

Central States Synodical Women's Organization of the ELCA
April 27, 2022, Board Meeting
7:00-9:00 pm via Zoom

Present: Vickie Donnell, Jill Duis, Pat Dunavan, Rev. Dinah Dutta, Janice Gerken, Kathy Regher, Beth Rockleman, and Kathy Steinke.

Rev. Dutta opened with prayer and a poem from "So Sing, My Heart" by Edna Abbott.

President Vickie Donnell called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and we read aloud the Mission & Purpose statement in unison. Agenda was approved by consensus.

Board meeting minutes from March 18 & 19, 2022, were corrected and approved by consensus. Kathy Steinke will make corrections and send to Tim Anderson to post on our website.

Convention planning meeting minutes from April 7, 2022, were corrected and approved by consensus.

Treasurer's Report- Kathy S. made a motion/Kathy R. seconded to accept the treasurer's report as completed. Motion passed. Ending balance as of 4/27/2022 is \$25,741.03; Barbara Nelson Fund-\$15,293.40; CSS Scholarship Fund-\$2,783.70.

Announcements:

- Online Training Events for Leaders are an hour in length including a Bible study. Vickie reported that sessions are recorded and can be watched at any time. No mention was made an upcoming capital appeal for Katie's Fund to raise \$1,000,000. to support Women of the ELCA operations.
- Our organization did not qualify for Tax Exempt Status so we are dropping future attempts.
- Next *Walking in the Word* deadline is June 1.
- Vickie wrote an engaging report for Synod Assembly and was offered three minutes to address the assembly with an invitation to the upcoming WELCA convention in July.
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Reports:

Justice-Jill Jill is drafting a social justice resolution to be presented at Convention. She is working to prepare for the Sunday worship at convention.

Discipleship - Pastor Dutta shared plans for the virtual bible study series on May 10, 24, June 14, 28.

- Pastor Dutta will contact Kathy R. to work out the technology details and create a short YouTube video prior to the virtual Bible study series.
- Vickie will create an announcement and email to WITW subscribers on May 2. Announcement will contain content of bible study, its author, and information on how people can access the recording or live Zoom link.
- Kathy R. will post the announcement on social media.

Cluster Coordinator Liaison-Pat requested updates on contact information and dates of upcoming cluster meetings. Vickie will send Pat a list of new contacts from updated survey results. Kathy R. and Pat will email the PowerPoint presentations they created and utilized at cluster events for other board members to share at their upcoming meetings

Mid-Missouri- April 29, Prairie Angels- April 30, Post Rock- May 1, Ozark Mountain- June 4

Unfinished Business:

- A consensus was reached via an e-mail vote to send 4 voting members to the 2023 Triennial. We needed 7.2 votes to meet the constitution requirement and we had 8 votes (7 via email and Beth via telephone.)

