



Spring Board 2020 Meeting Minutes – Zoom/Conference Call – March 21, 2020

President Robin Bridson welcomed everyone to this first electronic Spring Board meeting. Secretary Mary Stelley stated there were 18 board members present. President Bridson declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 10:39 am. She asked for a moment of silence in memory of members who had passed away since our last gathering in October, keeping them in our hearts and prayers. Due to an online meeting, there are no pages. She announced Margherita Clemento as parliamentarian and thanked Neale Steiniger credentials chair and Patti Pollock registration chair. Pollock gave the registration report and reported there were 26 members in attendance on the Zoom meeting. Pollock stated registration checks will be returned on Monday.

Hearing no objections, the Standing Rules were adopted as emailed in the Board Meeting Packets and online except for #s 1, 9 and 14, which Clemento read, to be removed. Finance Chair Bernie Sunderlin advised under New Business we are voting for the 2020-2021 budget, not the 2019-2020 budget.

Motion SB 2019-20-06 by Patti Pollock, seconded by Jacquie Shellman to correct the date of the proposed budget as printed in the packets from 2019-2020 to 2020-2021 and adopt the agenda with the understanding the President is empowered to make further changes if needed – Motion adopted.

President Bridson recognized many first timers to our first virtual board meeting. Secretary Mary Stelley read the EC actions since the last board meeting.

The minutes of the October board meeting held 10/12/19 were included in the board packet. Hearing no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer Deborah Francis presented the treasurer's report as of 3/16/20. Ramona Gallagher asked for clarification of the October board meeting profit, GL #45050 \$2,073.42 (Check from Grand Island NYS Women) and explanation of GL 80200. Francis advised she will research the negative amount of \$150.00 and get back to Ramona. She stated the treasurer position was challenging as she does not know many of the members. Francis stated PayPal registration payments will be refunded by check. With no further discussion the report will be filed for audit.

Vice President Shirley Felder stated because of the current issue we are facing it was good to move forward with technology and move to the next level. She continues to speak to younger people who do not want to show up for meetings, listen to minutes, etc. They want us to act, make a difference and do something. She reached out to local chapters for her to attend or assist them with membership but has not have any responses.

President-Elect Jacquie Shellman stated in November she, Bridson and Felder attended Professional Women of Finger Lakes annual Athena Leadership awards program celebrating Women of Distinction. In December she attended the Miss Penn Yan academic competition sponsored by Yates County Women. In March 2020 she and Bridson attend the BNC meeting with boomer panel discussion, and she attended an International Women's Luncheon using Bridson's Fall Board workshop and received many questions from the group. She also met with Ramona Gallagher and Mary Ellen Morgan for the NY Grace LeGendre Endowment Fund fellowship selection committee. She is in the process of selecting committee chairs for her year as president.

President Bridson stated she had hoped to attend Staten Island, Rome, Mohawk Valley and Binghamton chapter meetings in March and April, however due to the COVID-19 outbreak she could not attend the chapter meetings. She set up invites to local chapter presidents to instruct them how to hold a Zoom meeting. Will hold a training session in a few weeks and brainstorming how to hold meetings. Tuesday is the next book club session re "Dare to Lead".

Linda Przepasniak questioned workshops for the June conference meeting. Shellman reviewed "Girls on the Run" if we have a conference. Sue Mager gave details of Foreverly House in Ballston Spa and to continue collecting feminine hygiene products for them. Also, stuff a purse, donating a purse you have and fill it with items for someone going to a domestic shelter, i.e. toiletries, etc. Carol Michalski asked Sue Mager if she knew how many women in our organization are women veterans. Sue will put inquiry in next *NIKE* or *Communicator*.



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BOARD REPORTS

IPSP – Debra Carlin stated she did not have a report, likes this format as she cannot travel.

Standing Committee Chairs

Advocacy – Carol Michalski – shared current advocacy statement and working on proposed statement. Michalski wants to review the bullets under the statement. Linda Przepasniak stated any changes would have to be approved at pre-conference board meeting. Shellman stated Status of Women and Advocacy to work together.

Bylaws – Sue Mager read her bylaws motion with one change to the motion included in the packet. Przepasniak asked if local chapter bylaws are current. Gallagher stated they should as last revision June 2017.

Communications – Linda Przepasniak – Need to use Communicator more aggressively, use as much as possible, highlight officers, keep members engaged. Info re awards should be included and chapters to do something and contribute to awards. NIKE moving along. She also referred to branding for ads in local newspapers or public tv (re budget funds). Submit info to pr@nyswomeninc.org.

