

**Minutes of Meeting
Hutchison District Leadership Team
February 29, 2020
Held at Lyons United Methodist Church, Lyons, KS**

President Jost called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. asking all members to join in reading of the UMW purpose.

Secretary Ek completed roll call visually:

Present: Anita Jost, President
Lola Wall, Vice President
Carol R. Ek, Secretary
Karen VanBrimmer, Treasurer
Marvis Doering, Nomination Committee Chair
Evy Hoyt, Spiritual Growth Chair
Karen Ehrlich, Social Action Chair
Lindsey Johnson, Youth Activities Chair
Rose Roberts, National Program Director

Not Present: Phyllis Stoppel, Education/Interpretation Chair
Pat Oswald, Membership/Nurture Chair
LaVonne Gerritzen, Communications
Sharon Anglemyer, Nominations Member
Elaine Lowry, Nominations Member
Lydia Gates, Nominations Member
Julita Biles, Nominations Member
Karen Dunlap, Conference President

Joys and Concerns: President Jost asked for any joy or concerns.

Distribution of Name Tags: New name tags were distributed to all members in attendance. Others will be distributed as contacts are completed.

Thank You to the Ladies of Lyons UMW: President Jost expressed a heartfelt “thank you” to the ladies from the Lyons UMW for the beautiful set up, refreshments, and lunch.

Devotions: Evy Hoyt read the mission focus for the day from the Prayer Calendar, devoted time for discussion on some of her favorite scripture readings from the book of James; and, offered prayer to focus today’s meeting for Spiritual Growth.

2020 Annual Directories: Secretary Ek reported that the 2020 directories have not been completed. Previous Secretary Essmiller has reported that this work has begun and she will try to have it out soon. Secretary Ek stated that she would contact Ms. Essmiller to see if there is something she can do to assist with the completion and distribution of the directory.

Minutes of the Prior Meetings: Secretary Ek distributed copies of the minutes of the meeting of August 17, 2019, to the members in attendance. These have not been distributed by email as they were just received last evening at 9:25 p.m. After preview by the members, Marvis Doering moved that the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded with following unanimous “aye” vote for approval.

Minutes have not been received from the Annual Conference held in Great Bend on October 19, 2019; nor on the leadership committee meeting which was held following the conference. Secretary Ek stated that she would follow up with Ms. Essmiller on these minutes and offer assistance in distributing them when received for approval at the next meeting.

Treasurers Report: Treasurer VanBrimmer reported that we do have sufficient funds to accommodate budgeted expenses through the 2020 year.

Expense funds for travel are available and will be paid after a proper voucher has been filed with the treasurer. The mileage rate is allowed at 30 cents per mile for travel to and from the following meetings: Shepherdess contacts, LEAF meetings, Leadership meetings, and Spiritual Retreat. A mileage voucher must be accompanied with verification of actual mileage such as a printout from one of the many computer generated travel charts such as MapQuest, Google, If you do not have a computer generated; work with the treasurer to certify mileage claims.

Dependent care and child care costs were discussed without any final determination. President Jost and treasurer VanBrimmer stated that they will gather information from National Procedures and discuss this at the next meeting.

Treasurer VanBrimmer asked for recommendations for an amount to be pledged for mission for the 2021 year. Printouts were distributed for the years 2016 – 2019 showing that we have not met goal in any of those years; however, 2018 and 2019 dropped significantly with 2019 meeting only 75.6% of goal. Treasurer VanBrimmer stated that the conference was concerned when at least 90% could not be met; and, that we should possibly pledge less to meet the goal established.

Year	Pledge	Actual	% Difference
2016	\$61,000	\$59,131.50	96.9%
2017	61,000	56,678.45	92.9%
2018	61,000	54,292.58	89.0%
2019	58,000	43,822.40	75.6%
2020	58,000		

Following discussion; Karen Ehrlich moved that the 2021 goal be established at \$40,000. Secretary Ek seconded the motion. This motion was approved with vocal “aye” unanimous vote.

