



## Grandparents Against Gun Violence Meeting Minutes February 26, 2018

President Judy Sherry called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm at Colonial Church in Prairie Village.

Charlotte Davison thanked all who were current with their membership dues and asked everyone to bring a friend, or two, to the March meeting in order to grow our membership and impact.

Loren Stanton reported there are two bills in the Kansas Legislature: HB 2042 which would lower the age of concealed carry to 18 and SB 390 which would enact an Extreme Risk Protection Order. It sets out a protocol for a judge to order the temporary removal of guns from an individual who is found to be a risk to him/herself or to others.

Judy explained two federal bills, one good and one bad:

- **Fix NICS Act**, a bipartisan bill introduced by four Democratic and four Republican Senators which will make it more likely that states get information about felony convictions and mental illness into the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS). Currently there are states that do a great job of making sure felony records, domestic violence convictions, and mental health records get into the system, and there are some states that submit nothing. This bill will fix that.
- The **Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act** was passed by the House of Representatives in December 2017. Under this legislation, states would be required to recognize other states' standards governing the possession of concealed firearms in public. This means that even though one state may have stringent regulations such as a permit or training requirement, that state would have to allow people from other states with lower standards – with perhaps no permit or training required at all – to carry concealed firearms without following the more stringent regulations.

Leslie Mark of Indivisible KC announced **March for Our Lives on March 24** at Theis Park, noon-4. Check details on Facebook. GAGV and the Heartland Coalition Against Gun Violence are among the sponsors. Event details can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/events/968235106660117/> There are also rallies every Saturday leading up to the March 24 march from noon to 1:00 PM at the J. C. Nichols Memorial Fountain. Leslie also asked everyone to leave with three Indivisible postcards to complete and mail to legislators.

Judie Becker presented a Gun Test from *The Trace* and also an updated **Gun Fact Sheet**. **She suggested that each person identify about three facts that are meaningful and that they can recall. She urged all to share with friends. Both the Gun Test and Gun Fact sheet will have links in the March newsletter.**

Jane Martin of the Jewish Federation of Kansas City instructed GAGV on Social Media 101:

- Use the media platform that is most comfortable. Jane described Facebook as a social networking site that makes it easy to connect and share with family, friends, and organizations online. It is a big phone/address book with 2.13 billion users aimed at adults 30+. Jane explained how to friend, tag and share to add people to your address book and expand your posts.

- Twitter is an online social networking tool in which users post 140 character updates (tweets) of what is going on in their lives along with links to things they think are interesting, funny, or useful to their followers (“following” being essentially what “friending” is on other sites). People use Twitter in many ways, some as a newsfeed by following prominent people or networks, or by limiting their followers and whom they follow to close friends and family, and some as a microblog for updating people about the work they are doing and their personal lives. Twitter trends to 18-29 age group. Jane suggested posting what we are doing now and to use as a public relations mechanism. It gives you access to people you wouldn’t normally have access to.
- Instagram – Jane suggested we ask our grandchildren to show us how to post photos and videos on Instagram.

Erin Gingrich-Gaylord spoke about how her organization, Moms Demand Action, has used social media to become a leading force for gun violence prevention, with chapters in all 50 states and a powerful grassroots network of moms that has successfully effected change at the local, state and national level. Moms uses Facebook to press state lawmakers to support gun sense bills and push back against dangerous bills. Erin suggests building your twitter network slowly by following GAGV, Jason Kander, Claire McCaskill, Moms, for example. The link to “Social Media Step by Step” will be in the March newsletter.

Alice Apprill was recognized as our outstanding Grandparents Against Gun Violence Facebook administrator. Follow GAGV on Facebook as Alice always has current and very informative posts. It is imperative that we share and like GAGV posts and make comments to increase our reach.

Barb McNeile reported Lock It for Love is scheduled to give out free gun locks at St. Mark’s Center and Boys and Girls Club KCK in March.

Our next meeting is Monday, March 26 at 4 pm. Speaker, poet and rapper Anthony Butler will speak to us about bullying and Deidre Anderson, executive director of St. Mark Child and Family Development Center, will tell how they teach their Head Start children about bullying.

Save the Date: Candace Lightner, founder of MADD, will be the keynote speaker at the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Heartland Coalition Forum Against Gun Violence on Monday, October 8.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Submitted by Charlotte Davison, Secretary