

**SC Women of the ELCA
Board Meeting Minutes
Friday, February 7, 2020 at 1:00 PM
Camp Kinard, Leesville, SC**

Officers Present:

Becky Koch, President
Amanda Boatwright, VP
Linda Roland, Secretary
Rachel Quesada, Treasurer

Board Members Present:

Amanda Sease-Baker Sarah Cheesman
Rae Davis Denise Warren
Amanda Cruse
Merri Lewis

Absent and excused: Risse Snelgrove, Kristin Snelgrove

Others Present: Virginia Herlong, honorary life coordinator and acting Parliamentarian; Sherry Shepherd, registrar

Call to Order: Becky called the meeting to order.

Devotions: Rae led a devotion about love through the Fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23) and a Paul Meyer book, How to Store Up Your Treasures in Heaven. She ended with Lord's Prayer.

Minutes and Correspondence: Linda read a card from Captain Reed of the Coast Guard thanking us for cards sent last year made out at the convention; a thank you from Rev. Daniel Rift of ELCA World Hunger Appeal; and a letter from churchwide WELCA thanking us for \$1300 we sent for the Triennial convention; and a summary of our donations last year to Lighthouse for Life. **Motion:** Denise to approve the minutes as presented. Second – Amanda Cruse. Motion carried.

Reports

President: Becky Koch

- A question arose about including the BOR online. Consensus was to remove addresses from BOR and still put it online.
- Becky responded to the lady who asked if her 12-year-old daughter could attend the convention as a voting member or a Young Woman Guest. The girl needs to be 18 to be a voting member or young woman guest. She can be a volunteer assistant if she chooses to attend. Amanda Boatwright volunteered to work with her to assist where possible during the convention.

Motion: Denise moved to accept the executive committee recommendation to consider this girl as a volunteer instead of a visitor. Second – Amanda Cruse. Motion carried.

Treasurer:

The bank balance at the beginning of the fiscal year was \$32,224 and at the end of the year was \$28,164. Regular offerings received were 80% of budget and Joy Offerings received were 104% of budget. Total income for the year was \$69,181 and total expenses were \$73,241. The 5-Year Comparative Financial Statements shows that Regular Offerings have decreased each year over the last 5 years by Joy Offerings increased for the first time during the last 5 years.

We plan to combine the checking and saving account as we have not been receiving as much money in regular offerings. The report will be filed for audit.

Motion: Rachel moved that because we receive points in our credit card account, we use that money to purchase gift cards for our convention projects. (We currently have 24000 points available per BB&T) Motion carried.

Motion: Stipends have been sent out for Triennial Gathering attendees. There is \$200 remaining. Rachel moved to reserve the remaining to give the new president if she wants to go. If she does not go, give money to churchwide to help cover expenses. Motion carried.

The Stewardship Committee is formed by Virginia Herlong, Carolyn Torrence, Karen Lucas, Becky Koch, and Rachel Quesada.

Motion: The Stewardship committee recommends we send \$1000 to churchwide for the Triennial convention. Motion carried.

Motion: The Stewardship committee recommends approval of the proposed budget for 2021 - 2022. (see attached) The figures show a decrease of \$2300 income and a decrease of proposed spending of the same amount. Motion carried.

Virginia passed out a form showing a 6-year offering trend (see attached) The Board needs to consider spending about 80% of budget if possible.

Becky stated that the Board needs to back the decision at convention.

2020 Convention Report: Amanda Boatwright:

The convention committee will meet with Jan and church representatives to discuss planning what each church will do for convention on 2/16/2020 at Silverstreet Entertainment in Newberry.

Motion: The Boy Scouts are only asking \$250 for helping. Amanda Boatwright motioned that we pay the Boy Scouts \$250 for their assistance during the convention. Second by Denise. Motion carried.

Motion: Amanda Boatwright motioned that we pay our entertainer \$200 plus pay for her meal for the banquet and for her husband's meal if he can come. Second by Amanda Cruse. Motion carried.

