

Department of Minnesota Executive Committee Meeting
Wednesday, July 10, 2019
Willmar, Minnesota

The following were present: Department President Jean Walker, Department First Vice President Mary Hendrickson, Department Second Vice President Patti Coleman, NEC Raleen Tolzmann, Past Department President Donna Arends, 1st District Vice President Michelle Weaver, 2nd District Parliamentarian Vida Bacon in for President Kristen Donnelly, 3rd District President Lynn Duffy, 4th District President Lynn Olson, 5th District President Cari Lamb, 6th District President Sharon Thiemecke, 7th District President Pam Gades, 8th District President Zandra Kessler, 9th District President Lynn Carr, 10th District President Sandra Locker, Parliamentarian Carol Kottom and Department Secretary Sandie Deutsch. There were 9 guests.

Department President Jean Walker called the meeting to order. The opening prayer was given by Mary Hendrickson, the Pledge of Allegiance led by Patti Coleman and the Preamble led by Carol Kottom.

President Jean welcomed everyone to the meeting. She called upon Betty Underthun, Auxiliary Convention Chairman to greet the group.

President Jean called upon each member of the DEC to give a one minute update on their year. Each District President introduced their new Presidents.

Raleen Tolzmann came forward with her NEC report. She went over the resolutions that will come before the National Convention body. One is to change “wives” to “spouses” for eligibility and the other is to combine some of the program committees together. Also, there will be a resolution regarding members transferring to another unit, they can pay dues in either one.

Jean called upon those present that are running for an office for the 2019/2020 year. They are Mary Hendrickson for Department President, Patti Coleman for 1st Vice President, Mary Kuperus for 2nd Vice President, Jean Walker for Alternate NEC and Dee Dee Buckley for NW Division Vice President for 2020/2021.

A motion was called for the approval of the April 13, 2019 Department Executive Committee meeting minutes. Zandra Kessler made a motion to accept the minutes as printed, was seconded and was approved.

President Jean announced that her project donations in the amount of \$22,614.26 will be presented to Deanna Mounts from the Fergus Falls Veterans Home during the convention.

Jean called upon the District President’s for Charter concerns:

District 1 – none

District 2 – none

District 3 – none

District 4 – none

District 5 – Joe Smith Unit 468 – Cari Lamb made a motion to accept the Charter, was seconded and carried.

District 6 – none

District 7 – Alexandria wants to turn in their Charter. Jean stated that Pam needs to go over the checklist to get everything done properly before accepting the Charter. Sandie Deutsch will get Pam the information.

District 8 – none

District 9 – President Jean thought Breckenridge was in question. Sandie stated that we need to vote to accept this Charter. Lynn Carr made a motion to accept Breckenridge’s Charter, was seconded and carried.

District 10 – Hamel, Dayton and Tri City – All these three Units need to be worked with.

Sandie reported that calls came in to the office as to Units wanting to turn in their Charters.

District 1 – Chatfield 197 – 31 paid members

District 2 – New Ulm 132 – 177 paid members – Vida Bacon stated she is the new Unit President and this has been taken care of

District 7 – Alexandria 87 – 28 paid members

District 8 – Mountain Iron – 39 paid members and Orr has 11 paid members

District 9 – Warroad – 47 paid members

Sandie feels that the District Leadership needs to step up and work with all of these Units. They need to step up and set up meetings in these Units.

Jean brought up the Employee Handbook revision that was discussed at the April 10 meeting. Sandie Deutsch has taken the word “Director” from the title out of the Discipline, Misconduct Issues-Department Executive Secretary/Director. Both Carol and Patti stated they never received the changed copies. Sandie will get the changes that were discussed updated in the document and forward it to Patti Coleman and Carol Kottom.

President Jean asked for an update whether the Member Handbook needs to be updated. An Ad-Hoc committee was set up in April. Carol Kottom stated that the feedback came back from members and Sandie was to update the original with the proposed changes. We would then see if it is cost effective to reprint the books.

