

WOMAN'S NATIONAL FARM & GARDEN ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL NATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

June 5, 2021

Remote locations

I Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by President Mary Schwark, Troy Garden Club Branch, MI

Kathy Beveridge, Bucks County Branch, PA, opened with a brief tutorial on using Zoom.

II Invocation

The invocation was given by Raeann Krauss, Saginaw Garden Club Branch, MI.

III Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Julie Beals, Bloomfield Hills Branch, MI.

IV Quorum

A. A quorum was reached with 95 registered and 62 attendees.

B. President Mary recognized past presidents in attendance.

a. Kay Engelhart, Saginaw Garden Club Branch, MI

b. Rita Urbanski, Troy Garden Club Branch, MI

c. Bea Peterson, Tri-County Branch, NY

d. Mary Pat Ford, Ambler Keystone Branch, PA

e. Mary Bertolini, member-at-large

C. President Mary recognized the annual meeting committee.

V Approval of Minutes from 2020 National Meeting

There were no questions, corrections, or changes to the minutes. The minutes will be filed as submitted.

VI Finance Chairperson Lenore Treba, Troy Garden Club, MI, substituting for Administrative & Operations Treasurer Mary Lynne Moellering, Rochester Garden Club, MI

A. Lenore presented the approved 2021 budget. It will be filed as submitted.

B. Lenore presented the 2020 Statement of Income & Expenses report. The report will be filed as submitted.

C. Lenore presented the January 1 to April 30, 2021 report. The report will be filed as submitted.

VII Education & Charitable Treasurer, Suzanne Smith-Oscilowski, Ambler Keystone Branch

A. Suzanne presented the approved amended 2021 budget. The report will be filed as submitted.

B. Suzanne presented the December 31, 2020 report. The report will be filed as submitted.

C. Suzanne presented the January 1 to April 27, 2021 report. The report will be filed as submitted.

VIII Finance Committee Report – Suzanne Smith-Oscilowski, Ambler Keystone Branch, PA

A. Suzanne mentioned that earnings from endowments fund scholarships and other awards. WNF&GA cannot diminish the corpus of any endowment. All donations help, and donors can specify where their donations are to be directed.

B. Leslie mentioned that Charity Navigator is set up to accept online donations. Suzanne will look into that.

IX National Registrar Report – Cheryl Malin, Waterford Branch and Pontiac Branch, MI Cheryl reported that the WNF&GA has 1358 members. That information is included in the meeting packets.

X Bylaws and Standing Rules Changes – Mary Schwark, Troy Garden Club, MI A. Shall all references to "A & O" Treasurer be changed to "Administrative & Operational" Treasurer and shall all references to "Accounting & Operational" Treasurer be eliminated wherever they occur within the WNF&GA Bylaws and Standing Rules? **Motion PASSED.**

B. Shall all references to "chairman" and "chairmen" wherever they occur within the WNF&GA Bylaws and Standing Rules be replaced by "chairperson" or "chairpersons"? **Motion PASSED.**

C. Frysinger International Project: Which ACWW WE Fund category would you like to see supported by the WNF&GA Frysinger International Project donation of \$2,000 in 2021? **Voted to support access to water and sustainable water, sanitation and energy.**

XI Travelogue – presented by Christian Whan

A video presentation, including narration and music, was created by Christian Whan with information submitted by nine branches. The presentation will be available for viewing from the member section of the WNF&GA website. The following nine branches submitted information: Milford Garden Club, MI; Lapeer Wildflowers, MI; Saginaw Garden Club, MI; Northville Garden Club, MI; Rochester Garden Club, MI; Troy Garden Club, MI; Waterford Garden Club, MI; Trailwood Garden Club, MI; Ambler Keystone Branch, PA.

