

University of Minnesota Women's Club
Board Minutes
November 13, 2018
Becketwood

President, Maggie Hoover, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed members. A motion was made by Fran Holmsten to accept the Board minutes for September 4, 2018. Seconded by Lou Nelson. Motion passed.

President, Maggie Hoover, reported the following:

- * These events have been added in recent years to our club: New Member Coffees, Section Chair Breakfasts, Donor Events as well as New Member Surveys, One-year Named Scholarships, Guest Quest and many others.
- * Our newsletter and website have expanded.
- * Identified a Problem: Some leadership members are feeling the strain of increased responsibility and projects. A few very capable members have declined invitations to be nominated because of a particular task that has been traditionally part of the position. Ideas will be shared as to what we as a group can do about it.

President Elect, Barbara Swadburg, reported the following:

- * The Nominating committee is having a difficult time finding members who will take on elected leadership positions.
- * We are looking for ways to streamline and simplify our Board positions/ Committees processes/work load.
- * It is suggested that committees identify what tasks they do, why they are doing them, ascertain whether the tasks need to be done and whether more members are needed to do the tasks.
- * A discussion followed.

Fundraising Vice-President, Marian Champlin, reported that we have 98 scholarship gifts totaling \$28,377 putting us ahead of last year by 12 gifts and \$4,640. Currently, we have nine One-year Named Scholarships, seven funded and two pledged. The 2018-19 Scholarship Appeal letter was mailed on October 24. The Fundraising Committee held a meeting of the UMWC HATS OFF TO THEE! Sub-Committee. The committee voted to schedule it to be held at Becketwood. It will be either late May or early June and the theme will be a British Tea.

There are two good ways to avoid some taxes by funding your gifts with the following:

1. Donate from your IRA minimum distribution. Request a Direct Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA account to: UMWC Scholarship Fund. Tax ID number: 51: 0190183 to Pat Luhmann's attention.
2. If you hold securities that have greatly appreciated over the years, donate a portion of them, tax free, to the UMWC Scholarship Fund via the U of M Foundation. You will pay a hefty capital gains tax if you simply liquidate them. Call Marian if you are interested and she will give you the procedure.

Corresponding Secretary, Marian Champlin reported that *thank you* notes and *tax receipts* have been sent to 98 scholarship donors for gifts made through November 10, 2018. *Condolence* notes have been sent to the families of two of our members who we lost over the past few months: Lily Beth Frentz who died last September and Nancy Bengtson who died on September 29. Lily Beth was well respected as the director of curriculum for the St. Paul Schools. Nancy will be remembered for her community involvement along with her love of life.

Co-Vice President of Programs, Georgia Heisserer and Carol Cantrell, reported the following:

- * We met with Becketwood Chef, Brandon, to finalize menu selections for the three Conversation Luncheons.
- * Our Fall Welcome & Scholarship Day Luncheon, Oct. 9, hosted 166 members and guests. Gail Brinkworth provided the festive, fall table decorations.
- * Transportation for the Scholarship students was timely, observations about the meal were positive and the head server, Tony, was very accommodating.
- * Thank you to Mary Abuan, Kathi Treston, Barbara Cohen, Maggie Hoover and others for their mentoring. Improvements were discussed following the luncheon.
- * Tentative dates were chosen for the 1918-19 luncheons and Holiday Tea.
- * We met with Bethany Fung at Eastcliff to discuss the menu for the Holiday Tea, Dec. 11, 2018.

Treasurer, Pat Luhmann, reported that Operations Income YTD is \$15,816 and Operations Expense YTD is \$8,848. Operations checking account balance as of November 10 is \$23,949. Key items are:

- * Total dues of \$11,060 collected this year.
- * Received \$4,752 in reservation fees for the Fall Welcome and Scholarship Day luncheon in October, which included \$700 to pay for a student scholar's meal. Paid Radisson invoice of \$4,020.
- * \$50 club memorial was given to the Scholarship Fund for Lily-Beth Frentz.
- * This year's directory costs were \$2,345 for printing and \$270 for addressing and mailing.

Scholarship Income YTD is \$30,002 and Scholarship Expense YTD is \$58,200.

Scholarship checking account balance as of November 10 is \$54,821. Key items are:

- * Received \$28,377 in scholarship and memorial gifts so far this year, including Seven One-year Named Scholarships.
- * Forty-eight scholarships were awarded this fall for a total of \$135,700: \$58,000 in annual giving from members, \$62,700 from UMWC endowment Funds at the UM Foundation, and \$15,000 in appreciated stock from members at the UM Foundation. It is the largest annual disbursement of scholarship Funds in UMWC history!

Records & Dues, Nancy Myers, submitted a written report. She reported that as of November 13, 2018 there are 332 active members, of which 293 are renewal members,

24 are new members 14 are carryover members, 1 Honorary member and 62 discontinued members. Total dues collected are \$11,060.