Motion: The convention committee motioned that all workshop leaders who stay to eat on Friday get the banquet meal instead of lunch due to the schedule for workshops; (12 people at the most at \$13 each) and lunch on Saturday. (This could be for 3 people at \$10/each.); also for 1 person on Saturday lunch plus ½ room rate on Friday night. Motion carried.

Motion: Amanda's committee moved to pay for banquet meal for the concert musicians if they would like to stay. Motion carried.

Motion: Committee requested approval of the proposed convention expenses. Motion carried.

Registrar Report: (Sherry Sheppard) Reported that she will work to fix any problems from last year. Her committee needs a room that locks. Amanda Boatwright stated that the church pastor has one for her to use. Currently, she has enough volunteers as well as enough folders and lanyards on hand.

Motion: Sarah moved that we get ribbons to attach to name tags for Board members, First Timer, and Young Woman guests with the total costing approximately \$60. Second by Merri. Motion carried.

Motion: Sarah moved with a second by Amanda Cruse that we have color coded tickets for the meals behind the name tags with a volunteer taking them up. Anyone who loses or forgets one can go back to Sherri if she has a problem. Motion carried.

Becky said we spend \$120 on the May mailing. Do we want to do this electronically when possible?

Motion: Denise moved with second by Sarah that we use email as much as possible to save money on stamps for items like the May mailing. And Sherri needs the mailing info before April 10th. Early registrants will get 2 emails, if necessary, to get them all the needed info. Motion carried.

Sarah is working on a skit for the convention.

50th Ordination of Women: Sarah and Amanda Boatwright explained the plans for the recognition of the 50th Ordination of Women.

Motion: Amanda moved, and Merri seconded that we accept estimated plans as written within the \$900 budget with \$100 in reserve if needed. Motion carried.

Becky asked that visitors have some activity during convention business as they have requested in the evaluations.

Nominating committee report: The committee has only 1 name for treasurer. Current board members who are eligible still need to fill out form if they are willing to run again.

Triennial: no report

Missions Committee Reports:

Action: (Rae) Got a list of supplies for Child Advocacy. Global project will have a representative present. Rae asked Sherry Fowler about putting a video on our website about the Child Advocacy Center. We will see if that can be done. We need our website updated in general.

Community: No report

Growth: Info in *The Ripple*. We will put a signup sheet in *The Ripple* and change the verbiage in the Growth article, so everyone doesn't think they need to bring an auction item.

Old Business:

We are looking at what songs to use for songbook and the need to renew the license.

New Business:

The Conference of Presidents will be held in Chicago on February 21 – 23, 2020.

Motion: Rachel moved to send \$25 for a gift for the outgoing churchwide president. Second Denise. Motion carried.

We reviewed which Board members can attend the Spring conferences:

Heartland: Amanda Boatwright, Amanda Baker, Sarah, Amanda Cruse, Rae, Becky

Coastal: Denise, Becky, and possibly Merri

Foothills: Sarah, Rae, Becky

Saxe-Gotha: Merri, Denise, Amanda Cruse, Becky

Western: Amanda Cruse, Sarah, Amanda Boatwright, Becky

Next year's convention: Becky will follow up on the suggestions for where to hold next year's convention.

Triennial: Sarah reported that there are several proposals for changes to the churchwide constitution. They are proposing verbiage that requires members strive to be active members of a congregation. Each SWO shall have 3 voting members. Decrease number on executive board to 15 board members with 20% persons of color, or other than English, under 45, or LGBTQ. Make meetings 2x/year in person or electronically. These and other items will be discussed and voted on in Phoenix in July.

Denise proposed Virginia's graph of 6 year offering trends be included in the BOR.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 PM

Next meeting: May 9, 2020 at 10:00 AM at St. Philip's Lutheran Church in Newberry.