Sandra Locker stated that the quilt being made for Al Zdon is being made and Sandy is wondering if there could be any monies collected for some of the materials that Bonnie Eells is spending on the quilt. A “pass the hat” will be done during the convention on Thursday. A motion was made by Sandra Locker to collect funds and a check for \$200.00 will be sent to

Bonnie Eells for materials and any money collected over that will be given to Al Zdon when he receives the quilt, was seconded and carried.

President Jean called on Finance Chairman Bev Otterness to discuss the National Convention stipend. Bev stated that the stipend recommended by finance for approval was \$1,408.00. Bev Otterness made a motion to approve the amount of \$1,408.00 and was seconded. After discussion the motion carried.

Jean gave special recognition to Bev for stepping up and taking over as Finance Chairman when Carol Barbknecht was no longer able to serve.

Jean Walker also gave special recognition to Pat Nelson as being awarded the Goodwill Ambassador by the National Headquarters. She will be flown, along with her husband, to the National Convention in Indianapolis to be recognized.

Mary Kuperus was called to the podium to give her report on Girls State. Mary reported that the Girls State Governor Kate Kapsner will be attending the Department Convention on Friday. The highlight was the surprise appearance by Governor Tim Walz who addressed the citizens. Jean thanked the Girls State staff for their outstanding job.

President Jean called upon Mary Hendrickson to discuss the future of the Strategic Planning Committee. Mary went over what was discussed at the National Leadership Conference in May, and that the original 5 year plan was now completed. Mary Hendrickson made a motion to dissolve the Department's original ad-hoc Strategic Planning Committee and was seconded. Sandie Deutsch asked if the entire plan would be dropped as National does have a Future Focus Committee. Patti Coleman stated that Mary and she discussed this and they feel each Department Chairman needs to incorporate the goals into their programs each year. After discussion a vote was taken and the motion passed. Mary stated that she will find those she appointed to this committee for the 2019/2020 year different positions.

Jean Walker brought her Department Convention appointments forward for approval:

Department Color Bearers – Jean Pederson and Jean Horack

Department Presidents Page – Mary Ann Davis

Department Secretaries Page – Emily Suess

Sergeant-at-Arms – LuAnn Marschel

Judge of Elections – Diane Sullivan

Tellers – Sandy Fredrickson, Sandy Gibson and Carolyn Albertson

Credentials – Naomi Hill Chairman, Kandy Regan and Joanie Krantz

Resolutions – Diane Hayes Chairman, Lynette Andel and Vida Bacon

Rules – Jeannette Mertens Chairman, Darlene Wondra, Joanne Joachim and Doris Lafayette

Timekeeper – Karla Minnick

Pianist – Pat Nelson

Photographer – Karla Otterness
Audio Visual – Zandy Kessler

A motion to approve these appointments was made by Lynn Duffy, seconded and carried.

Karla Otterness was called upon to give a report on the 100th Anniversary Committee. Karla passed around one of the restored pictures. Toolkits will be forwarded to each District President by the committee. A proclamation was written and sent to the Governor's Office for approval. Karla wanted to remind everyone to bid at the Silent Auction on Friday. Proceeds will go to fund events throughout the year to celebrate our Anniversary.

President Jean called on Sandie Deutsch for her report. Membership packets have been brought to convention and have to be signed out for whatever is being taken. August Workshop will be on August 10 at Waite Park Post 428.

The Financial report was also given by Sandie Deutsch as Jan Lauby was unable to attend the Convention. Sandie shared two thank you letters from members of whom received funds from our Department Emergency Fund. Handouts were given out regarding Profit and Loss standings. Sandie reported that the investments are doing extremely well at this time. Sandie reported that she will be taking funds out of the investment account in August for operations as we don't have money coming in and our biggest expenses are at this time of year until mid-September.

The next agenda item was the review of proposed resolutions that will go to Department Convention. Jean read the resolved portion of each resolution.

