

**South Carolina Women of the ELCA
Board Retreat Meeting Minutes
Friday, February 16, 2024
Camp Kinard Retreat Center**

Present:

Officers:

President: Risse Snelgrove

Vice-President: Christie Gardner

Secretary: Shari Donley

Treasurer Elect: Rachel Quesada
On Zoom

Board:

Sarah Cheesman

Diane Wicker

LaTynia Taylor on Zoom

Cindy McManus

Joy Derrick

Linda Roland

Excused Absent: Sallie Folk, Merri Lewis

Morning Devotion: by Risse S. on what is going on in our lives.

The business meeting was called to order at 10:35am by President Risse Snelgrove.

Report of the Secretary – Shari Donley

9-2-2023 Minutes Approval: Sarah C. moved and Diane W. second to approve the September 2, 2023 Board minutes. Motion carried.

Correspondence

- Correspondence shared was from the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary thanking us for the recent donation to the SCWELCA Scholarship Fund and from the family of Mary Meynardie (Mother of Joy Derrick) for a memorial donation.

Postings on Google Docs – Shari D. brought up if everyone was able to see the documents posted in the Conference Units directory on Google docs. It was learned that not everyone can see the documents and Shari will work with Risse to resolve the issue.

President’s Report – Risse Snelgrove (Refer to Google Docs)

Risse S. presented her report with the following information.

- Board Retreat - Successful
- Foothills Conference Meeting
- Lutheran Men in Mission Convention and Greeting speaking opportunity on 2-17-2024
- Ripple article
- Managing emails
- Rise Against Hunger – a national Not-for-Profit group to come and do event to assemble food packs that go to World Hunger.

It was agreed to send our handbook to the CWO rep per her request with the condition that the handbook will not be shared with anyone without our permission.

There was discussion on what we do as a Board and the importance of attending meetings and events.

Treasurer Report - (Refer to Google Docs)

Rachel Quesada presented the report There is approximately \$10,300.00 in spendable cash. The documents were reviewed and received as information.

An update to the \$1,000 Katie's Fund grant included the monies that were used to create the handbook, paid \$50.00 to Bethel Lutheran Church to print the handbook, and paid \$650.00 to have the handbooks printed and put in a binder. The remainder of the monies will be used to conduct the workshops.

The Heartland Conference at the October, 2023 meeting gave \$500.00 to The Faith Gospel Foundation.

The proposed 2025-2026 budget was reviewed as presented by Rachel Q. and discussed. Sarah Cheesman moved and Cindy McManus to reduce the proposed budget with the line item for Churchwide Programs for the Women of the ELCA amount 60% to 50% meaning from \$14,000.00 to \$11,750.00. Motion carried. Sarah Cheesman moved and Cindy McManus to approve the proposed budget as amended. Motion carried.

The meeting broke at 12:35 for lunch. The meeting resumed at 13:16.

Vice President Report – Christie Gardner (Refer to Google Docs)

- Convention 2024 Update:
 - The 2024 Convention registration form was distributed for review. Linda R. moved and Joy D. second to approve the form with the changes to add a line for a phone number and to change the registration fee from \$55.00 to \$60.00 is the form is received after May 15, 2024. Motion approved.
 - Christie brought forth the following questions regarding convention volunteers:
 - What can we do for the volunteers? Answer provided by Joy D. stating that the volunteers are not expecting anything.
 - Can we consider giving them a Thrivent T-Shirt? Diane W. has a container of them that can be given out.
 - Bulletin of Reports (BOR) deadline and duties – Shari D. will compose a BOR To-Do list and send to the Board members.
 - It was suggested to include in the pre-convention packets and the BOR to include a statement saying that you can nominate from the floor if your are on the Nominating Committee.

Diane W. provided an update on the next conference meeting dates. All Board members are encouraged to attend the conference meetings.

Communication Committee Report – Cindy McManus

- **RIPPLE** – The Spring issue will be printed and mailed the first or second week in May. Our respective article submissions are to be sent by April 15, 2024.
 - Issues will be generated quarterly with Board meeting highlights.

- Cindy is gathering bids from other printers to reduce costs.

Mission Growth Report - Cindy McManus

Cindy McManus reported there is a financial shortfall for the 2024 Camp Kinard retreat because the cost of food went up and now requires a minimum of 20 people. After discussion it was proposed to raise the 2025 fee by \$10 and Growth committee members to pay ½ of the registration fee.

The Isle of Palms retreat is planned and registration forms have been distributed.

There was additional discussion on the retreats frequency, time and place. The committee is charged with bringing back recommendations to the next Board meeting.

Mission Community Report – Linda Roland (Refer to Google Docs)

Linda R. reported St. John's resolution response will appear in the Ripple.

Linda R. reported an updated survey has been created to ask questions to get insight into individual needs, interests and potentials. The updated survey will be in the Winter Ripple.

Mission Action Report – Sarah Cheesman (Refer to Google Docs)

The committee is working to collect monies for the following projects at the convention:

- Local Project – For “The Fifth Gospel Foundation” to provide a scholarship for seminary students and rostered ministers in need and wish to go to the Holy Land.
- Local Project – A second project will be to provide gifts what are needed by the “Neighbors Together” within the Low Country of SC to collect monies or backpacks with soap, wash cloths or wet wipes.
- Global Project – Collect funds for farming equipment in Tanzania and to construct a “She Shed” to house the equipment.

The committee would like the Lifelong Learning scholarship recipients to come to the convention. Risse S. and Christie G. will call to get a list of these recipients.

Conference Coordinator Report – Diane Wicker (Refer to Google Docs)

Diane W. shared the current list of conference spring meeting events.

Old Business:

- Unit and Conference training on the handbook:
 - St. Stephens has offered to hold a workshop.
 - Workshops and Trainings progress will be updated at the next Board meeting.
 - A committee consisting of Risse S., Cindy M., Shari D. and Diane W. was formed to work on the workshop agenda and content.
 - Possible training dates was suggested to be shared at the Spring conference meetings.
- The Teen Suicide Prevention resolution was passed at the Triennial convention in September 2023. The next step is to have at the convention video resources, speaker and speaker convention table to address the need. We are also encouraging the South Carolina conferences to speak on this at their respective meetings and events.

- Discussion on using the Joy Offering to go to the Tanzania Project instead of Good Gifts. Sarah C. moved and Linda R. second that the Joy Offering for this fiscal year be designated to the She Shed Global Project for Tanzania. Motion carried.

New Business:

- A 2024 Board retreat will be held August 23rd and 24th at Camp Kinard. We are to leave on the 25th.
- Convention registration and registrars was previously discussed during the Vice-President report.
- The Nominating Committee will be driven by Merri Lewis and will consider asking Becky Koch to be a member.
- Each person who attended the Triennial Convention provided a report. The group presented the Board officers with gifts from the convention.

The next RIPPLE article submissions to Cindy M. is April 15, 2024.

The next Board meeting will be on May 4, 2024 at 10:30am at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Summerville, SC.

A closing prayer was shared by Risse S.

The business meeting adjourned at approximately 16:01.

Respectfully Submitted,
Shari Donley,
SCWELCA Secretary

Approved on _____