

THE MICHIGAN FARM & GARDEN FOUNDATION, INC. AKA  
MICHIGAN DIVISION OF THE WOMAN'S NATIONAL FARM AND GARDEN  
ASSOCIATION, INC.  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
APRIL 30, 2018

LOCATION: Troy Historic Village  
Troy, MI

Welcome

Present: Mary Schwark, Marcia Mandell, Lenore Treba, Pat Brown, Vicki Guntenaar, Sheila Kneeshaw, Charlotte Westbrook, Mary Lynne Moellering, Susan Chambers

Not present: Jo Sillanpaa

Meeting called to order at 10:20am

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America

Minutes were presented as submitted by former Secretary, Joette Kunse from March 1, 2018 meeting. Minutes were accepted as presented.

#### OFFICER & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mary Schwark, President

Conference call on 4/03/18 with seven elected directors present (1 VP Sheila Kneeshaw absent & excused) – Action taken:

- (a) Formal agreement by motion (Charlotte Westbrook, with second by Pat Brown) followed by vote to have no International Tea in 2018; passed unanimously.
- (b) Formal agreement by motion (Pat Brown, with second by Lenore Treba) followed by vote to ask Vicki Guntenaar to fill in as interim secretary (following the resignation of Joette Kunse; thank you for service to be included in summer newsletter) until the spring 2019 election of new Michigan Division officers; passed unanimously.
- (c) Sheila Kneeshaw was later notified of the actions and agreed with the decisions.

Past visits to branches after 11/1/17: 3/12/18 – Plymouth (Mary, Jo Sillanpaa & Ann Britton); 4/5/18 – Waterford (Mary and Charlotte)

Future visits to branches: 10/1/18 – Clarkston; 10/9/18 (Pat Brown to possibly attend)- Rochester; Date TBD, (Charlotte to possibly attend)

Daffodil Day centerpiece recap was very positive.

Pat Brown, MI Division Treasurer

Pat presented Treasurer's report. Accepted as presented. Report will be placed on file.

Pat also reported that she is holding \$185 in donations for International Tea. It is from several branches written to 4-H Foundation. There was a discussion of which entity to send to, Michigan 4-H or IFYE? Lenore suggested that we hold the funds and list them under Restricted Funds and mark as "International Tea 2018".

MI Division MAL memberships update: 4 MAL paid, 8 MAL listed. (Need to find out about the other four.)

Lenore Treba, Charitable Foundation Treasurer

Lenore presented Charitable Reports. Reports were accepted as presented. They will be placed on file.

Lenore is also holding \$25.00 for 4-H from a branch. She will continue to hold until a determination is made about the International Tea. Susan Chambers commented that "Branches may need to be informed about charitable donations sent to WNF&GA separately from direct deposits to charities."

Sheila Kneeshaw, 1st Vice President

Sheila reported that Spring Council 2018 is set for May 24, 2018, hosted by Rochester Branch.

International Tea has been cancelled for 2018. Sheila, on behalf of the Board, thanked Indian Village for their willingness to host this event. She explained the issues with IFYE as the reason for the cancellation. A discussion ensued regarding venue selection for this event. It was determined by the Board that no hosting branch may select a venue without approval of the Board in advance. At the least, the 1st VP should be made aware of venue for Board discussion.

Fall Council 2018 will be hosted by the Saginaw Branch at the Marshall Fredericks Museum. Date: September 26, 2018.

Spring Council 2019 will be hosted by the Warren Branch. We had a brief discussion around venue ideas. The Gazebo in Warren was one suggestion. Another suggestion was to conduct a mini flower show in memoriam of Gloria Minnebo, a MAL that we lost in 2018. Submitting an arrangement was one idea to contribute to this show. This meeting will also be for installation of officers for 2019-2021.

Marcia Mandell, 2nd Vice President

Recognition Awards: There will be seven Recognition Awards awarded. We discussed how the awards would be displayed at Spring Council meeting. We requested two 8 ft. tables from Charlotte for display. The awards will be displayed with each presentation.

With the absence of Cheryl Malin at our meeting, Marcia was asked to get updated registry for National and MI Division.

Joette Kunse will stay on as Chairperson for Speaker's Bureau.

National Delegates, Jo Sillanpaa and Charlotte Westbrook

Charlotte reported that for the 5/24 Spring Council meeting, she and Jo would be presenting an extension of their "Double your Pleasure, Double your Fun" presentation from previous council meeting to promote the National Meeting in New York.

Vicki Guntenaar gave an update of the meeting registrants as of 5/22/18. That number was 60 attendees.

Marketing & Promotion of Michigan Division

This is what MI Division is doing for you. Due to time constraints there was no discussion around this topic at this meeting.

Sheila Kneeshaw, 4-H Endowment

Discussion is captured under #3 under new business.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion & review of MI Division as sponsor of Daffodil Day

Comments from the Board regarding this year's Daffodil Day as follows:

- Great floral displays
- Branches mentioned for floral displays
  
- Why doesn't MI Division president speak at the event as representative of Board and Branches?
  1. Was told that is not the way it is done
  2. Most Detroiters don't know we are planting daffodils
  3. Susan never asked about speaking at event, Rita was denied when asked.
  4. Trumpeter award that the MI Division Board donated should have been called out.
  5. Board did get recognized by standing by Cecily O'Connor.
  6. Claudia Scioly announced Rita and Mary as National and Division presidents.

