

Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of South Dakota

Minutes of the Spring Meeting – April 30, 2016 – Al's Oasis, Oacoma

Call to Order. President Diana Regan opened the meeting at 11:00 AM by leading an opening prayer. After calling the meeting to order the agenda was adopted as written by general consent. Twenty-five members were in attendance, including Vicki Sweet, Elizabeth Campbell, Cora Koss, Margaret Vranesh, Char Clark, Jennifer Hamilton, Michelle Fuszli, Katie McKay, Jaime White Thunder, Pauline White Thunder, Zelma Flute, Irene Rondell, Sharon Cloud, Twilla Two Bulls, Lorri Two Bulls, Lisa Kautz, Valorie Auguston, Marie Owen, Brenda Uses Arrow, Lois Kampeska, Noreen Iyarpeya, Nadia White Thunder, and Elizabeth Regan. Special guest was Beth Agar, representing the National Board of Episcopal Church Women.

Minutes of Last Meeting. Secretary Elizabeth Campbell distributed written minutes. Marge Gross was a member of Christ Church; the minutes will be filed as corrected.

Treasurer's Report. Cora Koss, Treasurer, reviewed transactions since the last meeting. The report ends with a balance on hand of \$7059.85, and will be filed for audit.

Province VI. Elizabeth Campbell, Province VI UTO National Board Representative, reported that on August 19 and 20, 2016, the Province VI ECW Meeting will be held in Rapid City. Please save the date and plan to attend, as there will be break-out workshops for ECW, UTO, CPC, and Altar Guild. She also informed the group that the special national challenge offering for Episcopal Migration Ministries held last December tripled the General Convention UTO offering of \$30,000 to just under \$90,000. She also passed out brochures explaining the current UTO grant to South Dakota and North Dakota for a program to stop sex trafficking.

Beth Agar of Bellevue NE is our Province VI ECW National Board Representative, gave a report of their last meeting and plans for the triennium. The next Triennial Meeting will be held in Austin TX in July 2018. The theme will be "GO! Share the Word: Every day, Comunicamos, Everywhere". See the ECW Website for forms to nominate a musician or music team. Currently the Board is working on a publication of the history of Episcopal Church Women and discussion on restructuring of ECW. Beth is assigned to the Worship and Social Justice Committees. A \$5000 Women to Women grant is available

for a startup business or charity that benefits women and girls. All Province VI churchwomen are invited to attend the National Board meeting in Minneapolis in June 2017. The Communique communication is available by going to the ECW website – there is no cost involved but donations are accepted. Contact Beth for questions.

Annual Project. The Diocese of South Dakota is designated in the rotation of special ECW Projects this year. Diana visited with the Bishop and other camp officials, and recommends that we give our 2016 gift to the diocesan camp for kitchen repairs and equipment, as there are definite needs to be addressed.

CPC. Judy Graves was not present but Diana laid out her report for 2015 for anyone to review. Judy has informed the President that she will be resigning as Diocesan Coordinator at the end of the current year. She now is on the National CPC Board.

UTO. The UTO position is open as AnnRae Herr has resigned as she will be out of state a great deal. Both the President and Secretary have served as a diocesan UTO Coordinator, and will be available to assist until a new person is in place. Diana will order supplies to distribute at the Fall Meeting.

Altar Guild. Vicki Sweet stores the SD ECW quilt in the vault of her husband's office, and it is available for any church to display it for special occasions. Used Altar Guild items may be laid out at the Fall Meeting so that others may take the paraments and vestments for use at their missions and parishes, as needed. Contact Vicki for further information.

Distinguished Women. Vicki asked that nominations be sent to her.

Scholarship. Sandy Magnavito could not attend but sent a written report. Two scholarships for \$500 each are available. Applications forms are available on the SD ECW website and the deadline for 2016 is July 30. Contact Sandy for questions.

Old Business:

Al Ahli Hospital. Last year's international gift for Al Ashli Episcopal Hospital in the Gaza Strip amounted to \$1745. The Diocesan Financial Officer returned the check to Cora as he had no address. Elizabeth Campbell suggested we ask Past President Bonnie Walker and/or the Church Center in NYC to assist us in delivering the check.

Ingathering for Episcopal Migration Ministries. The UTO challenge gifts in South Dakota amounted to at least \$300, and it may be more. Diana is researching the collection of UTO funds.

New Business.

Annual Project. Motion by Char Clark that the SD ECW project for 2016 is the Thunderhead Episcopal Conference Center. Seconded by Lisa Lautz. Passed unanimously. Following the vote members from St. James at Enemy Swim told of the four-day children's camp held there every summer. Individual members may contribute to that camp, as well.

UTO and CPC Coordinators. Jennifer Hamilton of Rapid City has volunteered to serve as the UTO Coordinator and Brenda Uses Arrow of Watertown has volunteered for the position of CPC Coordinator.

Nominating Committee. Diana asked for volunteers for the Nominating Committee. The current President and Vice President have one more year to serve in their terms and the Secretary and Treasurer are eligible to serve another term.

Niobrara Convocation. The President and Secretary plan to attend the Convocation, and Diana encouraged as many women as possible to be present at Eagle Butte June 23-26, 2016.

Next Meeting. The Annual Fall Meeting is September 30, 2016, at 11 AM Central Time/10 AM Mountain Time at the Ramkota Inn at Pierre. The names for the remembrance of sister saints may be sent to the President or Secretary or brought in writing ready to be read at that time.

Program. Twilla Two Bulls gave a presentation about her life journey to become a postulant and to enroll in the Vancouver Seminary in preparation to become a priest. This encompassed life experiences in which she felt a calling to ministry, and the steps it took to realize her life goal. She hopes to be made Deacon at the 2017 Niobrara Convocation to be held at Red Shirt Table, when the Presiding Bishop plans to be present.

Closing. The meeting closed at 2:45 PM with the ECW Prayer.

Elizabeth Campbell, Secretary