



Fall Board 2020 Meeting Minutes – Zoom – October 3, 2020

President Jacqueline Shellman welcomed everyone to the 2020 Fall Board Zoom meeting. President Shellman announced Kathleen Haddad as timekeeper, Margherita Clemento as parliamentarian and Neale Steiniger as credentials chair. She announced Pam Pringle will be the Region VI voting member. Secretary Mary Stelley stated there were 17 board members present. President Shellman declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 10:07am and announced only board members are eligible to vote. President Shellman advised it was her pleasure to ratify Karin Pentel's appointment as Region III Director. She asked for a moment of silence in memory of members who had died since our last meeting and a power point presentation listing the deceased members was shown. President Shellman called on President-Elect Shirley Felder to lead the group in the Collect and Pledge of Allegiance. President Shellman recognized the first timers on the Zoom meeting.

Registration Chair Patti Pollock gave the registration report as of 10:05am today and reported there were 38 members in attendance on the Zoom meeting representing 15 chapters.

President Shellman asked Parliamentarian Clemento if the Board members had the standing rules. She stated they were emailed to registrants and online on the website. Hearing no objections, the Standing Rules were adopted.

President Shellman stated she had five changes to the agenda.

Motion FB 2020-02 Janet Carey, 2nd Shirley Felder to adopt the agenda with the understanding the President is empowered to make further changes if needed – Motion adopted.

Secretary Mary Stelley read the EC actions since the last board meeting.

President stated the minutes of the March 21, 2020 board meeting were sent to board members.

Motion FB 2020-03 Stelley, 2nd Felder to accept the March 21, 2020 board meeting minutes as distributed – carried.

Treasurer Patti Pollock presented the treasurer's report as of 9/30/2020. She advised plans are for the audit to be done via Zoom hopefully in October. The report was filed for audit.

Vice President Janet Carey stated she attended EC meetings, webinars, Strategic Planning Committee, and meetings committee. She will be contacting local chapters along with Shirley Felder and is also on the NY Grace LeGendre Endowment Fund board. She stated there are 383 active members and 74 lapsed members.

President-Elect Shirley Felder stated she is on the Strategic Planning Committee, liaison to the regional directors and liaison to chapters along with Janet Carey. She will be contacting Regions II, VII and VIII, as well as the members at large and Janet Carey will be contacting Regions III, V and VI. She spoke of an email from Linda Przepasniak, BNC regarding diversity and reviewed the five questions to be asked when contacting chapter presidents. She then recognized President Shellman to give her report.

President Shellman spoke of the impact COVID-19 has had on the three NYS Women, Inc. Zoom meetings. She advised of the meetings she attended, the meeting with Mary Ellen Morgan "Women Take the Stage" held in Auburn, NY and 261 Club meeting in Rochester. She also attended a webinar regarding women running for office.

Reports of Board of Directors

Robin Bridson, Immediate Past President asked how everyone survived this summer, what did you do to stay connected and announced Staten Island had an amazing submission and received her president's award.



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Standing Committees

Advocacy – no report – no chair currently. President Shellman asked for someone to please step forward to chair this committee.

Bylaws – Chair Sue Mager read the motion being presented by the committee for presentation to the special membership meeting.

Communications – Chair Linda Przepasniak stated the NIKE team is working hard to get the *Communicator* out each month. She spoke of the committee's proposal to spend \$800 for a pilot membership marketing program in Region III. She asked members to support the NIKE and the NIKE team - Joyce, Katharine, and Sue.

Finance – Ruthann Rocque – Thanked Patti Pollock for her hard work and sending financial reports to her.

Membership – Renee Cerullo – Active 383, lapsed 74; she advised two chapter are under the required five members and she continues to email quarterly active and lapsed member reports to the chapters. She stated COVID and the lack of meetings is going to hurt renewals for the next 6 months.

Personal/Professional Development – Robin Allen – several people interested, however, do not want to attend via Zoom. No candidates. Robin Allen is a distinguished Toastmaster and willing to attend meetings for assistance.

REGION DIRECTORS

Region III – Karin Patel – dealing with Town & Country membership as they have under 5 members. Will try to have meetings with chapters via Zoom using the Professional Women of Sullivan Country account.

Region V – Helen Rico – Pat Fanning doing wonderful job as assistant region director. Proud to announce all chapters have a representative at this meeting. She said Robin Bridson puts the events on the calendar and she stated about all the events the chapters are having.

Region VIII – Ramona Gallagher – Have not been able to meet, Tanya was not getting info and are concerned about 2 chapters – 716 and Lakeshore. Buffalo Niagara and Chadwick Bay doing well.

Region VII – Mary Ellen Morgan – had email spring meeting – working to have Southern Finger Lakes Women merge with Yates County Women. Doing installations virtually. Yates County Women, Steuben County Women and Lake to Lake doing well.