7. Pat Brown should be recognized for all the work she does on registration for event.
- They are using our 501(c)(3), newsletter, members, Pat Brown. It is not good business for D4D to anger and upset us. If we pulled out, they would lose 2 treasurers and several Board members. The flower donations would also fall back on them.
  - Should we write a letter to the committee from the Board on our issues? It was decided that that would be a good idea.
    8. Should come from the entire Board
    9. Take a glass 1/2 full approach. List all the positives, we want to continue sponsorship
    10. They are missing some issues, one major one is seating assignments
    11. Be non-threatening but willing to follow through
  - Find your own Registrar. Pat Brown will collect checks only
  - They need diversity on their committee
  - Speakers too long, Ron Olsen as an example

Homework - Send your own list to Mary Schwark on what you think should be covered in the letter if it wasn't already mentioned in the above. Due in approximately 3 weeks. Letter will go to the committee, Robin Heller.

2. Nominations for open positions - There are still 4 committee chairs open.
3. Endowment Agreement between two parties: (1) Michigan Division of the Woman's National Farm & Garden Association and (2) the Michigan 4-H Foundation, a nonprofit public foundation operating to support Michigan 4-H Youth Development programs, East Lansing, Michigan. Official name for the permanent endowment: Woman's National Farm and Garden Association, Michigan Division Endowment for perpetual support of named 4-H programs (\*see bottom of page 3), upon receipt of a minimum of \$30,000. – DISCUSSION OF STATUS AND PROCESS TO REMEDY INCONSISTENCIES OF DOCUMENT.

Our discussion centered around making IFYE right. We can still support the other three pillars. It doesn't matter how IFYE got into this. The issues started with the original agreement with 4-H. All monies are still there. Money can go to an IFYE entity. IFYE was set up for outbound MI 4-H members. The solution would be to use the money as close as possible to its original intention.

Mary will put a statement together to send to all branches to communicate the IFYE issues.

4. Create a Donations Reference Document for Branches - a concise but detailed explanation about how branches may contribute to other organizations directly or

through Michigan Division's charitable treasurer (and through MI DIV's treasurer, but only for Pennies for Friendship, Daffodils4Detroit, International Tea, Detroit Zoo).

Mary and Lenore will put together a donations document on how to donate. It will clarify what Pat Brown and Lenore Treba each collect for.

5. Encourage branches to begin branch daffodil projects in their own communities -  
DISCUSSION

Board discussed Mary Schwark's idea of encouraging local branches to start their own daffodil projects. She will send a letter to all branch presidents. There will be an article in newsletter. Current name is "Daffodils by Branches". If you would like to submit a different name for this project, please submit to Mary by 5/20. Branches' recommendations for a name for a program of local daffodil projects will be requested in the summer online newsletter.

Strategic Planning - A small group will be created to further discuss this topic. Volunteers included Mary Schwark, Marcia Mandell and Mary Lynne Moellering.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### 1. Organization Positions

Promotion & Growth chairperson - OPEN

Website manager – Sally Edwards; Kathleen Krasity

Newsletter editor – Mary Schwark (deadline for summer online edition:

May 4)

Advertising (marketing & promotion of MI DIV – all board members)

Historian – Terry LaBeau

Philanthropy chairperson – OPEN

Member Education chairperson – OPEN (inactive 2015-2018)

2. Spring Council Meeting Report - Mary Schwark requested of Charlotte Westbrook, the email list a week before meeting to send out meeting packets to all attendees. She also needs all reports from Board members by 5/17/18.

3. Tributes from the governor - Mary requested 18 from the governor's office.

4. Savings account - We need to make more on our money.

5. Suggestions for future board development activity:

MI DIV 101 for presidents re: WNF&GA

Workshop: for chairpersons of branch projects

Workshop: for newsletter editors (or prospective newsletter editors) and branch officers

Workshop for branch members re: good business practices of nonprofits (actual or functioning as) and those seeking 501(c)(3) status

Discuss: August 20, 2018, Bloomfield Township Library, 9:30 am – 3:00 pm, including lunch (pending availability of facility and completion of rental process).

Facilitator: Kathy Welsh Beveridge, WNF&GA E. & C. Treasurer; attorney; owner and CEO of her own nonprofit consulting business in Pennsylvania. (CORRECTION: Following the meeting, it was learned that Kathy Welsh Beveridge is not an attorney.)

If approved, prepare workshop flyer for Spring Council Meeting.

Board unanimously approved this workshop. Mary to meet with Susan Chambers to secure rental at Bloomfield Township Library. Discussion ensued regarding lunches. It was decided that box lunches were the way to go. Lenore and Susan had some comments on lunches they have had. We will research option on where to get lunches.

A motion was made by Charlotte Westbrook and seconded by Sheila Kneeshaw to charge for the box lunches. A cost will be determined once research is complete. Passed unanimously.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Charlotte wants everyone to be sure they have registered for Spring Council Meeting.

Adjourned at 1:08pm

Submitted by Vicki Guntenaar  
Interim Michigan Division Secretary

“The reports which were submitted by officers and other board members were edited only for the purpose of correct spelling, correct punctuation and/or clarification of meaning. There was no correction of substance.”

