

Minnesota Women of Today
Exec Council Meeting Minutes—May 15th, 2015
Annual State –Arrowood Resort, Alexandria, MN

- President Laura Gaylord called the Annual State Executive Council meeting to order at 1:15p.m.
- IVP Christine Sibilleau read an invocation.
- DD 7 Brenda Kennelly led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- WW SPM Becky Lysen led the United States Women of Today Creed.
- Co-chairs of the convention-Tawn Hanson and Kellee Potter-welcomed everyone to Annual State Convention.
- Parliamentarian Shelah Heien gave Orders of the Day.
- Minutes of the Winter Exec Council meeting on January 23rd stand approved as printed.

Secretary, Melissa Baxter-Lesniak

- △ Last CMHs are due ASAP for the June Issue
- △ PALS applications are available this weekend

Administrative Vice President, Dawn Scouton

- △ The following districts have elected a DD for 2015-16: District 3 – Jessy McShane, District 5 – Illeana Miller, District 6 – Terri Miller, District 7 – Kellee Potter, District 9 - Deana Ries.
- △ Those districts that have not elected a DD yet will be expected to remain after the Elections meeting until they come up with a plan for district leadership.
- △ Judges are looking for district excitement. Exec Council, help your DD show the judges that your district is EXCITED!

Membership Vice President, Terri Dahlberg

- △ Welcome aboard to 87 new members this trimester. They join the 396 members who renewed their membership. We had 14 chapters and 2 districts with growth. 19 chapters had 75% retention or higher and 16 chapters had 100% retention. We celebrated 5 in-chapter extensions
- △ 20 chapters qualified for the 3rd Trimester membership challenge of getting Early Bird Renewals in by March 15th and are in the drawing for the Ultimate Movie Night Party Pack! The winner is New Hope. 5 chapters qualified for the 3rd tri member challenge of completing an in-chapter extension and are in the drawing for the Ultimate M-Night Party Pack! The winner is Benson.
- △ Eleven chapters qualified for Foundation Rebates third trimester for a total of \$295; these checks will be given out later today. The MNWT Foundation Membership Rebate program has been a huge success this year – THANK YOU to the Foundation for supporting Membership growth within the Minnesota Women of Today.
- △ Who's excited for LET'S MAKE A DEAL??? DD's ... please remind your district chapter members to attend this super fun M-EVENT tonight! Chapters AND districts with 3RD trimester membership successes will deal for big prizes. ALL attendees will have the chance to play!!

Chapter Management Vice President, Debbi Benke

- △ LOTS was held in Rice on May 2nd and we had a great time! 59 members participated in LOTS! Past Presidents Kayla Herman, Jen Kinzer, and Nicky Anderson presented the board training! They even came in as geese!!!! We talked about "Bird Splats!" Mark your calendar when the calendar comes out for next year because not only do you learn at LOTS, you have fun and meet new people!!
- △ LOTS rebates will be announced at the Business Meeting tomorrow.
- △ This past trimester we had 4 chapters on TLC. The Woodbury chapter came off of TLC - whoo hoo! Thank you to the Eden Prairie members for helping with the Woodbury chapter. I know that they appreciated all your assistance!
- △ If your chapter is strong and striving, I encourage you to take a step out and be a mentor to one of the TLC chapters for first trimester. Chapters on TLC for 2nd Trimester: Eagan, Nisswa, and St. James
Chapters on TLC for the 1st Trimester: Balaton, Brooklyn Park, Detroit Lakes, Elk River, Fairmont, Foley, Melrose, and Mora (East Central)

Extensions Director, Colleen Todd

- △ Extensions in progress-Kenyon-Wanamingo, Coon Rapids, Owatonna, and Silver Creek/Maple Lake. One two and under chapter –Staples Motley
- △ Staples-Motley will be graduating at the luncheon tomorrow afternoon!

Internal Vice President, Christine Sibilleau

- △ Thank you! I received 9 USWT Outstanding Achievement in Programming certifications – I did not meet my goal of 25. 8 Executive Council members completed a STEP certification this year.
- △ Drawing for Executive Council Challenges! Winner of USWT Outstanding Achievement in Programming certification appreciation basket is Sue Ellen Toppings. The winner of the STEP certification appreciation basket is Katie Castro.
- △ ISO 1 Internal SPM for 2015-16 – the Records and Recognition area is still open!

