

**Woman's National Farm and Garden Association
Annual Meeting
Ithaca, NY
June 8, 2018**

Call to Order

President Rita Urbanski from the Troy Garden Club, Michigan, called the meeting to order at 9:01AM.

Invocation

Kaye Doud from the Dooryard Branch, Ohio, offered the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America

Mary Pat Ford from Ambler-Keystone, Pennsylvania, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Welcome

President Rita Urbanski welcomed everyone to the meeting. She recognized the three past presidents in attendance this year, Bea Peterson 1994-96, Julia Siefker 2012-14 and Molly Hammerle 2014-16.

Memorials

Rita Urbanski acknowledged those members lost in the last year, Faith Tiberio, Dorothy Zippel, Millie Machuga, Gloria Minnebo, Mary Ellen Tabar and Rosemary Lamars.

Roll Call

Stand In Recording Secretary Vicki Guntenaar from the Troy Garden Club, Michigan, called the roll. 76 were present. There were five absences.

Quorum

A quorum, which is constituted by the presence of a majority of voting members at the national meeting was present.

Approval of 2017 Meeting Minutes

Stand In Recording Secretary Vicki Guntenaar called for any questions or corrections to the 2017 minutes. There was one change to page 13, bylaw change. Change word "there" were included to "they" were included. Corrections will be made and minutes filed as presented.

A&O Treasurer's Report 2017-2018 YTD

National A&O Treasurer Lenore Treba, Troy Garden Club, Michigan presented the report. There were no questions or changes. Report will be filed as presented.

E&C Treasurer's Report 2017-2018 YTD

National E&C Treasurer Kathy Welsh Beveridge from Bucks County Branch, Pennsylvania, submitted the report. Report will be filed as presented.

Kathy explained that the report is higher than expected due to the Arboretum donation from NY Division. Those monies will be going to the endowment.

Marcia Mandell, Country Club of Northville, Michigan, asked for an explanation on the ACWW donations and those going to Pennies for Friendship. Pennies for Friendship always go toward administrative costs.

Kathy also clarified that the Frysinger National Project goes directly to ACWW and then to a country for a specific project.

Karen Bickle, Rochester Branch, Michigan, asked about the Raymond James accounts. Kathy gave a brief history of these funds. She explained that after some guidance we have chosen an Investment Modality (FRDM account) approach with more forward thinking on these investments.

Leslie Morris-Smith, Keystone-Ambler, Ohio, asked about tax deductions for donations. Kathy explained that donations made to the E&C account are tax deductible and those made to A&O account are not. Those donations benefit members and is not a 501(c)(3). Jo Ambrose, Ambler-Keystone, Pennsylvania, suggested there be an area on the website to explain contributions in more detail.

Judi Milidrag, Troy Garden Club, Michigan, asked for an explanation of the Angel Fund and how it works. Molly Hammerle, Franklin Branch, Michigan offered the explanation.

Jo Sillanpaa, Country Club of Northville, Michigan asked about the unrestricted interest from the endowment funds. Kathy explained that the interest was allocated to all funds that were in arrears. We wanted to start with a clean slate.

A&O Budget 2018-2019

Lenore Treba submitted the proposed budget for 2018-2019. It will be filed as submitted.

E&C Budget 2018-2019

Kathy Welsh Beveridge submitted the proposed budget for 2018-2019. It will be filed as submitted.

Committee Chair Reports

Finance: Mary Lynne Moellering, Rochester Branch, Michigan, and the Finance Committee reviewed the A&O and the E&C books, Fiscal year 2017 and January-April 2018 and found them to be accurate and in order.

Registrar: Cheryl Malin, Pontiac Branch, Michigan, reported the status of membership. There are 208 single branch memberships and 1310 Michigan Division memberships for a total of 1518 Total Membership. Cheryl reported that she received 8 publications back and would reach out to those branches for updated information. She asked again that all changes to addresses, email addresses, name changes, etc. be reported to her

in a timely fashion. She also reported that with the loss of Ann Arbor Branch and Vernier Branch, both in Michigan, she removed 250 members from the role.

Other Reports: Please see your meeting packet for other reports.

Proposed Change to the By-laws

By the direction of the Executive Committee, Stand In Recording Secretary Vicki Guntenaar proposed the following change:

Section 1: Committees

B. The Finance Chairperson shall be appointed by the President. The Finance Committee shall be composed of the President, President Elect, Vice President, A&O Treasurer, E&C Treasurer and the Finance Chairperson.

Motion did not require a second. Motion passed unanimously by affirmation.

Proposed Change to the Standing Rules

By direction of the Executive Committee, Vicki Guntenaar proposed the following change:

III. Finance Committee:

Composed of the Finance Chairperson, President, President Elect, Vice President, and the two Treasurers.

Motion did not require a second. Motion passed unanimously by affirmation.

New Business

Vicki Guntenaar proposed:

By the direction of the Executive Committee, I move that the we use the monies from the Buckeye Auction, June 2018 annual meeting, for the Renaud-Peterson US National Arboretum Internship Program.

The motion was seconded by Bea Peterson. Motion passed.

This money goes to a trust fund for the 12 week internship program. It is not touched by the government.

Pat Brown, Warren Branch, Michigan, announced that we collected \$193.65 for Pennies for Friendship at dinner Thursday night. It will be forwarded to ACWW.

Announcements

Mary Schwark spoke briefly about the need for a National Vice President. This position is also meeting planner for our National meeting. We are all volunteers. We do the best we can and we need to have fun.

Molly Hammerle, Advisor and Chair for Slate of Officers for 2018-2020, also expressed the need for all of us to step up and consider the VP position.

Julia Seifker added some of her experiences as she climbed the ranks to President. It is an eight year commitment but well worth it. She has volunteered to help with the planning for next year's National meeting.

Adjournment

Rita Urbanski adjourned the meeting at 10:52AM

Minutes recorded and submitted by:

Vicki Guntenaar
Stand-In Recording Secretary
Woman's National Farm and Garden Association