XII WNF&GA Charitable Affairs Report 2021 – Charitable Affairs Chairperson Karol Carter

Scholarships / Internships

Burlingame/Gerrity Horticultural Therapy Scholarship – Funded: \$1,500

Chairperson – JoAnn Preston + reviewers Patrick Hardy & Karol Carter

Awards of varying amounts given to – Mark Adkins, James V. Hatcher, Cecelia Morales, Lisa Nigro, Jessica Puzak, Morgan Whitaker Smith, Rachel Wright

Francis Plate Bequest – Funded: \$2,000

Chairperson – Cindy Nuss - \$2,000 donation given to Student Conservation Association

Renaud Peterson U.S. National Arboretum Internship – Funded & Awarded - \$7,300

Liaison – Natasha Cunningham (Liaison's responsibility is in transition)

Sarah Bradley Tyson Fellowship - Funded & awarded: \$4,000

Chairperson – Cindy Nuss Co-trustees: Louise Shoksnnyder & Sylvia Anderson

Recipient Arena Lewis is earning a M.S. degree in crop and soil science at Michigan State University.

She is studying seed systems in developing countries and is focusing on how social networks impact the development of seed diversity within communities.

Warren Sanders McNaughton Oceanographic Scholarship – Funded: \$1,000

Chairperson – Leslie Morris Smith + reviewer Alice F. Marcy

Awarded \$1,000 to Riley Secor. Please see award details by Leslie Morris-Smith in the meeting packet.

WNF&GA Temple University Ambler Campus Internship – Funded: \$2,000

Liaison – Mary Pat Ford

2020 & 2021 Awardees – TBD Please see award details by Mary Pat Ford in the meeting packet.

Sponsorships

Bess Mueller Fund – Funded: \$1,000

Chairperson – Nancy Matthews

Award – none reported (2021 applications rescinded due to event cancellations)

Fryinger International Project Fund – Funded: \$2,000

Chairperson – Kay Engelhart

Award: Electronic vote directed the funds to “support access to water and sustainable water, sanitation and energy.”

Hazel Herring Civic Improvement Grant – Funded: \$3,000

Chairperson – Gerry Howard + reviewer Josephine Haque

Awarded - \$400: The Pontiac branch of MI Division WNF&GA to refurbish the herb garden of the Wisner Home at the Oakland County History Center, which houses the Oakland County Pioneer & Historical Society. The home is the former estate of MI Governor Moses Wisner (1859-1861). The herb garden was established in the 1970s by the Pontiac branch. Their goal is to recreate an herb garden with herbs/plants that would have been found in the 1850s. Funds are to be used for soil, compost, flats of perennial and annual herbs, pots of herbs and hoses.

Schlesinger Library - Funded - \$500.00

Liaison – Carole Jackson Dilley (Mrs. James E.)

Annual donation for storage of WNF&GA documents at Schlesinger Library, Cambridge, MA

XIII National Awards – Rita Urbanski, Troy Garden Club, MI Rita

presented the following award:

Passion for Floral Arts Award presented to:

Lapeer Wildflowers Branch, Lapeer, MI, to posthumously honor Nora Tebben

The award document was created by Pat Brown, **Warren Garden Club Branch, MI**

Mary Pat Ford, Advisor to WNF&GA Executive Committee There

was no intern in 2020. The 2021 intern is Shana Burke.

XIV Interactive polls – conducted by Suzanne Smith-Oscilowski, Ambler Keystone Branch, PA

Suzanne gave a presentation on weeds and shared a recipe for preparing milkweed pods for food consumption.

XV Adjournment – Mary Schwark, Troy Garden Club, MI

President Mary adjourned the meeting at **1:00 pm** after extending thanks to the current Executive Committee members and the behind-the-scenes members who helped make the meeting a success: Kathy Welsh Beveridge and Jo Ambrose.

XVI Post Adjournment

Members switched to gallery view and spent time socializing.

Submitted by:

Phyllis Macke, Dooryard Garden Club Branch, OH

WNF&GA Recording Secretary

Approved by the WNF&GA Executive Committee on October 26, 2021