Conversations Chair, Ruth Jones, announced the speakers for today's luncheon and for the February luncheon.

Historian, Bonnie Marten, reported that at the UMWC office we have 4 VHS tapes; a 1982 recording of the 70th anniversary historical fashion show and slides of that show, a recording of 1990-91 interest sections and recordings of Board meetings, joint Board meetings and Annual Board meetings from 1990-92. The Archives Reading Room has a VHS player if anyone is interested in viewing the tapes in this format. Digital Library Services, a division of the Libraries, has the capability to digitize the VHS tapes and slides for a fee. The question is whether the Board should pursue getting an estimate for digitizing the VHS tapes for use perhaps on our website or whether they should be placed in the archives, as is. Discussion followed and it was decided that we should get an estimate for digitizing and revisit the topic at the next Board meeting.

Membership Chair, Lou Nelson, reported that 7 women joined the UMWC on October 9. Reminder letters were sent to 115 current members who had not paid dues on October 12. We have had 54 renewals since then and 6 members not renewing. Twelve replacement name tags have been sent to members. Packets containing the UMWC Brochure, Interest Section Cards and Business Cards have been made up to give to Board members and Section Chairs as recruitment tools. The issue of what to do with the remaining logo bags from the 2017 Big Ten Conference is on the agenda for today's meeting.

Newsletter Editor, Ginny Hanson, reported that the January/February newsletter deadline is December 8. She is inviting members to share ideas for newsletter articles as well as pictures. Cherie Hamilton shared newsletters from another organization for ideas.

Scholarship Chair, Georgia Nygaard, reported that 48 UM students received an UMWC Scholarship for the year 2018-19. Between our endowed scholarship funds through UMF and our UMWC funds, \$135,700 was given in scholarship awards. We reviewed and then tweaked the questions on the scholarship application to be evaluated next year. The Scholarship Committee recommends:

- * that the UMWC Scholarship applications open April 1, 2019 and close June 15, 2019,
- * that our UMWC Fall Welcome & Scholarship Day Luncheon be held the latter part of September, and
- * that we increase the monetary amount of the UMWC scholarship in the next two to three years.

Website Liaison, Millie Woodbury, reported that a new picture showing the diversity of our membership is now a part of our header that is on every page. The homepage features a video of Karen Kaler, thanks to Dorothy and Fred Waltz for their work on

taping the video. The website team have begun preliminary work on the development of the navigation for our new website and are looking for a volunteer to join the team. The training to learn MailChimp, a software program that sends our newsletters via email has been postponed.

Section Reports:

Nature Section Co-Chair, Margie Daniels, submitted a written report. She reported that the February 25, 2019 program will be a speaker, Holly Einess who has a Biology degree from St. Olaf College and is a MN Master Naturalist Volunteer. Her topic is: "The Journeys of Sandhill Cranes: From South to North and Points Between". The location is the Rondo Library, 461 Dale St. N. in St. Paul. No cost. Bring a bag lunch and guests are welcome.

Jocelyn Kuo submitted a written report announcing a new UMWC section. It will be named Modern Fiction. The dues will be \$1.00. This section will meet on the second Wednesday of each month, starting at 10:00 a.m. The meeting place will be Applewood Pointe at Central Park in the Club Room on second floor. The address is 2665 Victoria St. N. Contact Jocelyn (651-739-4739) if you are interested in more information or interested in joining.

International Issues Chairperson, Lynne Benz, reported that the planning meeting for this revised UMWC section has been rescheduled for December 14 at 10:00 at Becketwood. Twenty-three members expressed interest in this section and we will be planning for 6 meetings for 2019-20. We have \$299.05 in the Operations account, a previous balance from the former Community Concerns/International Issues Section.

Old Business

Lou Nelson reported that she has tote bags left over from the Big 10 Conference and is looking for a way to dispose of them. Discussion followed. Lou Nelson moved that we have a drawing at the February luncheon for each of the bags. Seconded by Millie Woodbury. Motion passed.

New Business

Marian Champlin and Georgia Nygaard reported that they attended the University-wide Scholar's Luncheon on October 25, 2018. Eighteen of our UMWC scholars also attended and they asked if they could be members of the UMWC, how much it would cost and could they join a section. Karen Kaler said they could become honorary members when they receive a scholarship and it would end when they completed their undergraduate education. Both Marian and Georgia prefer the term: *Student Members*. They also think it is a possibility for growing our membership. It would involve more work to implement this idea and be a major Membership change for the UMWC. If the Board supports this idea a sub-committee would be needed - one that would involve 2 or 3 existing board committees. A discussion followed.

Millie Woodbury moved to change the starting time of Board meetings to 9:30 a.m. It was seconded by Connie Cundy. Discussion followed. The motion did not pass.

Fran Holmsten moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Cherie Hamilton. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Abuan and Kathi Treston.