

Woman's National Farm and Garden Association
Annual meeting
May 20, 2017
Cincinnati, Ohio

- I. Call to Order
President Rita Urbanski from the Troy Garden Club, Michigan called the meeting to order at 9:11 a.m..
- II. Invocation
The invocation was given by Patricia Kaple from the Dooryard Branch, Ohio.
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Carole Bodner from the Troy Garden Club, Michigan.
- IV. Fran Ralstrom, Grosse Pointe Farm and Garden, Michigan, called the roll. A quorum was met.
- V. National Awards and Grants
 - A. Horticultural Therapy Award
Molly Hammerle, Franklin Branch, Michigan presented the award to the Rochester Branch, Michigan. It was accepted by Charlotte Westbrook of the Rochester Branch.
 - B. Floral Arts Award
Sue Vette, Troy Garden Club, Michigan presented the award to the Tri -County Branch, New York. It was accepted by Rita Urbanski.
 - C. Environmental Concerns
Rita Urbanski presented the award in the absence of chairwoman Suzanne Smith-Oscilowski, Ambler-Keystone Branch, Pennsylvania, to the Ambler Keystone Branch, Pennsylvania. It was accepted by Mary Pat Ford of the Ambler-Keystone Branch, Pennsylvania.
 - D. Hazel Herring Civic Improvement Grants
Karin Bickle from the Rochester Branch, Michigan presented two awards, each for the amount of \$1,500.
Karol Carter from the Troy Garden Club, accepted on behalf of the Troy Garden Club.
Fran Ralstrom from Grosse Pointe Farm and Garden Club, Michigan accepted on behalf of the Michigan Division.
 - E. National Judges Council Emeritus Award
Sue Vette presented this award to Nora Teben from Lapeer Wildflowers, Michigan. It was accepted on her behalf by Kay Buszek, Emmajane Brice and Cecelia Montgomery from the Lapeer Wildflowers, Michigan.
 - F. Sarah Bradley Tyson Memorial Fellowship
Kathy Welsh Beveridge, Bucks County Branch, Pennsylvania, announced Frances L. Garrett as the recipient.
 - G. Renaud-Peterson Internship Program(National Arboretum)
Emmajane Bryce, in the absence of chairwoman Julia Seifker from Dooryard Branch, Ohio, announced Andrew Fangmeyer as this year's recipient. The money is

mailed directly to the National Arboretum and put into a trust that can be used only by the intern.

VI. Frysinger International Project

Sheila Kneeshaw, Indian Village Branch, Michigan, presented a power point on the progress of the project voted on at the 2016 annual meeting.

Sheila presented 4 possible programs for us to help fund. Project #1 received 29 votes. Project #3 received 22 votes. If project #1 is unavailable we will try for #2.

The suggestion was made that in 2018 we vote by listing our first, second, third and fourth choices.

PROJECT 1:

"COUNTRY: Uganda

SOCIETY: Peace Initiative of Internally Displaced Women's Association

PROJECT: Purchase a Shea nut expeller machine to fight against chronic poverty in families and malnutrition in children under five.

PROJECT NO: 1027

ACWW GRANT: £3,706"

VII. Proposed Changes to the Bylaws

By the direction of the Executive Committee, National Recording Secretary Fran Ralstrom proposed the following:

"Section 2: Qualifications

A. A candidate for elected office shall have been a member in good standing for 2 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 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 motion was seconded by Mary Pat Ford. The motion was passed.

VIII. Proposed Changes to the Standing Rules

A. By the direction of the Executive Committee Fran Ralstrom proposed the following change:

"3. Charitable Affairs Director, f, 6.

Bess Mueller Fund: support Judges' School, Flower Shows, Floral Arts Programs

Workshops, and Speakers. It also provides flowers at each annual meeting. The applications are received by the Floral Arts chair and money is dispersed by the Education and Charitable Account treasurer."

The proposal was seconded by Mary Pat Ford.

Kathy Welsh Beveridge proposed an amendment to the proposal:

"...Workshops and Speakers THAT ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC"

The amended proposal was seconded by Lenore Treba. The motion was passed.

B. By the direction of the Executive Committee, Fran Ralstrom proposed the following change:

"6. b. Floral Arts:

- 1. Receives applications for Bess Mueller Funds and reviews them with the Gardening Director.**
- 2. Distributes funds from the Bess Mueller Fund through the E & C treasurer."**

This proposal was seconded by Charlotte Westbrook.

Parliamentarian, William Gordon, proposed an amendment to read:

"1. RECEIVING AND REVIEWING APPLICATIONS FOR THE BESS MUELLER FUND WITH THE GARDENING DIRECTOR."

The amended proposal was seconded by Karin Bickle. The motion was passed.

IX. Unfinished Business

Sheila Kneeshaw, Indian Village Branch, Michigan asked if guidelines have been made for selecting the person whose expenses are paid to attend the Associated Country Women of the World triennial meeting.

Rita said they would be done before the next Associated Country Women of the World meeting.

X. New Business

Fran Ralstrom proposed:

"By the direction of the Executive Committee, I move that we use the silent auction funds from the May, 2017 annual meeting, for the Renaud-Peterson US National Arboretum internship."

The motion was seconded by Susan Chambers.

The motion was amended to read "silent auction AND RAFFLE funds".

The amended motion was seconded by Susan Chambers and passed.

XI. Announcements

A Jo Sillanpaa's contact information has changed. Her new information is jcsillanpaa@gmail.com 248-513-6416

B Yolanda Tenori-Thomas reminded us that she would be collecting unopened toiletries tonight and at breakfast.

XII. Adjournment

There being no more business, Rita Urbanski adjourned the 2017 Annual Meeting of the Woman's National Farm and Garden Association, Inc.