Possibilities for Locations to Hold Annual Meetings: President Jost requested leadership input for locations that could possibly host future annual meetings. Suggestions were:

1. McPherson
2. Lyons
3. Newton
4. Hutchison
5. Great Bend
6. Hillsboro
7. Hesston – Moundridge

President Jost asked that each person put this on their contact information when making Shepherdess visits for discussion with the local units. This will be reviewed at a future meeting for possible scheduling.

Spiritual Growth Journey in Faith Retreat: Chairman Hoyt reported that she is still looking for a location and date to hold this retreat.

Ms. Hoyt's theme will be "To the Cross I Cling". She hopes to get Elsie Crickard, Retired UMW Minister, to hold the presentation on "Certainty".

As the retreat plans develop, information will be placed in the newsletter and hopefully on the website.

Social Action Journey in Action: Chairman Ehrlich reported that she has been asked to present at the Trinity Methodist Church in Hutchison on suicide prevention.

Ms. Ehrlich regrets that she must turn in her resignation as she is moving to Salina, KS, due to her husband's health. They feel they must be closer to doctors and emergency facilities. This resignation effective date is March 31, 2020.

Education and Interpretation Journey in Action: Ms. Stoppel did send in a written report of actions completed and in the works.

15 Units have turned in Mission Do reports with 13 of them qualifying.

6 Units did turn in Reading reports with 35 readers completing Plan 1; 2 readers completing Plan 2; 4 readers completing Plan 3; 4 readers completing Plan 4; and, 17 readers who completed no plan. She is concerned whether members are confused or if they are just tired of all that is required when all they receive is a lot of paperwork and a certificate. It may be the possibility that all of the Units are becoming smaller and members are not as active.

A short discussion was held on merits of the current program and what can be done to make it more appealing to new readers. Members have been working toward a District goal but to date plans have not materialized.

Membership / Nurture Journey in Growth: Chairman Oswald was not in attendance and no written report was submitted.

Youth Activities: Chairman Johnson reported that the METOUR is scheduled for May 30th through June 7 at the Red Bird Mission, Beverly, KY; The Upper Room, Nashville, TN; and Cookson Hills Center, Cookson, OK. The registration fee at time of registration is \$50 with the total cost of \$450 paid at time of signup. More information is available at www.greatplainsumc.org/metourmissioneducationtour. It was noted that if you know of youth who might wish to go but the Unit does not have funds, contact the Salem Unit at Ellinwood as they usually like to sponsor youth.

Nomination Committee: Chairman Doering ask that we get nominations to her for Vice President, Treasurer, four (4) positions for Committee on Nominations, Journey in Learning, Journey in Action, and Social Action Chair [due to resignation of Karen Ehrlich] to serve for the 2021-2022 years.

2020 Annual District Meeting, Lyons United Methodist Church, October 24, 2020: Vice President Wall very enthusiastically presented plans underway for the gathering. The theme will be "Joy – Joyful" with subtitles 'Joy in Living' and 'Joy and Serving'. The members of the Lyons unit are very passionate to give the best experience ever to all members. Several ideas for suggested discussions and music were tossed about remembering that \$500 has been set aside for expenses contributed by the District. Any additional expenses must be made up in the Registration Fee and local contributions. Discussion program approval and registration approval will be made at the next meeting.

Communications and Website: Chairman Gerritzen was not in attendance and no written report was received.

National Program Director: Director Roberts distributed a handout for “What to do in Case of Disaster” stating that this was just one of the programs we should currently be discussing and possibly having further training on.

She also discussed happenings at the LEAF Conference held in Topeka recently. She complimented President Jost on the outstanding program presented due to her work as Chairman this year. Participation by legislators was very good with 40 attending the luncheon. She was also very complimentary of the speaker’s presentation “Miracle of Innocence”.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held May 2, 2020, beginning at 9:15 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church, McPherson, KS.

Meeting Adjourned: The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Carol R. Ek
Secretary

Items from Previous Meetings Not Completed:

- a. Updated Bylaws
- b. Updated Standing Rules
- c. Proposed District Reading Program
- d. Updated Policies and Procedures
- e. Updated Shepherdess Guidelines
- f. Report of Audit Committee