

THE MICHIGAN FARM & GARDEN FOUNDATION, INC. AKA
MICHIGAN DIVISION OF THE WOMAN'S NATIONAL FARM AND GARDEN
ASSOCIATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
AUGUST 17, 2018

LOCATION: Oakland University, Kresge Library, Nyberg Room
Rochester, MI

Welcome

Present: Mary Schwark, Marcia Mandell, Lenore Treba, Pat Brown, Vicki Guntenaar,
Sheila Kneeshaw, Charlotte Westbrook, Jo Sillanpaa, Susan Chambers,
Guest: Karen Kasper, Moonglow Garden Club

Not present: Mary Lynne Moellering (was inadvertently not notified about the meeting by
Mary Schwark)

Meeting called to order at 10:07 a.m.

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

Minutes were presented as submitted by Interim Secretary, Vicki Guntenaar,
for April 30, 2018 board meeting. Minutes were accepted as presented.

The Board received a brief presentation from Anthony Gallina and Kelly Brault from
Oakland University updating us on the O.U. Matilda Wilson statue and surrounding
garden. The unveiling of her statue will be October 6, 2018 and all are invited. The
sculptor is Lou Cella. We were asked for our input on the planting of the garden or other
resources they may reach out to for design and suggestions.

OFFICER & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mary Schwark, President

Mary introduced our guest, Karen Kasper from Moonglow Garden Club. Karen was
given the opportunity to tell us a little about herself which she did.

Mary sent out a thank you to Jo Sillanpaa, Lenore Treba, Marcia Mandell, Pat Brown,
Charlotte Westbrook and Susan Chambers for all their help coordinating the MI Division
workshop "Community Service with Benefits" on 8/20/18 as well as making calls to
boost attendance for this event.

Future visits to branches: 10/1/18 – Clarkston; 10/9/18 Rochester; December - Lapeer
Wildflowers & Trenton

Mary brought up her concerns about messages not being distributed by presidents to branch members. A short discussion ensued and some ideas were shared.

Pat Brown, MI Division Treasurer

Pat presented Treasurer's report. Accepted as presented with changes. Pat will add a text box to spell out list of major donors for Daffodils4Detroit contributions. Report will be placed on file once changes are made.

Lenore Treba, Charitable Foundation Treasurer

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

Sheila Kneeshaw, 1st Vice President

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. It will be held at The Gazebo. Date: May 22, 2018. This meeting will be promoted in the winter and spring newsletters.

Sheila requested Branch volunteers as well as a venue for the Fall Council 2019 meeting.

Marcia Mandell, 2nd Vice President

Branch Recognition Program: The Board was asked to evaluate the program and was asked if it should be continued in 2019. It was a unanimous YES.

Joette Kunse had no new additions for the Speaker's Bureau.

Cheryl Malin presented her report on membership. The current membership number as of August 16, 2018 is 1281 members including four members-at-large. There were 66 members removed Jan 1, 2018-August 16, 2018.

The summer online-only newsletter produced 72 returns. Some reasons included addresses not being found, unable to receive mail, addressee unknown, not updated or misspelled.

An issue raised by Cheryl when reporting your branch membership is to increase the accuracy of the information you provide. She also spoke to the time required to solicit the information and the time it takes for branches to send information.

National Delegates, Jo Sillanpaa and Charlotte Westbrook

See their report in the 2018 Fall Newsletter.

Marketing & Promotion of Michigan Division

This is what MI Division is doing for you. There was no discussion around this topic at this meeting. This is an ongoing initiative for all board members.

Sheila Kneeshaw, 4-H Endowment

Discussion is captured under #3 under new business.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Incentives

There is an ongoing concern regarding the cost of producing and mailing paper copies of the newsletter. The Board had a lengthy discussion on how and what type of incentive we might offer to members who opt for the emailed online version of the newsletter. The topic will be discussed at individual branch meetings as well as the Fall Council Meeting. (a possible \$2.00 savings in dues for emailed version?)

2. Reciprocity

Reciprocity is an attempt to make connections between and among branches so that, if a branch needs staffing help for a special event, they could reach out to other branches. This might result in reciprocal help among MI DIV garden clubs. We all agreed that reciprocity was a good thing and we all agreed that it should be encouraged.

