

**SC Women of the ELCA
Board Meeting Minutes
Saturday, November 7, 2020 10:20 AM
Redeemer Lutheran Church, Newberry, SC**

Officers Present:

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

Board Members Present:

Sarah Cheesman
Rae Davis
Kristin Snelgrove
Merri Lewis
Risse Snelgrove

Absent: Amanda Baker, Amanda Cruse, Denise Warren

Also Present: Carolyn Torrence

Call to Order: Becky welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

Devotions: Merri opened with a prayer based on I Corinthians 13. Then Sarah presented a devotion from Billy Graham based on Proverbs 21:22 about dealing with anger and choosing to love instead.

Appointment of Parliamentarian: Carolyn Torrence

Minutes and Correspondence: The only correspondence was a letter of resignation from Sherry Fowler as *Ripple* editor. Risse moved with a second from Merri to approve the Minutes from September.

Motion carried.

Reports:

President: (See attached)

Becky informed us that the official decision about whether the Triennial will be held in August will be made this winter by churchwide. There were no fall conference meetings this year. Our fall *Ripple* is going out this weekend. The Conference of Presidents in February 2021 will be held via ZOOM.

Treasurer: (See Attached)

Rachel stated that forty-seven (47) congregations have not contributed this year; fifty-three (53) have. Our bank balance on October 31, 2020 is \$ 34,046.94; this includes a checking account balance of \$19,046.94 and Mission Investment Fund CD of \$15,000. The interest from the CD is transferred to our checking account at the end of each quarter, which is \$251.10 for the first three quarters of this year. We are pretty much at a break even point for this year as both income and expenses have been down the whole year. Per our constitution we have \$2900 that we need to disperse in benevolence before the end of the year.

Motion by Linda with a second by Amanda Boatwright to split the \$2900 between Lutheran Disaster Response and Churchwide. Motion Carried.

Rae suggested keeping a running list of items that liaisons could touch base on with their Conferences. Kristin volunteered to keep the list. The first item on it will be to encourage units to remember sending offerings to the SWO even if they are not holding meetings.

Stewardship: Rachel is trying to get this committee formed for the coming year. She asked for suggestions from the Board members about whom she might ask.

Rachel passed out new Voucher forms and will email them as well so we can print our own.

Vice President: (See attached)

The Heartland Conference is still hosting the convention. The theme, Bible verse and most plans remain the same as they would have been for this year. We are still looking for a song leader if we are allowed to sing. We have not yet heard if we will have a churchwide representative in 2021. Amanda is waiting on a couple of people about entertainment availability for our dates. Workshops are scheduled and vendors are in place. We have new names for the 50th Anniversary of Ordination. Plans for that remain the same as originally made as well.

Committee Motion from Amanda for food and hotels. The registration form should read \$11.00 for both lunches and \$18 for the Friday banquet. The information about hotels should read \$112/night for the Hampton by Hilton and \$109/night for the Holiday Inn Express. Motion Carried.

Action Committee: (See attached)

Rae reported that projects remain the same for next year. We have recently received 285 more masks for a total of 794. She is expecting 100 more. Handmade masks are great but purchased ones will be fine to donate as well. Details of financial donations are in *The Ripple* going out today. Being vocal advocates for our projects is important. This can be added to the Liaison List.

Community Committee: (See attached)

Kristin reported that they received two pictures in response to their "Just Love" request and four pictures for the COVID request. There were four responses to their request for what WELCA groups are doing during COVID. The only conference to formally state they will not be holding a Spring Conference is Amelia. The committee is looking into the possibility of virtual Spring Conferences.

Growth Committee

Merri stated they are still planning for a retreat in February at Camp Kinard. She will be checking with Agnes and Sally Folk to see if they will still plan snacks and a craft.

Nominating Committee: The committee has one candidate for Treasurer. They are still looking for at least one more for that position and for more Board candidates.

Ripple Report (See attached)

Sherry Fowler reported that the Fall *Ripple* was sent to K&K Publishing on Thursday, October 29, 2020 and 252 copies should be mailed out this week. 675 copies were emailed on November 5th. To date we have received \$112 for subscriptions. Our expenses have been \$950.88; \$240 for our mailing permit, \$300 for mailing costs, \$410.88 for printing.

Sherry also submitted her resignation in writing; she will still publish the *Winter Ripple* and assist whoever takes over the position to help her get started. She has been *The Ripple* editor for 5 years. Becky will check about a job description for the position and see if it can be posted in the weekly SC Synod newsletter.

Triennial Gathering

Risse stated that the Convention and Gathering is now scheduled for August of 2021. Shirts are available on the WELCA website. A decision will be made this winter as to whether this for sure will be held.

Old Business:

Beginning of the year retreat idea will be discussed at the February meeting.

Committees: (See attached) Risse passed out a summary about what other synods do using the updated names Churchwide started using several years ago for our Ministry Teams. She used Isaiah 43: 15-16 18, 19 for her presentation. CWO has new titles for our regular committees. Growth becomes Discipleship; Community becomes Stewardship; Action becomes Justice.

Motion by Sarah that Risse meet with our current committee chairs first and bring a recommendation to our February Board meeting about if we need to make any changes or not to our current committee structures. Second by Amanda Boatwright. Motion carried.

Prayer request coordinator: The Executive Committee recommends we appoint Denise Warren to that position. **Committee Motion** Carries.

Prayer Partners: After some discussion we decided to continue with Prayer Partners; keeping our current partner for the time being. At the February meeting we will exchange gifts.

New Business:

Standing Rules and Constitution Review: Per Becky's request, Rachel looked at the current Standing Rules. As a group we decided some terminology needed to be changed or added in the places noted below. We need to change all references of the term "delegates" to "voting Members" per CWO Constitution updates. We also need to add "email" after the word "mail" wherever we have previously only used snail mail: as under Board Responsibilities about reports email to mail, also under *The Ripple* we will change that to mail or email or shared drives. (#3 on page 3, #2 under finances). Rachel is reviewing mileage reimbursement for Board members. Rachel and Linda will bring revised Standing Rules to the February meeting for the Vote.

Motion by the Convention Committee that the registration form state the cost for registration be \$35 for voting members, Visitors \$20, and charge \$5 as a late registration fee after a set date. Motion carried.

Motion by Kristin with second by Amanda Boatwright to Adjourn. We ended with the Missionary Benediction.

On October 12, 2020, the Board voted via email to approve the 2021 SC WELCA Convention be held at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Newberry on June 11 and 12, 2021. **Motion** carried.

On November 12, 2020, the Board voted via email to accept the resignation of Sherry Fowler as *Ripple* editor.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Roland
Secretary