

**SC Women of the ELCA
Board Meeting Minutes
Sunday, August 12, 2018, 3:17 PM
Mt. Horeb Lutheran Church
101 E. Boundary Street
Chapin, SC 29036**

Officers Present:

Becky Koch, President
Mary Soltis, Vice President
Elsa Hope, Secretary
Rachel Quesada, Treasurer

Board Members Present:

Rae Davis
Dianne Lominick
Sarah Cheesman
Amanda Boatwright

Merri Lewis
Amanda Sease-Baker
Kristin Snelgrove
Gwen Furcron

Others Present:

Sherry Fowler, Ripple Editor/Circulation Manager

Call to Order: Becky called meeting to order and appointed Sherry Fowler as parliamentarian.

Devotions: Becky gave devotions from *Daily Grace* titled "*What About Grace*," based on scripture, Hebrews 4:16.

Minutes: Minutes from SC WELCA Pre- and Post-Convention Board Meetings held June 7 and June 9, 2018, respectively, were approved as corrected. Roster was passed around for any corrections and initialing to indicate present.

Correspondence:

- Letters dated July 5 and July 18, 2018 signed by Ted W. Goins, Jr., President, Lutheran Services Carolinas, thanking SC WELCA for contributions of \$9,463.51 received June 25, 2018 and \$60 received July 9, 2018 in support for the *Love One Another* capital campaign.
- Thank you card signed by Ms. Charlene Fink for SC WELCA's generous donation to the furnishings of the Tanzania Dormitory Project.
- Thank you card from Anna Sarver, CWO Representative, received June 9, 2018 for hospitality extended by SC WELCA.

REPORTS

President's Report: Before proceeding with her report, Becky welcomed new Board members Amanda Sease-Baker, Kristin Snelgrove, and Rae Davis. She asked all board members to give a biographical summary, sharing information about their families, WELCA involvement, hobbies, likes, dislikes and communication preferences.

- Thank you to Rae Davis and Mt. Horeb for providing a room for the board meeting.
- Recommendations and decisions which came from the Officer's Meeting, July 7, 2018:
 - 2019 Convention theme will be "Grace in Community", scripture is Hebrews 4:16, "Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need." The logo is a graphic with multicolored people in a circle with a cross in the center. Recommendations presented were adopted by Board.
 - Official opening of the 2019 convention will be at 11:00 AM, June 7, 2019 to allow more time for Triennial voting member elections. Schedule for opening for convention:
Registration: 9:00; Pre-convention workshop: 9:30, Convention Committees, YWG & FTG Orientation - 10:15; Orientation for Voting Members – 10:30, Prelude – 10:55 followed with Processional at 11:00 AM.

- Convention theme hymns were considered: "Grace Alone" by Scott Wesley Brown and Jeff Nelson, "I Come With Joy" (ELW 482), "Amazing Grace" (ELW 779), "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" (ELW 807). Kristin made the motion for "Grace Alone" to be the convention theme hymn with the aforementioned to be included in a convention hymn booklet. Seconded by Mary. MOTION PASSED.
- Reviewed Calendar of Events for 2018-2019 of activities and deadlines (attached).
- The Camp Kinard retreat is scheduled for February 8-9, 2019. Dianne Lominick will provide more details.
- Finalized committees and chairs; finalized the liaisons for conferences.
- Nominating Committee: Paulette Miller (St. Philip, Myrtle Beach, Epiphany), Julie Watson (Joy, Moore, Upstate), Cecilia Dunlap (Mt. Tabor, West Columbia, Saxe Gotha) and Brenda Byrd (St. Paul, Columbia, Midlands).

Treasurer's Report:

As of July 31, 2018: Summary Sheet shows current cash assets are \$33,324.79 which includes checking account balance of \$6,696.46, a savings account balance of \$10,805.41 and Mission Investment Fund CD of \$15,553.92, maturing August 3, 2019. The Edna Corley Estate Mission Investment Fund CD matures July 6, 2022 and has a balance of \$35,630.71. Actual and Budget Receipts and Disbursements show: Budgeted Receipts - \$55,456.98, Non-Budgeted receipts - \$3,070.74, Budgeted Disbursements- \$53,059.96, No-Budgeted Disbursements - \$2,909.56 with an Ending Balance of \$33,324.79.

As of August 10, 2018: \$39,097.69 reported Convention Income/Receipts plus a reserve of \$2,000 for the convention; \$39,535.20 reported in Convention Expenses/Disbursements, including donations of \$9,573.51 to Lutheran Services Carolinas and \$15,462.51 to Tanzania Girls' Dormitories Furnishings. The net income from the convention/unused reserve is \$1,562.50. The Treasurer's Report, submitted by Rachel Quesada, was received as information. Unused Reserved Funds for the Convention was \$1,562.00. Rae moved to designate unused reserved funds of the 2018 convention to the 2019 Convention. Seconded. MOTION PASSED. A special offering of \$70.10 was received from Martin Luther Lutheran youth; Kristin moved the donation of \$70.10 be made to the Children's Garden, 4801 Colonial Drive, Columbia. Merri seconded. MOTION PASSED.