Living and Learning, Tevyan Sorensen-Report given by IVP Christine Sibilleau

- ★ I am sorry I cannot be here with you all this weekend and want to thank you for all of the support this year. A special thank you goes out to all of the amazing LPMs and DPMs who will be providing readings in my place this weekend.
- ★ 83 Living & Learning, 99 Personal Development, and 116 Health & Wellness certifications were submitted in Tri 3. 9 chapters completed PEP course certifications. Year-End totals will be presented at the business meeting tomorrow.
- ★ 3rd Trimester Challenge: 13 chapters submitted at least 10 certifications across Living & Learning, Health & Wellness and Personal Development. President Laura can draw for Prize Pack 1. I also received pictures from __3__ chapters and __1__ district growing through Living & Learning. President Laura can draw for Prize Pack 2.
- ★ The Leadership Book Discussion is tonight at 7:00pm in the Miltona A room, "My Beloved World" by Sonia Sotomayor.
- ★ The Effective Speaking competition will be held tonight at 8:40pm in the Miltona B & C room. It is presenting on "How Would You Sell Women of Today to a Group". Please come and support the 2 presenters in the competition.

NEWSLET, Jenn Baarson

- ★ Thank you to all the chapters and districts who submitted their newsletters to me for review. I had the opportunity to read 15 chapter newsletters and 1 district newsletters.
- ★ I am still accepting NEWSLET articles for the post Annual State edition. Articles are due to me no later than May 31, 2015. I'm also looking for several executive council members articles for the state NEWSLET. Attachments: envelope, article form, and personals

Public Relations, Mary Ann Johnson

- ★ There have been 100 likes on the PR web page!
- ★ Shop at AmazonSmile.com, click on "supporting" and find Minnesota Women of Today Foundation. A percent of your purchases will go to the Foundation.
- ★ The Rice chapter is the winners of the basket for most visits to the MNWT webpage.
- ★ SAVE THE DATE--AUG.30TH, 2015 at 1 pm at TARGET FIELD "DAY AT THE DIAMOND". TWINS going against the HOUSTON ASTROS.
- ★ Outstanding LPM for 3rd Tri is Terri Burkstand of New Hope.

Records and Recognition, Sharon Erickson

- ★ We had 18 chapters in 3rd Trimester with a total of 25 for year-end.
- ★ Thank you to all who submitted their Year-end evaluations. There was 5 Staff, 1 SPM, 4 District Directors, 7 Presidents and 4 State Delegates who submitted Year-end evaluations.
- ★ We had 9 submissions for the USWT Project Recognition this year. Only one away from my goal of 10.

Ways and Means, OPEN

- ★ Distributing coffee, scone mix and pancake/waffle mix this weekend. Thank you everyone! Enjoy ☺
- ★ Thank you to those who supported Ways & Means by ordering any of the promotionals this year.
- ★ Did you bring your gold, silver, maybe some older coins or gemstones to cash in? Karrow Jewelers will be in the Lake Carlos room at 6:30p-9:00p and they're ready to give you some moolah for what you bring in!

External Vice President, JoAnn Miller

- △ We will report on the total dollars and service hours tomorrow. The numbers are fantastic!!
- △ We still have the following External SPM positions open: Women's Wellness and Community Connections.
- △ Thank you for your support of all our programming areas and me this year!
- △ Consider completing the USWT Outstanding Achievement in Programming and submitting it to USWT.

Community Connections, Tari Seiler

- ★ Thank you to all the chapter who submitted a Community Connections Award. The winner's will be announced later today.
- ★ Thank you to the chapters and districts that donated to either Salvation Army or Camp Friendship during the year.

Isaac's Journey, Barb Zeroth

- ★ Thank you for the opportunity to support Isaac's Hope Fund as the SPM and your donations and time to the priority area, even though it seemed tough to keep the momentum with their announcement of closing the foundation.
- ★ The 3rd trimester challenge was for chapters to hold Fabulous February Fundraisers and a special gift will be given to the chapter who participated.

★ I will be announcing the chapter donations and time totals later.

Women's Wellness, Becky Lysen

★ Thank you to everyone who volunteered donated and shared the Isaac's Journey story this year.

★ The chapters who participated in my Fabulous February Fundraiser challenge received a special gift from me, which was included in your DD bag.

Youth of Today, Shelli Struzyk

★ 3rd Tri was the highest transmittals and LPM reports so we finished strong!

★ But...challenges didn't go so well. The challenge for donating \$25 to OYA was only completed by one chapter so there is not need for the drawing. Only 4 chapters were included in the drawing for raising money for YIPA.

★ Thank you to everyone for helping me learn this year!

Treasurer, Shirley Halgrimson

△ All expenses and outstanding bills as soon as possible.

△ We had 223 transmittals submitted during the third trimester. Totals will be given at the Business Meeting tomorrow.