- The Bridge- Fair Trade- If the Bridge confirms the dates for the convention, we will cover \$100.00 toward a locked display room at the hotel. Vickie will contact.
- Vickie, Pat, Jill, Janice, Kathy R., Beth, and Kathy S. plan to arrive in Kansas City on Thursday, July 21, prior to the 9:00 am meeting on Friday. Jill will stay with family and Loretta will miss the convention due to a family reunion. Janice will make the needed hotel reservations.
- Adrian O'Hare, VP of the Convention Bureau will welcome the convention participants to Overland Park. Kathy R. reported that they would supply business cards with a QR code that could be utilized to access a list of activities, shops, and restaurants for visitors.
- We still have not been assigned a CWO representative to attend convention.
- Beth will reach out again to Barbara Nelson on Friday regarding opening worship. If she is unable to help us this year, Vickie will take over the planning.
- Kathy R. reported that the harpist is available on Friday, but not for Sunday morning worship. Kathy will confirm the harpist for Friday. There is a baby grand on the property and Janice will ask a woman from her church if she is willing to play for Sunday worship.
- Card-making for In-kind activity on Saturday at 9:30 am. Kathy R. will ask Alice Burnett and Kathy S. will ask Mary Liby if they are willing to work together with participants to create 30-40 cards for children of all ages to add to the Safehome backpacks. We can reimburse for supplies as needed.
- Resolutions Vickie would like this board to submit four to convention. The resolutions need to be sent to voting members by July 1. Suggestions for possible resolutions are
 1. Realigning clusters into Synod conferences according to what the construction suggests
 2. Social justice
 3. Lutherans Restoring Creation (climate)
 4. Number of delegates to Triennials after 2023
- Break-Out session presenters- We need biographies and photos to include in convention booklets. Bishop Candea's and CWO representative are available on the website. Janice will contact Rev. Zeller and Kimberly Knowles-Zeller and ask them to email to Gloria. We have what we need from Kimberly Paul/Safehome, Megan Clark/Strengthening Families and Nancy Nagel/RIP Medical Debt.
- Thrivent grants were suggested for purchasing items for the in-kind gifts for Safehome. The Board members will help organize the contributions for an efficient assemble line on Saturday.
- Cluster Coordinator session was tabled until the next board meeting.
- We have not received photographs of the scholarship award recipients for the convention booklet. Vickie will contact Loretta.
- Barbara Nelson Fund- Jill made a motion/Pastor Dutta seconded following board policy to disperse all funds since 2018 instead of the past three years. Passed.
- Saturday evening recognitions will include scholarships, WITW, Ros Thorpe.
- Convention banner will be glittery and reflect our theme.
- Rev. Kim Frederking will be the convention chaplain on Friday and Saturday only.
- Prayer Partners- Pat created and attached the information cards to the crosses. Women will receive a cross upon entering opening worship and will fill out their information on the card. Each will be paired up with someone while leaving worship. Kathy R. will help facilitate.
- Friday free-time activities- In addition to walking trail and fair trade shopping, Kathy R. suggested bringing board games or cards for people to play. Kathy S. will research Stars for Our Troops and try again with bowling contact. Other suggestions were Zumba or gentle yoga.
- We will contact Tim Anderson after Synod assembly regarding virtual possibilities.

Reminder Clusters of Responsibilities:

T-shirt distribution- Amazing Women- Kathy S.
 Table grace Friday evening- Sunflowers- Pat
 Table grace Saturday noon- Disciplines of the Plains- Pat
 Table grace Saturday evening- Prairie Angels- Rev. Dutta
 Barbara Nelson Silent Auction- Ozark Mountain- Vickie
 Mini-Raffle- Mid-Missouri- Janice
 Quilt Raffles- Carolyn Olson – Vickie
 Saturday evening table favor- Smoky Valley- Kathy R.

Convention Committees- Nomination committee is Carolyn Bauer, Alice Burnett, and Rev. Dutta (liaison). The other committees will be appointed by Vickie once the voting members have registered.

Deadlines:

May 15 Grant applications to Beth

June 1 Board & Triennial Nominations to Alice:
June 1 Registrations/T-shirt orders/Voting cards to Gloria
June 1 Deadline for WITW articles to Mary Liby
June 1 Completed "Cluster Calls" Information sheets to Vickie
June 17 Hotel reservations to DoubleTree
June 20 Reports for Convention Information Booklets to Gloria

July 1 Vendor Display Tables to Loretta

New Business

Janice will work on the proposed budget for FYE 1/31/2024

To prepare for a possible transition from 19 Clusters to 5 Clusters we need reach out to individual congregations who have not returned a survey to collect and verify as much information as possible. Each board member will be emailed a listing of the units that are in the cluster for which they are the board liaison and instructions how to proceed. Completed forms need to be sent to Vickie by June 1. We will use this information to create a whitepaper for organizing clusters by conference.

Ideas for article for the upcoming issue of WITW. These were not specifically assigned.

- Churchwide representative photo and biography
- Keynote speaker photo and biography
- Photos of women at recent cluster meetings.

Next Board Meeting is Wednesday, June 1, at 7:00 pm.

Vickie closed with prayer at 9:00 pm.