Vice President's Report:

2018 Convention Report: Mary Soltis, VP, provided the summaries of Convention Attendance, Evaluation Ratings, and attendee evaluations. Out of the 105 congregations in the SC Synod, 44 were represented at the convention; 232 of the 236 registered attended the convention. Highest ratings were given to Projects, Chaplain, Keynote Speaker and Worship. Adherence to the 4-minute time limit for each institution is critical. (See attached 2018 Convention Evaluations Summary.)

2019 Convention Report:

Banquet Entertainment: Pastor Jackie Utley and the Synod theater group. Mary will attend Saxe Gotha conference meeting (Sep 16) to finalize details to include fees.

Convention Staff: Pat George is confirmed as the Technology Technician.

Keynote speaker will be a representative of Lighthouse for Life (pending board approval).

Midlands (Host Conference) will have the opportunity to make recommendations for vendors; consideration for vendors will be charged \$25 or 10% of sales for each vendor spot. Tom Genutis will return with wood-working; other considerations are for jewelry, home art (ceramics, photography, etc.), and fabric work (crochet, knitting, quilting, sewing). Mary is considering a more permanent place for registrar tables depending on space availability.

Workshops: Considering at least 2 options for Saturday allowing for visitors to attend workshops during business meetings. Convention project may be combined with a workshop. Workshop considerations are Chair Yoga, sign language, craft, Bible Study, and a CWO led WELCA workshop.

Meals, hotels, St. Stephen's facilities: Decisions will be made and finalized prior to the Oct 8 *Ripple* deadline, and the upcoming Midlands conference (Sep 23) allowing for volunteers to choose the activity they wish to support.

2019 Nominating Committee Report: Positions for vote: Vice-President (ecclesiastical), Secretary, 4 board members, 4 Triennial voting members. Not eligible for nomination: Elsa Hope.

2019 Convention Projects: Determination of the agency designated as recipients for convention donations is forthcoming, pending further review. Packing freedom bag ministry is a possibility for a workshop. Sara Cheesman made a motion for Human Trafficking to be the local project. Merri seconded. MOTION PASSED.

The Ripple and SC WELCA Website Report. Sherry Fowler, Editor/Circulation Manager. The latest *Ripple* issue was sent for printing on July 12th and expected mailing date for the 265 printed copies was July 18-19th; emailed copies (663) were sent via Constant Contact on July 19th; this is an increase of 185 email copies from May 2018. Input for the *Ripple* should not be sent directly to Sherry but channeled through the appropriate committee and/or officers. Liaisons are reminded to inform conference leaders at their meetings. October 8, 2018 is the next deadline for *Ripple* article submissions. Sherry urged input for the SCWELCA website (www.scwelca.com) with new items, changes or updates, deletions from the Board.

Committee Reports

Mission Action: Sarah Cheesman briefed the board about the non-profit agency, Lighthouse for Life (7320 Broad River Rd, Suite K#247, Irmo SC 29063; their theme is Education, Restoration, and Empowerment, focusing on domestic minor sex trafficking). Sarah provided information from the agency and the support they need for their Freedom Bag Ministry; these backpacks contain personal hygiene items, writing supplies, wrapped candies/gum, mini flashlight, water bottles, a Bible, clothing items, and small blankets. Approximate cost to complete each backpack is \$130. The backpacks are given to girls who are victims of sex trafficking. Sarah will research further whether Lighthouse for Life or another agency will receive convention donations.

Mission Community: Amanda Boatwright reported the committee's promotion of the National Day of Prayer (March 2, 2019) and Bold Women Sunday (February 2019); FACEBOOK, SCWELCA website, *Ripple* and other WELCA publications. Each board member received the Fall Conference Listing, a *Ripple* subscription form, and Conference Meeting/Event Report and Conference Leaders Report to be completed by each conference. Take pictures at the meetings, especially of the conference officers.

Mission Growth: Dianne Lominick reported the committee will continue with activities guided 2018-2019 goals: Encourage attendance at retreats held at Camp Kinard and Lutheridge through publicizing and providing information. Promote awareness of the 2020 Triennial Convention in Phoenix AZ. Provide information encouraging the building of relationships between generations through mentoring. Support and promote ELCA churchwide efforts to address natural disasters, human trafficking, domestic violence and hunger. The Camp Kinard retreat is scheduled for February 7-8, 2019. Linda Roland, a former board member, has offered to present a 7-part video series titled *How Lutherans Interpret the Bible* by The Rev. Dr. Mark Allan Powell, professor at Wittenberg University in Ohio. The Isle of Palms retreat will be held on April 26-28, 2019. Dianne extended her appreciation to everyone for making the 2018 Convention Silent Auction a success. There were 115 items donated and \$3,440 raised for the Tanzania Project. Dianne made a motion for Linda Roland to be the presenter at the Camp Kinard Retreat. Seconded by Kristin. MOTION PASSED.

