executives in business and the professions
 - To promote justice and universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms
 - To be united internationally to foster high ethical standards, to implement service programs, and to provide mutual support and fellowship for members who serve their communities, their nations, and the world
- D. Article XII Section 8, Committees, SECTION 8 - **Status of Women Service Committee** It shall recommend action in accordance with the Objects of Zonta International to improve the status of women, promote legislative awareness, advocacy, and equal rights. It shall coordinate service programs authorized by the convention. It shall promote international service projects sponsored by Zonta International and administered by the Zonta International Foundation, and shall encourage and support local service projects.

II. Zonta Focused Service/Advocacy Projects

A. UN focus for ZI projects

1. Review handout that describes UN agencies that Zonta works with now and in past
2. Describe new 2008-2010 ZIF Service Projects from handout or new ZI info (not out when this was written).
3. Play DVD or describe projects of UNIFEM's Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women (speaker should review the DVD as well as the following notes from it; the Gov and Lt. Gov will bring the DVD)
 - a. One in 3 women abused in their lives
 - b. The Trust Fund supports local groups for real change in women's lives
 - c. During 10 years, women in 100 countries have been helped through change in laws and attitudes, shelter and social services, and protection and legal support.
 - d. Ukraine: LaStrada works with young women workers to prevent trafficking
 - e. India: a network of HIV positive women receives counseling on their legal rights to medical care, property, and inheritance.
 - f. South Africa: Mother Tongue helps survivors of violence (often with HIV), encouraging them to seek help and know their rights.
 - g. Mexico: In Ciudad Juarez young women factory workers are murdered. The Trust fund supports programs to prevent VAW.
 - h. UNIFEM's Trust Fund to End VAW helps make the world a safer place for women and secure their right to live free of violence.
4. Hand out ZIF donation forms and ask for a contribution.

B. Club focus:

1. ZI projects and objects
2. Club projects should mirror ZI projects. Ask "How can a club do this?"

C. Project exercise:

1. Club members decide on which club service/advocacy project to describe to rest of attendees.
2. Have a club's representative do a brief presentation of one club project. (2 min max)
3. Each attendee reviews the project to determine if it is a Zonta project. Discussion on how each project qualifies as a Zonta project.
4. If time permits there could be an open discussion by the attendees to see which project fits into Zonta's mission the best?

III. Zonta's Uniqueness

A. Ask attendees to name other similar organizations that Zonta competes with

Answers can be Rotary International, Business and Professional Women (BPW), Soroptimist International, American Association of University Women (AAUW), Kiwanis, Jaycees, Lions Club International to name only some.

B. Why is Zonta unique?

1. Zonta focuses on enhancing the status of women. Note: so do other organizations, but the following 3 things make Zonta unique.
2. Democratic: Robert's Rules of Order and each club have a vote at international level
3. International organization, not a federation
4. Supports the United Nations and its projects for women

IV. Zonta Mission and your Club Bylaws

- Required tool for helping clubs focus on the Zonta Mission of advancing the status of women
- Ensures that each club will run according to the ZI bylaws and is therefore a true Zonta club
- Sample bylaws in Club Manual, page 138
- Describe briefly the various articles in the sample bylaws
- Provide handout of Bylaws Quiz for attendees to answer using the sample bylaws.
 - Can make a contest out of it. Prizes?
 - Or attendees can use their club bylaws to look up the answers, as they should be there.

V. Zonta Mission and Time Management (if time allows)

- Setting priorities in your club: What is most important? Clearly the objects of Zonta.
- Ranking of priorities according to the Zonta Mission
- How to manage time in: meeting - Agenda pp 55-60 in Club Manual
 - Is this working in your club?
 - Members want an efficiently run meeting
 - Committees must do their work outside of general meeting.
- How to manage time in: year – Strategic Plan Handout of the process (optional)
 - Who has one?
 - How is it working for you?
 - The AD should identify a Zontian in her area who has knowledge about strategic planning, if possible.
 - Many clubs are successful in using an outside strategic planning consultant.

VI. SUMMARY

- A. Zonta is a unique organization, as you have seen.
- B. Each Zonta club should mirror Zonta International in its projects and its bylaws to preserve this uniqueness.
- C. Members join Zonta because of its unique qualities.
- D. By making Zonta's Mission OUR mission, we give members what they want from Zonta.
- E. Our gifts to ZIF give women around the world the help they want to live a safe and productive life.