

**Minutes of Meeting
Hutchison District Leadership Team
May 2, 2020
Tele-Conference Meeting**

President Jost called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. by taking roll call of all members present on the call.

Present: Anita Jost, President
Lola Wall, Vice President
Carol Ek, Secretary
Karen VanBrimmer, Treasurer
Phyllis Stoppel, Education/Interpretation
Evy Hoyt, Spiritual Growth
LaVonne Gerritzen, Communications
Lindsey Johnson, Youth Activities
Marvis Doering, Chair Nominations Committee
Rose Roberts, Natl Program Advisory

Not Present: Pat Oswald, Membership/Nurture
Sharon Anglemyer, Nominations
Lydia Gates, Nominations
Julita Biles, Nominations
Karen Dunlap, Conference President

President Jost requested all to repeat the UMW Purpose and thanked the ladies for attending the tele-conference meeting.

Devotions and Prayer: Evy Hoyt offered devotions using Genesis 8, 9 and 11 for reference. Evy asked that prayers be given sent to the people of Central Africa where unprecedented flooding has devastated the communities and peoples which includes many Americans; to Elaine Lowry who has been going through several illnesses; and to everyone affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Minutes of the Meeting of February 29, 2020: Minutes were e-mailed to every member of the Leadership Committee for review. No additions or corrections have been received. Minutes were approved with a verbal “aye” vote.

District Annual Directory Update: The District Annual Directory has been sent to Atelier Design and Printing, McPherson, KS for printing and mailing to every Unit plus every member on the leadership board. 65 copies are being printed, 53 will be mailed. Approval was received from President Jost and Treasurer VanBrimmer

before services were provided. Mailing was made Friday, May 1, 2020. The directory will be posted on the District website and will be available on digital copy for anyone who requests it from the District Secretary.

Treasurers Report: Treasurer VanBrimmer reported that 1st quarter (Jan, Feb, March) totaled \$12,484.16; with 2nd quarter (April, May, June) is considerably lower with only \$560.00 to this date. This is the result of many Units having to cancel fund raisers and meetings because of the COVID-19 shutdown. Hopefully many of the fund raisers will be rescheduled; however, we must realize many will not.

“Early Donation to Big Garden – 2020 National Mission Giving” - Treasurer Van Brimmer received a letter from Patricia McGill, Great Plains UMW Conference Secretary who is a representative for The Big Garden, Omaha, NE. Article VIII, Policies and Procedures documents 2020 as the designated year of giving to The Big Garden. Secretary McGill’s letter stating that The Big Garden participates in a fundraiser called OmahaGives. Because the pandemic has deeply affected the economy, The Big Garden is asking for donations that would typically be given during the year. If the donations arrive before April 30, pledges will be matched. Because a meeting of all leaders could not be called to meet the April 30 deadline, President Jost and Treasurer VanBrimmer determined that this advance is merited, money is available, and based on results of the offering made in 2019; \$400 would be an appropriate donation at this time. President Jost asked for ratification of this decision, with a caveat that if additional funds are collected at the 2020 Annual Meeting, those funds will be sent to The Big Garden. A unanimous “aye” approval was given.

Journey in Faith, Evy Hoyt: Chairman Hoyt reported that the Spiritual Retreat has been cancelled for 2020; however, emphasis on the retreat will be a part of the Annual Meeting program.

Journey in Education and Learning: Chairman Stoppel reported that Mission Do and Mission U have been cancelled for 2020. A new series on YouTube, “Finding Peace in an Anxious World”, is a series that looks at what the Bible says about anxiety, fear and worry in this world we live in. This series is a recommended watch and learn for all.

Youth Activities: Chairman Johnson reported that all program activities have been cancelled for 2020.

Communications: Chairman Gerritzen reported that she had checked in to the possibility of beginning a website in addition to the present Great Plains website.

This could be accomplished; however, an additional cost would be incurred and she did not believe there would be any additional advantages to having a separate website. After reviewing all data afforded, LaVonne moved that we continue with posting data to the Great Plains website as customary without incurring costs and training for setup of an additional site. This motion was seconded. A unanimous verbal “aye” vote affirmed approval.

Chairman Gerritzen reported on a new book to read and study, *“So You Want to Talk about Race”* by Ijeoma Oluo. This is a 10 session supplementary learning resource to support United Methodist Women leaders and members. This can also be obtained from Amazon in either Kindle (\$13.00) or hard copy (\$14.00). LaVonne reportedly uses Smile.Amazon where a percentage of every purchase goes to your favorite charity; which in LaVonne’s favorite charity is her church. This study will also count toward the reading program.

Chairman Gerritzen reminded everyone to please get their newsletter articles to her by the May 15th deadline for the June issue.

Nominations for Current Vacancies and 2021 Officers: Chairman Doering reported that she has not received any nominations for persons to fill the current vacancies or other positions for the Leadership Officers.

2020 Annual District Meeting: Vice President Wall reported on plans now in process for the 2020 Annual Meeting, October 24, to be held at 1st UMC, Lyons, KS. The theme for the meeting will be “JOY, Living and Serving”. Elsie Crickard, Retired UMW Minister, will present the main message. A musical quintet will present a musical program. Rose Roberts, Natl Program Advisory, will present a discussion on Racial Justice. Workshops and training will be planned for anyone wishing to participate. Please check the Great Plains website and the June newsletter for “Save the Date”; and, future postings for registration forms and additional information. Collections will be made for donations to The Big Garden, Omaha, NE, and for Goodfellows.

National Program Advisory: Ms. Robert’s reported that the Conference Committee has been meeting once a month through Zoom meetings. During this COVID-19 pandemic we need to take time to contact loved ones and friends who need special helping hands. Make special remembrance emphasis to those who cannot get out.

Next Meeting: July 25th, at 10:00 a.m. by teleconference or Zoom.

Meeting Adjourned: The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.