Finance – Bernie Sunderlin – Discussed revisions made to Financial Guidelines (Patti Pollock, Mary Stelley and Deborah Francis) with 2 editing suggestions from the membership. Sunderlin reviewed the proposed 2020-2021 budget. Sunderlin suggested adding Finance Chair to EC and a long discussion was held. EC can invite any chair to their meeting.

Membership – Renee Cerullo – Active 422, lapsed 64; SI 69, BNC 47, Town & Country 4, and Southern Finger Lakes Women 3 and couple 8.

Personal/Professional Development – Robin Allen – several people interested but no candidates to date. Possibly 2 persons for 2021.

REGION DIRECTORS

Region II - Theresa Fazzolari – Hope to have meeting in May, no Fall meeting, Staten Island to host – active chapters. Several events on hold due to current circumstances. Elaine Croteau advised postponed Women in Distinction event until September – had 200 people coming. Women History event also postponed – no date set.

Region III – Shirley Felder – nothing to report – need to have election for new officers; she had appointed someone for ARD. Janet Carey advised members in region were waiting for a meeting, but it was not set up.

Region V– Helen Rico – Introduce Pat Fanning as new assistant region director replacing Audrey MacDougall. Fanning advised they solicited input for NYS strategic plan and looking forward to speaking with Patti Pollock.

Region VI – Patti Pollock – Fall meeting with SWOT analysis, which Shirley Felder attended. Spring meeting 4/18/20 online Zoom with elections via survey monkey. Tri-County secretary passed away last month.

Region VII – Mary Ellen Morgan – 2/2/20 meeting – no fall meeting, did winter meeting at B&B as social event, short business meeting, very productive. Yates County Women has 17 members, started with new roster, and provided business cards for each member; held Miss Penn Yan event. Steuben County Women – visual board. Lake to Lake Women planning Youth Leadership program, developed new program. Professional Women of Finger Lakes treasurer had lots of question. She knew Southern Finger Lakes Women in trouble, had successful BBQ. Region gives \$500 career advancement award. All chapters working for PE Jacquie Shellman's installation.

Region VIII – Ramona Gallagher – Email to chapter presidents for online meeting for nominations/elections. There are 2 chapters floundering. Buffalo Niagara and Chadwick Bay doing well.



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SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Manual of Instruction – Neale Steiniger - no report

Women’s Day at the Fair – Pat Ferguson - tentative 8/26/20, 18 days if NYS budget passes.

Strategic Planning – Patti Pollock – had few Zoom meetings, would like to have workshop at annual conference, not something we can do quickly, do sections at each meeting. Focus on structure of organization to grow at the same time. So many levels, do we really need all of them? Standing Committees should focus on their portion of the plan. Focus on structure, governance and policy.

Nominations – Robin Allen stated paperwork for state officers must be postmarked no later than 3/28/20.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS – Secretary Stelley read the items of new business.

Motion SB 2019-2020-07 Bylaws Chair Mager move an addition to the Bylaws be brought before the membership at the 2020 Annual Conference: Article VIII: Regional Organization Section 4:
d) In the event, there is no ARD to step in to fill the Regional Director vacancy, a special region meeting may be held to elect a Regional Director to fulfill the term of office. If necessary, the presiding NYS Women Inc. President may appoint a region member to fill the Regional Director vacancy for the remainder of the term of office – Motion adopted.

Motion SB 2019-2020-08 By Finance Chair Sunderlin to move the revised Financial Guidelines as edited for approval by the membership at state conference – Motion adopted.

Motion SB 2019-2020-09 by Finance Chair Sunderlin to move the proposed 2020-2021 budget as presented for approval by the membership at state conference – Motion adopted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President-Elect Shellman gave updated plans for the June 12-14, 2020 Annual Conference in Waterloo at the Quality Inn.

Vice President Felder asked to speak about an issue. She spoke about the importance of doing something for women of color in February. To grow our organization, we need to include women of color in our agenda. She spoke of a wonderful speaker they had at their local chapter. She thanked Renee Cerullo for the membership system NYSW has available for members and gave her name to an organization in Washington, D.C. Janet Carey spoke about an African American speaker scheduled for their chapter.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 12:49 PM.

Prepared by:

Mary Stelley

Recording Secretary

Date Approved: October 3, 2020

Reviewed by:

Robin Bridson, 2019-2020 President

Margherita Clemento, 2019-2020 Parliamentarian