Resolution #1 - ALA Department dues – on a motion by Sharon Thiemecke, was seconded and carried to recommend this resolution be passed.

Resolution #2 – Mission Training – on a motion by Sharon Thiemecke, was seconded. After discussion Patti Coleman made a motion to amend the motion to read:

- (m) The Department President, First Vice President, Leadership Chairman and the Department Honorary Junior President **may attend the Northwestern Division Mission Training with expenses as budgeted (amended portion)**. Also included when from Minnesota and if not reimbursed by National is the National Northwestern Division Vice President and the National Northwestern Division Honorary Junior Vice President shall be; mileage, registration and meals when not provided and one-half the room rate. Allowable expenses for the President and National Northwestern Division Vice President to include; mileage, registration, meals when not provided and room. All expenses will be budgeted from the National Leadership account.

The amendment was seconded and carried. The original motion was then voted on and carried to recommend this resolution be passed.

Resolution #3 – Memorials – on a motion by Raleen Tolzmann, was seconded and carried to recommend this resolution be passed.

Resolution #4 – National Presidents Homecoming – on a motion by Patti Coleman and was seconded. After discussion was carried to recommend this resolution be passed.

Resolution #5 – Junior Conference Information from Office – was not signed so it was discarded at this time.

Resolution #6 – Time and Place of Annual Junior Conference – on a motion by Cari Lamb, was seconded and carried to recommend this resolution be passed.

Resolution #7 – Forgotten Children’s Fund – on a motion by Lynn Duffy, was seconded and carried to recommend this resolution be passed.

Resolution #8 – Membership on Decline – on a motion by Sharon Thiemecke, was seconded and carried to reject the recommendation this resolution be passed.

Resolution #9 – Benefits of Becoming an Associate Member – on a motion by Zandra Kessler, was seconded and carried to reject the recommendation this resolution be passed.

Jean called upon Mary Hendrickson for her upcoming installation plans. Mary gave an update on what she expects of the incoming officers. Mary asked that everyone come to the Willmar Post after installation for the new Commander and Presidents reception.

A policy draft was given to each DEC member regarding on what the National Leadership Funds can be used for. We are looking for input and this will be on the agenda at the August DEC meeting.

President Jean announced that there will be an election of 4 spots for delegates-at-large to the National Convention and 12 spots for alternates-at large. If there are more nominations, a ballot vote will need be taken for the delegates and a roll call vote will be needed for the alternates.

President Jean went over the District Order for the Department Parade which will be held on Friday evening.

Jean announced the following for National Convention which is determined by the District membership totals. 6th District President Sharon Thiemecke will be the Department Presidents Page and 4th District President Lynn Olson will be the Department Secretaries Page. The 3rd District was in first place for membership but has no representative going to the National Convention. The color bearers will be 7th District President Pam Gades and 1st District President Michelle Weaver. The Honor Guards will be 2nd District Vice President Robin Olson and 10th

District President Sandra Locker. You must find your own replacement from your own District if you are unable to fulfill this honor

Sandie Deutsch came forward with her announcements. Any changes to National Convention must be given to Sandie immediately. Sandie reported that Whitney Music from Willmar donated the use of a piano for the convention. If you are participating in the National Parade wear the gold Gopher tops and khaki pants, knee length shorts or capris. There are no gold shirts available for purchase.

President Jean thanked everyone in the room for all that they have done this past year. She called upon Mary Hendrickson for the closing prayer.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Sandie Deutsch
Department Executive Secretary

Upon further researching, Department Secretary Sandie Deutsch found an email that was submitted via email from Kristen Donnelly, Junior Activities Chairman that she had signed and forwarded on to be presented at the DEC. This was Resolution #6, which had been discarded because of no signature. An email was sent at 4:15 p.m. by Secretary Sandie Deutsch to all members of the DEC for a recommendation that this resolution be passed. A motion was made by Sharon Thiemecke, was seconded and carried to recommend this resolution be passed.

Respectfully submitted.
Sandie Deutsch, Department Executive Secretary