△ A \$5.00 dues increase will be voted on at the business meeting

△ Our next budget and Finance Committee meeting will be on Friday May 22nd at Davanni's in Brooklyn Center.

△ Change of filing dates and late charges

△ Changing the filing date of Annual Registration with the MN Secretary of State's Office

Parliamentarian, Shelah Heien

△ We will vote on the proposed bylaw changes introduced at Winter State tomorrow at the business meeting.

△ Please have completed motion slips ready for any business you wish to transact.

△ The winner of the party pack will be announced at the Business Meeting tomorrow.

Chairman of the Board, Vicki Rockwell

△ Thank you to everyone who made March Planning recommendations and attended the event. Please pass the recommendations on to your successor if you have not completed the recommendations.

△ Thank you to the District Directors for the planning and coordinating you did to make the area meetings a great success.

△ Last chance to purchase your green ONTO shirt to remember President Laura's year.

△ Looking for 2015-2016 committee chairs for Marketing and Membership Management Committee.

△ Elections for State President and State Treasurer will be held this weekend. Please attend the caucus tonight to hear the candidates and also visit their hospitality rooms.

△ The following policy motions were made, seconded, and passed:

✓ Policy O. 9. d. Strike the entire sentence and replace with the following:

Ongoing subcommittees of Future Directions include Manual Review, Strategic Planning, Train the Trainer, Convention Review, Restructuring, Chapter Structure, Go-Green, Awards and Online Training.

✓ Add Policy O. 9. d. 4) to read:
The objective of the Convention Review subcommittee is to review and propose possible changes for the schedule and format of each state convention.

✓ Add Policy O. 9. d. 5) to read:
The objective of the Restructuring subcommittee is to review and propose possible changes to the organizational structure of organization.

✓ Add Policy O. 9. d. 6) to read:
The objective of the Chapter Structure subcommittee is to review and propose possible changes that would help chapters to become stronger.

✓ Add Policy O. 9. d.7) to read:
The objective of the Go-Green subcommittee is to help the organization look at and implement ways to improve our environmental footprint.

✓ Add Policy O. 9. d. 8) to read:
The objective of the Awards subcommittee is to oversee the Outstanding Awards process and presentation that happen annually at Winter State Convention.

✓ Add Policy O. 9. d. 9) to read:
The objective of the Online Training subcommittee is to create and provide training videos and webinars for the organization.

✓ Add Policy O. 11. e. to read:
Ongoing subcommittees of Membership Management include Leadership and 2020 by 2020.

✓ Add Policy O. 11. e. 1) to read:

The objective of the Leadership subcommittee is to assist the organization with succession planning and developing our future leaders.

✓ Add Policy O. 11. e. 2) to read:

The objective of the 2020 by 2020 subcommittee is to provide and promote ways that will bring our membership to 2020 by the year 2020.

△ The following motions were made, seconded, and passed:

✓ I move that we approve Shelah Heien as Social Media Chair.

✓ I move that we approve Sue Ellen Toppings as Branding Chair.

✓ I move that we approve Kimberly Rowland as Promotions Chair.

✓ I move that we approve Melissa Redzuan as Expos Chair

✓ I move that we approve Daina Mirsch-Wenner as Web Development Chair.

✓ I move that we approve Joanne Larson & Wendy Homyak as 2020 by 2020 Co-Chairs.

✓ I move that we approve Cathy Shuman as Manual Review Chair.

✓ I move that we approve Peggy Kaufman as Convention Review Chair.

✓ I move that we approve Peggy Kaufman as Restructuring Chair.

✓ I move that we approve Christine Sibilleau as Go-Green Chair.

✓ I move that we approve Kimberly Rowland as Online Training Chair.

✓ I move that we allow a free will collection to benefit the National Campaign Fund.

Executive Director, Katie Castro

△ Chapter Officer sheets are needed immediately. Online submission via the website is preferred. Link to new Google Doc is on the home page.

△ The District Officer Sheet is also available online and as a Google Doc.

△ The first trimester dues billing will be sent out as soon as it is received. Early Bird renewals are due postmarked by July 15th, and final postmark deadline is August 15th; a \$10 late fee is assessed if your renewals are not postmarked by this deadline. New member adds are accepted thru the last day of the trimester, and last minute additions can be emailed if necessary.

△ MNJOTS 2015 is June 5-7, 2015 at Arrowwood Brainerd Lakes; further information will be handed out at the Special Executive Council meeting on Sunday.