Old Business:

- Becky requested board members review the following: the SC WELCA Constitution, Standing Rules, Synodical Leader Guide, and the Conference Leader Guide. All are on the website. Liaisons were also asked to review the Conference Liaisons Guidelines 2018-2019.
- **Committee Assignments:**
 - **Action:** Sarah Cheesman, Chair; Mary Soltis (convention chair), Rae Davis, Amanda Sease-Baker, Kristin Snelgrove, Non-board members - Virginia Herlong (Honorary Life/Memorial Recognition Program; Host Conference Coordinator: Emily Wright, Midlands

- **Growth:** Dianne Lominick, Chair; Merri Lewis, Non-board members – Sallie and Agnes Folk, Retreat Coordinators
- **Community:** Amanda Boatwright, Chair; Gwen Furcron, Kristin Snelgrove; Non-board member – Sherry Fowler, The *Ripple* Editor/Circulation Manager; Karen Freeman, Facebook Administrator
- Call for attendance at Fall Conference Gatherings:

Conference	Date and Time	Host Church	Liaison/Attendees
#1 Foothills	Sat., Oct 6, 10:00 am	Faith Lutheran Chapel, Pickens	Kristin Snelgrove, Becky, Rachel, Amanda Boatwright
#2 Upstate	Sat, Oct. 6, 3:00 pm	Reformation, Lancaster	Amanda Sease-Baker, Rachel, Dianne
#3 Epiphany	Sat, Oct. 20, 10:00 am	St. James, Sumter	Sara Cheesman, Mary, Rachel
#4 Amelia	Sat, Sept. 15, 11:30	Pine Grove, Lone Star	Dianne Lominick, Becky, Elsa
#5 Heartland	Sun, Sept. 9, 3:00 pm	St. Philips, Newberry	Amanda Boatwright, Dianne, Rae, Amanda
#6 Midlands	Sun, Sept. 23, 3:00 pm	Redeemer, Columbia	Mary Soltis, Dianne, Merri, Kristin, Becky
#7 Coastal	Sat, Sept. 22, time 11:00 am	St. John's, Charleston	Merri Lewis, Sherri, Rae
#8 Saxe-Gotha	Sun, Sept. 16, 3:00 pm	Emmanuel, West Columbia	Gwen Furcron, Amanda Boatwright, Merri, Kristin, Elsa, Mary
#9 Western	Sun, Oct. 21, 3:00 pm	Mt. Calvary, Johnston	Rae Davis, Amanda Boatwright, Sarah, Elsa, Becky

New Business

Mission Areas Committees Goals:

Becky requested committees review the Goals and submit any modifications to her for 2018-2019.

Other Notes:

- Devotions and lunch were provided by the officers.
- Prayer Partner name drawing was completed; Sherry Fowler is the keeper of the names.
- *Ripple* articles are due October 8, 2018.
- Next Board Meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 10, 2018, 12:00 pm at St. Stephen's Lutheran, Columbia (Devotions by Mission Growth, Lunch by Mission Action).
- Meeting adjourned at 6:36 PM with the Missionary Benediction.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elsa Hope, Secretary

Approved 20181110, MEH

Addition to Minutes:

Convention Projects approved by the Board via email vote 082118, email subj: Action Team Recommends dtd 081718, 9:08 AM submitted by Action Chair, Sarah Cheesman

South Carolina Women of the ELCA 2018-2019 Calendar

2018

August 12 **Board meeting** at Mt. Horeb, Chapin, 3:00 pm
(Devotion and lunch by Officers)

October 8 Deadline for *Ripple* articles to Sherry Fowler
29 *Ripple* to be sent to K&K Printing Company

November 10 **Board meeting** at St. Stephen's, 12 pm
(Devotions by Growth; Lunch by Action)

2019

January 7 Deadline for *Ripple* articles to Sherry Fowler
28 *Ripple* to be sent to K&K Printing Company

February 8 **Board meeting** at Camp Kinard following a noon lunch
(Devotions by Action; Lunch by Community)
WELCA retreat at Camp Kinard begins with supper at 6 pm
10 Retreat continues through lunch
(Registration for the board at this retreat is covered by the budget)

22-24 Conference of Presidents in Chicago

March 4 Deadline for *Ripple* articles to Sherry Fowler
25 *Ripple* to be sent to K&K Printing Company
Deadline for 2019 Nominations (Secretary/Board) to Nominating Chair

April 8 Deadline for items for 2019 Bulletin of Reports to Elsa Hope, Secretary
10 Deadline for 2018 Nominations for YWG/FTG to Conference Coordinator
15 Deadline for 2018 YWG/FTG Names to Registrar/Convention Chair
21 Easter

26-28 Retreat at Coastal Retreat Center at Isle of Palms

May 1 Deadline for Voting Member Registration forms to Registrar

5 **Board meeting** at St. Stephen's ?? – 10 am
(Devotions by Community; Lunch by Growth)

15 Deadline for No Refunds for Delegate/Visitor Registrations

30 Deadline for Visitor Registrations to Registrar

June 7 **Board meeting** – supper at 5:30, Lizard's Thicket, followed by
pre-convention board meeting

7-8 **SC Women of the ELCA Convention at St. Stephen's, Lexington**