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 2), upon receipt of a minimum of \$30,000. – DISCUSSION OF STATUS AND PROCESS TO REMEDY INCONSISTENCIES OF DOCUMENT FOR PRESENTATION TO FALL COUNCIL MEETING ON 9/26/18.

Our discussion at our prior Board of Directors meeting centered around making the endowment right. We can still support the other three pillars which are the Great Lakes Natural Resource Camp, Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens and 4-H volunteer training and development at the Kettunen Center. It doesn't matter how IFYE got into this. The issues started with the original agreement with 4-H. IFYE, aka International 4-H Youth Exchange is no longer affiliated with 4-H and hasn't been for many years. Therefore, it is no longer appropriate for the Michigan 4-H Foundation to accept and/or hold funds for IFYE. 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.

The discussion on the table, first and foremost is to determine, moving forward where our funds (new money) will go. Secondly we will need to determine where the IFYE money being held (old money) will go. This money will be decided on once we resolve new money funds.

Mary reached out to our contacts Jake DeDecker and Amanda Masters at 4-H. They provided a proposal detailing their recommendations moving forward where our monies can support scholarships for Michigan 4-H youth participating in 4-H International exchange outbound experiences. Mary provided copies of that email for our review and discussion. After much discussion a motion was made by Charlotte Westbrook.

“I move to accept the draft recommendation language provided by Jake DeDecker and Amanda Masters to replace the 4th pillar of the current 4-H Foundation Endowment Agreement.” Motion was seconded by Jo Sillanpaa. No further discussion was necessary. Vote was unanimous to accept the draft recommendation.

The recommendation will be voted on by the members at the Fall Council Meeting on 9/26/2018 in Saginaw. Per the bylaws, there is no need to provide prior notice that meeting voting will occur but we will provide that notice for the vote on IFYE. Those registered by September 15 will get notice about the vote. This will be approximately 14-18 days prior to the meeting.

4. Conference Call - A meeting needs to be set up prior to the September 26 meeting in Saginaw.

5. Use of Michigan Division Voting rights at ACWW meeting

Sheila Kneeshaw will be attending the Bi-Annual meeting in Melbourne, Australia as a member of ACWW. She has asked, since she will be in attendance, can she have permission to vote as the MI Division representative at that meeting in 2019. MI Division gets 5 votes, individual memberships, 1 vote. The Board discussed and Lenore Treba made the following motion.

“I move that Sheila Kneeshaw be allowed to vote as the MI Division representative at the Bi-annual ACWW meeting in Melbourne, Australia in 2019.” The motion was seconded by Charlotte Westbrook. There was no further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Organization Positions

Promotion & Growth chairperson - OPEN

Website manager – Sally Edwards; Kathleen Krasity

Newsletter editor – Mary Schwark (deadline for fall edition: August 15, Published 8/30 or 8/31)

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

Historian – OPEN (Terry LaBeau , Trailwood - no response since late 2017)

Philanthropy chairperson – OPEN

Member Education chairperson – OPEN (inactive 2015-2018)

2. Nominations for open positions - 4 committee chairs (See #1 immediately above.)

3. Create a Donations Reference Document for Branches - a concise but detailed explanation about how branches may contribute to other organizations directly or through MI Division's charitable treasurer (and through MI Div's treasurer, but only for Pennies for Friendship, Daffodils4Detroit, International Tea, Detroit Zoo. A committee has been formed including Lenore Treba, Mary Schwark and Pat Brown.

4. Savings account - We need to make more on our money. A committee was formed to discuss options on making more for our money. This committee includes Lenore Treba, Pat Brown and Mary Schwark. They will report back to the board after they have had their meeting.

5. Strategic Planning - A committee was formed including Sheila Kneeshaw, Vicki Guntenaar, Mary Schwark, Marcia Mandell, Mary Lynne Moellering and Jo Sillanpaa. We will work to identify some meeting dates.

6. Encourage branches to begin branch daffodil projects in their own communities - THIS PROJECT NEEDS A NAME. - After discussion by the Board, we had an informal vote for the name "Daffodils4Communities". Jo Sillanpaa was the only opposing vote. We will move forward with this name for branch projects.

7. Consider possible future workshops/board development opportunities including: (1) MI DIV 101 for presidents re: WNF&GA, (2) Workshop for chairpersons of branch projects, (3) Workshop for newsletter editors (or prospective newsletter editors and branch officers. We moved to hold this topic for discussion at a later date.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adjourned at 1:18pm

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."