

Blue River District UMW Executive Team Meeting  
November 17, 2015  
Christ United Methodist Church, Lincoln, NE

CORRECTED AND APPROVED MINUTES

Present: Jan Hauser, Ann Cerveny, Carol King, Stacey Brandenburgh, Sandy Blankenship, Ruby Thelander, Lynette Broderick, Marletta Stark, Susan Harris, Vicki Leech, Carol Wilhelm, Rogene Silletto, Mary Starr, Judy Butler, Pat Grimes, Rayma Delaney, Mary Ann Bede, Joyce Gettman

President Vicki Leech called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

As most of the incoming 2016 officers were present, attendees introduced themselves.

Spiritual Growth Coordinator Lynette Broderick led devotions.

The minutes from the last meeting were read. The following corrections were made:

- The 2016 conference annual meeting will be in Topeka.
- The decision about not including certificates and pins in packets refers only to SMR and Dedicated Light, as they tend to be needed in the fall. Reading Program, Mission Do, and 5/7 Star Giving certificates will be in the spring packets.

The motion to approve the minutes as corrected was made by Susan Harris, seconded by Jan Hauser. Motion carried.

Treasurer Carol Wilhelm presented the attached report. There are outstanding expenses not shown in this report. Units should be reminded to get in the rest of their pledges by mid-December. Carol King made a motion to file the report for audit.

#### **Old Business**

- Old officers need to get materials to their successors.
- Vice President Susan Harris recapped the district annual meeting. Rayma Delaney shared the attached results of surveys. There was discussion about thank you notes following a district event. The conclusion was that we can never say thank you too often, but the presentation of an honorarium can be considered an official thank you.
- Attendees recapped the conference annual meeting. Treasurer Carol Wilhelm was directed to send a Gift to Mission card to Denise Larsen as a thank you for all the work she did planning the bus trip.

#### **New Business**

- Officers signed up for adoptive units. (Final list attached). The responsibilities of an adoptive officer were discussed.
- The *Blue River Ripple* will publish in February and August, with article deadlines to be determined by new Communications Coordinator Sandy Blankenship. We may need a news flash in December with report deadlines, although it is unclear as to whether the conference has prepared a comprehensive list. If Vicki Leech receives a list, she will get it to current Communications Coordinator Denise Larsen for distribution.
- A discussion was held as to whether we want officers to commit to a minimum frequency for checking email (e.g., weekly). No decision was made, but this may be revisited next year.
- 2016 district events
  - Spring Event, April 23, Elmwood St. Paul.

- We agreed we may want to try to stick to the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday in April in the future, unless it is Easter weekend.
    - Planning committee: Lynette Broderick, Stacey Brandenburgh, Ann Cerveney, Jan Hauser, Judy Butler, Carol Wilhelm, Marletta Stark, Carol King, Susan Harris.
  - Annual Meeting, October 15, Lincoln Trinity
    - Planning Committee: Susan Harris, Joyce Gettman, Ann Cerveney, Lynette Broderick, Rayma Delaney, Pat Grimes, Rogene Silletto.
    - Rayma Delaney volunteered to handle registration and evaluations again.
  - Vicki Leech will get the dates and locations to Denise Larsen so she can send out a flash notice.
  - We will discuss formalizing a rotation system for churches large enough to host these events, possibly at the February meeting.
  - If planning committees want to continue having give-aways in addition to books, they need to let Ellie Quiring know early enough for her to make arrangements.
- Incoming president Ann Cerveney will decide whether she wants to continue the practice of recruiting mentors for the executive team or if she wants to rely on the women who serve as conference officers living in our district, as they already act in a mentoring role.
  - There was discussion about continuing a “pen pal” type relationship that Wichita East started with us as a way to get to know more of our Kansas sisters in the way we’ve come to know women across Nebraska. There was no definite decision, but the discussion was generally positive.
  - The executive team will meet as follows in 2016:
    - February 16 (Lincoln St. Paul?)
    - May 17 (Seward?)
    - July 19 (Crete Grace?)
    - November 15 (Lincoln First?)
  - Ruby Thelander provided closing comments from a mentor’s perspective.
  - Information about the 2016 Ecumenical Legislative Briefing Day, Saturday, February 13, Lincoln Christ UMC, was shared.
  - The expectations of a district officer were shared. They include:
    - Attend executive team meetings.
    - Attend district annual meetings and spring events. (District covers any registration cost.)
    - Attend one Mission u annually. (Conference pays expenses.)
    - Attend conference annual meeting. (Conference pays expenses.)

The group thanked outgoing president for her leadership.

The meeting adjourned at 9:04 PM on a motion by Pat Grimes.

Joyce Gettman  
Blue River District UMW Secretary

2016 Calendar

January 15-16, Great Plains UMW Leadership Team, Garden City, KS

February 13, Ecumenical Legislative Day, Lincoln Christ UMC

February 16, BRD Executive Team Meeting, Lincoln St. Paul UMC  
April 8, UMM 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet with Harriett Jane Olson, Omaha  
April 15-17, South Central Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting, Oklahoma City, OK  
April 23, BRD Spring Event, Elmwood St. Paul UMC  
May 17, BRD Executive Team Meeting, Seward UMC  
June 1, UMW Dinner at Great Plains Annual Conference, Topeka, KS  
June 5-12, METour for young women ages 15-22  
July 8-9, Great Plains UMW Leadership Team meeting, Norfolk, NE  
July 16-21, Mission u, Kansas Wesleyan University, Salina, KS  
July 19, BRD Executive Team Meeting, Crete Grace UMC  
August 5-7, Mission u, Holiday Inn, Kearney, NE  
August 19-20, Mission u, Topeka KS  
September 16-17, Great Plains Conference UMW Meeting, Topeka, KS  
October 15, BRD Annual Meeting, Lincoln Trinity UMC  
November 15, BRD Executive Team Meeting, Lincoln First UMC