

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

**Officers Present:**

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

**Board Members Present:**

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

Absent and excused: Risse Snelgrove and Kristin Snelgrove

Others Present: Virginia Herlong, honorary life coordinator; Sherry Shepard, registrar

**Call to Order:** by Becky Koch asking Virginia to act as parliamentarian

**Devotions:** Rae presented 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** by Rachel with second by Amanda Cruse to accept minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**Reports:**

**President:**

- Spring conference meetings – Board members will sign up today for the meetings they plan to attend.
- Synod Assembly BOR report is due on February 27, 2020. I will submit this.
- SC Lutheran Men in Mission Convention – February 22. I will be at the Conference of Presidents, so I asked Amanda to bring greetings if we were invited. They will not have organizations bring greetings. Instead, they have invited representatives to set up displays. We have not made a decision about that.
- Triennial stipends – Rachel will report on this.
- Conference of Presidents – February 21-23. I will be attending. I will take an offering of \$500. One half goes to WELCA and the other half goes to AMMPARO. They have requested a monetary donation for Lisa Plorin, WELCA president whose term is up at triennial. We will act on this today.
- Winter issue of Ripple has been mailed and emailed.
- \$500 gift – a donation was made to be used where needed. The donor asked that the Executive Committee make this decision. We looked at several options and decided to put the money toward LTSS scholarships for female students since the donations were down this year.

- Budget for 2021-2022 – The budget committee met to create a budget which we will approve at this meeting. This committee includes Rachel Quesada, Virginia Herlong, Carolyn Torrence, Karen Lucas, and me as an ex-officio member.
- Youth request to be a voting member at convention. The executive committee decided that she may come as a visitor. Amanda has agreed to find ways she can assist.
- I will speak at Our Saviour, W. Columbia, on May 17<sup>th</sup> for their WELCA Sunday.
- May Board meeting –After polling the board, I have found that most of the board can be at the May 9 meeting. I will leave it on that date.

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. 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:** 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. 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 do discuss planning what each church will do for convention on 2/16/2020 at Sliverstreet Church 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:** Amada 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 made up a convention board skit. We will each portray a different woman from the Bible. Make up 3 sentences to say who you are representing to display on the screen. The convention goers will be asked, "Who am I?" She passed around a signup sheet.

**50<sup>th</sup> Ordination of Women:** Sarah and Amanda Boatwright explained the plans for the recognition of the 50<sup>th</sup> 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:** See attached report. (Rae) Got a list of supplies for Child Advocacy. Global project will have a representative present. Rae asked Sherri 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.

Rae suggested Good Shepherd on Forest Dr. in Columbia.

Amanda Cruse suggested St. Andrews in Columbia

**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.