△ The 990-N postcard for fiscal year 2014-2015 must be filed between June 1, 2015 and September 1st, 2015; MNWT now requires chapters to file by September 1st or a \$10 late fee will be charged; if still not filed by October 1st an additional \$40 fee will be charged. Watch the treasurer CIP and Chapter Mailings for further information; a link to the 990-n filing is also now available online on the Executive Director's webpage.

△ Conventions

△ Annual 2016 - still looking for hosts; please see me this weekend with any questions.

△ Fall State 2016 - no priority bid received; bids now open to the entire state and due August 23, 2015.

△ Fall State 2015 - information and registration form available online, and will be in MNJOTS CIP packets. Hosted by the Aitkin Women of Today, "Oktoberfest" will be held September 18-20, 2015 at Cragun's in Brainerd, MN.

△ Winter State 2016 - hosted by the state organization January 29-31, 2016 at the Double Tree Park Place.

△ A huge thank you to our Web Master and Web Assistant for all of the hours that have been spent on the improvements to the website, the new webinar series, and the new Executive Council Online Ops Manual. If you see these incredibly committed women this weekend, please be sure to thank them!

△ Chapter Email Addresses - new this year we are introducing official chapter email addresses, for example EdenPrairieWT@mnwt.org. Strong, secure passwords have been assigned for each mailbox. Training on these began at LOTS, and will continue as we move into first trimester. This enables staff to communicate electronically with all chapters using an email address that will not change each year. We also created District distribution lists for DDs to use when communicating with their chapters. Our hope is that this will facilitate electronic communication on all levels of the organization.

Presidential Assistant, Michelle Gag

△ Thank you to everyone who donated towards Laura's year-end gift.

MNWT Foundation, Jen Kinzer

△ Become a member of the Sapphire Club. There are two levels \$500 and \$100. You have 3 years to complete your pledge. Other donations are being accepted also. Sustaining membership. Outstanding programs, scholarships, grants, etc.

△ Tomorrow we will be holding a Lucky Buck Auction to benefit the Extensions Fund.

△ The Foundation Fundraiser, Stevie Ray's Comedy Cabaret, raised \$463.92.

- △ Have any art you would be willing to donate? The MNWT Foundation is seeking donations for their annual Art Auction at Fall State to benefit the Cheryl L Anderson Scholarship.
- △ Amazon Smile benefits the MNWT Foundation with a percentage of sales. If you shop Amazon, please sign up to be a part of Amazon Smile.
- △ Our next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday evening, April 6, 2015. Please let me know if you would like to attend.

Future Directions Committee Chair, Jean Skroch

- △ Thanks to all that attended the Committee Meetings in March.
- △ The Committee Chairs have been busy.
- △ Are you still asking yourself “What can I do next year to make a difference”?

Membership Management Committee Chair, Heidi Westerlund

- △ Out and About for third Trimester was on March 12th.
- △ 2020 by 2020 was introduced at the Area Meetings and will soon be on our website.
- △ MMC is currently open. If you are interested, please come see me, and I will explain the position to you.

Marketing Committee Chair, Cathy Shuman

- △ Thank you to all members who attended the state committee meetings on March 21st and to the 2014-15 Marketing subcommittee chairs. Subcommittee chairs for 2015-16 approved at Exec Council meeting.
- △ Bid was heard for 2015-16 Statewide Buckets of Sunshine project and Ruff Start Rescue was accepted. Watch for information in the MNJOTS CIP.
- △ MNWT will be participating in the 2015 Demand Change Project being held at the Crowne Plaza Riverfront in St. Paul from May 28-30th. This will be in conjunction with Breaking Free, our new 3-year programming area. Thanks to the MNWT Foundation for providing funds for us to be a part of this event, where we will serve as hosts of the Hospitality Suite from Thursday through Saturday and sponsor an information booth at the Victory Concert on Saturday night. We will be looking for volunteers for those and for donations for the hospitality suite. Please check out the registration area for more details and to sign up.
- △ Statewide Buckets of Sunshine presentation for Emerge Mothers Academy at the business meeting.

SPM bids heard

- Melissa Redzuan-Living and Learning-Approved
- Kimberly Rowland-NEWSLET-Approved
- Mary Ann Johnson-Community Connections-Approved
- Sue Ellen Toppings-Ways and Means-Approved

President of the Minnesota Women of Today – Laura Gaylord

- **Ongoing Business—None**
- **New Business-**
- **Announcements-None**
- IVP Christine Sibilleau read a benediction.
- R&R SPM Sharon Erickson led the Minnesota Women of Today Creed.
- The meeting was adjourned at 3:58pm.

Submitted by Melissa Baxter-Lesniak, Secretary