Special Committees:

Nike Business – Sue Mager

As reflected in Pollock's financial report she has only received \$200 to date. With COVID-19 it is harder to get donations Will be speaking with Finance Chair Ruthann Rocque with an idea for donations. Will put info in November Communicator requesting donations. She is not sure NIKE should have to raise money to produce the NIKE magazine.

Women's Day at the Fair – Pat Ferguson

Still need to appoint a woman for the 2021 event and hoping to have a 2021 event. Budget funds were used for the Auburn event.



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Status of Women – Elaine Croteau

Project – Equal Rights Amendment – working with her are Helen Rico and Pat Fanning. Working to remove time limit and then approve the amendment. She advised the steps to be taken. Staten Island invited 2 members to explain the process. Info will be distributed to all chapters.

Strategic Planning – Patti Pollock

Held meetings over the summer and stated reasoning for change of “build” to “connect” women in the mission and vision to include all women and to use your voice. Hope to have plan completed by February 2021 and finalized for presentation at 2021 board meeting.

CDO – Linda Przepasniak

Meeting virtually, looking at innovative ways to partner with NYS Women, started series of seminars, watch for info in *Communicator*. The scholarship grant program updated with first opportunity October-December 2020 and another opportunity March-May 2021 for amounts from \$100-\$1,000. Also have Facebook page, in process of having our own website. Please support CDO by using your time, talent, and money to support these women. Dues are \$15.00.

NY Grace LeGenre Endowment Fund, Inc. – Elsie Dedrick

The board has been busy, doing teleconference meetings rather than Zoom and met as EC, Board and Committees. Next Board meeting next week. Revamped application for fellowships and want NYS Women to spread the word, giving out \$6,000 for women throughout NYS. Donations now go to Maria Barnas, whose address is on the website.

Unfinished Business

Election of Nominating Committee members and alternates

Linda Przepasniak nominated Sue Mager from Region VIII, Pat Ferguson nominated Mary Ellen Morgan from Region VII and Shirley Felder nominated Debra Carlin from Region VI. All those in favor of Sue Mager, Mary Ellen Morgan and Debra Carlin serving as members of the Nominating Committee for 2020-2021, please say Aye, Opposed or Abstentions. These members have been elected to the Nominating Committee.

Nominations are now open for two alternates to the Nominating Committee for 2020-2021.

Linda Przepasniak nominated Margherita Clemento, Region II and Mary Stelley nominated Helen Rico, Region V. Hearing no further names, nominations for alternates were closed. All in favor of Margherita Clemento and Helen Rico as alternates to the Nominating Committee, please say Aye, Opposed or Abstentions. Clemento and Rico have been elected as alternates.

President Shellman stated the Nominating Committee is charged to meet and select a chair and vice chair and advise the recording secretary and president by end of day, October 4, 2020. Sue Mager was elected chair and Robin Allen elected vice chair at a meeting held immediately after the 2020 Fall Board.

There were no further items of unfinished business to come before the Board.

New Business

There were no new items of business.



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President Shellman read the one motion received from the Bylaws Chair. President Shellman asked Bylaws Chair Sue Mager if she wished to speak to the motion. Mager replied “I do not at this time”. **Rationale:** A Strategic Planning Committee created by Debra Carlin Past State President 2019, chaired by Patti Pollock, met with membership on several Zoom meetings to review and update our mission and vision. The current Bylaws ARTICLE II: MISSION states “The mission of NYSW, Inc. shall be to build powerful women personally, professionally and politically”. The revision changes the word **Build** to **Connect** and adds a vision statement to Article II. The committee believes this revision more clearly identifies our purpose.

Motion FB 2020-04 Bylaws Chair Sue Mager to move forward a Bylaws amendment to NYS Women Inc. members for vote at a Special meeting 10/03/2020, which would take effect immediately if passed by membership.

Change Article II: Mission to Article II: MISSION/VISION. The mission of NYSW, Inc. shall be to connect women personally, professionally, and politically. The vision shall be to empower women to use their voices to create positive change.

The motion was passed to go to the special membership meeting for approval by the membership.

President Shellman reminded everyone the special membership meeting will start at 11:45am today with the bylaws motion the only business to discuss.

Announcements – Save the Date

1. March 20, 2021 – Spring virtual Board meeting
2. June 11-13, 2021 – Annual conference, Waterloo, NY

There being no further business to come before the Board of Directors the 2020 Fall Board meeting is adjourned at 11:30am.

Prepared by:

Mary Stelley

Recording Secretary

Date Approved: March 20, 2021

Reviewed by:

Jacque Shellman, 2020-2021 President

Margherita Clemento, 2020-2021 Parliamentarian

Attachments: