

**WOMAN'S NATIONAL FARM AND GARDEN
ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
June 7, 2019
Approved 2020**

- I Call to Order**
The meeting was called to order by President Mary Pat Ford from the Ambler Keystone branch.
- II Invocation**
The invocation was given by Rita Urbanski from Troy Garden Club.
- III Pledge of Allegiance**
The pledge of allegiance was led by Sheila Kneeshaw from Indian Village Garden Club.
- IV Welcome**
President Mary Pat Ford welcomed and thanked everyone for attending. Mary Pat thanked Nancy Matthews for the lovely podium flowers. Nancy is from the Ambler Keystone Branch and is the WNF&GA National Floral Arts Chair.
- V Roll Call**
Recording Secretary Fran Ralstrom from Grosse Pointe Farm and Garden performed roll call.
- VI Quorum**
Of the registered attendees there were 48 members present and 5 absent.
- VII Approval of Minutes from the 2018 WNF&GA Annual Meeting**
The minutes were approved with two corrections.
- VIII Administration and Operations Treasurer's Report 2018-2019 Year to Date**
Lenore Treba from the Troy Garden Club presented the report. It will be filed as presented.
- IX Education and Charitable Treasurer's Report 2018-2019 Year to Date**
Kathy Welsh Beveridge from the Bucks County Branch presented the report. It will be filed as presented.
- X Administration and Operations Budget-2019**
Lenore Treba presented the budget. It will be filed as presented.
- XI Education and Charitable Budget-2019**
Kathy Beveridge presented the budget. Kathy explained how endowments work and what happens if enough funds are not generated to make a dispersal. Except for the Renaud/Peterson internship at the U.S. National Arboretum, dispersals are based on a percentage of available funds. The budget will be filed as presented.

XII Committee Chair Reports

A. Finance Committee

Mary Lynne Moellering, National Finance Chair from the Rochester Branch reported that she has done a review of the reports and found them to be in order.

B. Registrar

1.Cheryl Malin, National Registrar from the Pontiac Branch, presented her report. The Grand Marais Branch from Michigan withdrew from Woman’s National Farm and Garden. One member became a Member at Large for a net loss of 10 members.

2.Cheryl stated that the magazine can be viewed on the national website and can also be printed in color from the website. Please contact her if you would like to be removed from the mailing list.

XIII Bylaw Changes

1. From the Executive Committee:

“In order to open the candidacy of vice-president to more people, the executive committee proposes to eliminate part C of the bylaw describing the qualifications, which would then, by default, put the candidacy of vice-president under qualification A only. Serving as vice-president, and then president elect would give this candidate 4 years of board experience before becoming president.”

The current bylaw reads:

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS

Section 2: Qualifications

- A. A candidate for elected office shall have been a member in good standing for two years
- B. A candidate for the office of President or President-elect shall have served on the National Executive Committee, or as a Director, or as a Chair of a National Committee for for at least 2 years.
- C. A candidate for the office of Vice-president shall have served on the National Executive Committee, or as a Director, or as a Chair of a National Committee, or on a Division Executive Committee, or as a Branch President for at least 2 years.

The changed bylaw will read:

Section 2: Qualifications

- A. *A candidate for elected office shall have been a member in good standing for two years.*
- B. *A candidate for the office of President or President-elect shall have served on the National Executive Committee, or as a Director, or as a Chair of the National Committee for at least 2 years.*

The bylaw change was passed

2. From the Executive Committee:

“To keep the nominating committee to a reasonable and workable size the executive committee proposes we change the following bylaw.”

The current bylaw reads:

Article VI: NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1: Nominations:

The nominating committee shall consist of the Immediate Past National President serving as **Chairman**, a president of each Division and the single Branch Presidents.

We would like to change the description of the committee members to the following:

ARTICLE VI: NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1: Nominations

The nominating committee shall consist of at least five members including the Immediate Past National President serving as chairperson, a president of each Division and the remaining members selected from the Single Branch Presidents.

This bylaw change was passed.

IX Awards

A. The **Hazel Herring Civic Improvement Grant** was presented to the Lapeer Wildflowers Branch. The Award was accepted by Michigan Division President Sheila Kneeshaw.

B. The **Bess Mueller Floral Arts Fund** awarded the Tri-County Branch of New York \$550.00. Davene Brown of the Tri-County Branch accepted on their behalf.

C. The **Sarah Bradley Tyson Memorial Fellowship** was awarded to Paige Stanley, a PhD candidate at the University of California, Berkley. She received \$4000.00.

D. The **Warren Sanders McNaughton Oceanographic Scholarship** awarded \$1000.00 to Erika Alvarado who will be studying macro-algal systematics at the University of Hawaii.

E. Hannah Imhoff was chosen to be the 28th recipient of the 12 week **Renaud/Peterson Internship** at the U.S. National Arboretum in the Dogwood Collection. Hannah has just completed her Junior year at the University of Maryland.

X Frysinger Project Report/ACWW

A.Rita Urbanski presented a power point explaining the Associated Country Women of the World(ACWW) programs.

1.This program is now called the “WE Fund”. WE is an acronym for Women Empowered. An extensive description is in the meeting packet.

2. There are 6 categories from which to choose:

a. Education and Capacity Building

b. Nutrition, Good Health and Wellbeing

c. Sustainable Agriculture, Training and Development

d. Income Generation and Livelihood

e. Sustainable Water, Sanitation, and Energy

f. Maternal and Reproductive Health

B. The membership voted that \$1000.00 be sent to ACWW to help fund Sustainable Water, Sanitation and Energy. The votes were:

a. 0 c. 10 **e. 32**

b. 0 d. 1 f. 6

- C. Rita** reminded us that Pennies For Friendship helps support the ACWW's administration of these projects.
- D.** Membership to ACWW is not part of your membership to WNF&GA. You need to join individually.
- E.** The next ACWW meeting will be held May, 2022 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- F.** The WNF&GA funds will be depleted in 4-5 years if there isn't increased funding.

XI Unfinished Business

A. Change to Standing Rules

1. Fran Ralstrom stated "By the recommendation of the Executive Committee, I move that Standing Rule 3d be changed from "\$100.00" to "an amount to be determined annually by the Finance Committee."

The recommendation was accepted 47-1 with no abstentions.

2. Fran Ralstrom stated "By the recommendation of the Executive Committee, I move Standing Rule 3f vii be changed to read "The Woman's National Farm and Garden Association Ambler Campus Internship: This funding will be given to the Ambler Arboretum Public Horticulture Internship Fund to help Ambler hire a summer intern who will, in part, help manage the gardens outside of the Woman's National Farm and Garden Association Visitors' Center and the Hilda Justice buildings."

The recommendation passed unanimously with no nays or abstentions.

B. Rita Urbanski asked for volunteers to serve on the Nominating Committee.

C. The National Arboretum is donating a bench with a plaque in honor of the New York Division's years of work and support. The slate plaque that was originally ordered will be installed at an appropriate location at the Ambler campus.

XII New Business

A. Suzanne Smith Osilowski from the Ambler Keystone Branch is the new National Environment Chair. Suzanne said she would like to see each branch develop a rain garden and she would like to expand the web presence of the Environmental Chair.

B. Nancy Matthews did a "pop up" flower arranging demonstration.

XIII Announcements

A. There will be an opportunity to do a paint project tonight. The instructor will be a former student of Mary Pat's. Check the message board for details.

IX Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:55p.m.

Minutes recorded and submitted by:
Fran Ralstrom
Recording Secretary
Woman's National Farm and Garden Association