

THE MICHIGAN FARM & GARDEN FOUNDATION, INC. AKA
MICHIGAN DIVISION OF THE WOMAN'S NATIONAL FARM AND GARDEN
ASSOCIATION, INC.
EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONFERENCE CALL
SEPTEMBER 10, 2018

Present on call: Mary Schwark, Marcia Mandell, Lenore Treba, Pat Brown, Vicki Guntenaar, Mary Lynne Moellering, Jo Sillanpaa, Sheila Kneeshaw (joined call at 10:50am)

Not present on call: Charlotte Westbrook, Susan Chambers

Meeting was called to order at 10:06AM.

- Pat Brown reported that the Rochester Branch received \$266.16 in profit-sharing from Spring Council Meeting.
- Mary Schwark advised that the newsletter mailed out on Friday. She also asked us if we read Cheryl Malin's message regarding receiving newsletters online. She signed up 6-8 Bloomfield Hills members who will now receive digital mailings.
- Mary has had conversations with 4-H regarding the endowment and is concerned. She had asked for a response to her requests by 9/5 and no response.

When she did speak with them they said they had met and discussed but didn't reply because no one knew whose responsibility it was. They are engaging legal counsel for advice. It doesn't sound like it will be a repeal and replace but rather handled with amendments. Mary has sent her comments and suggested "cleanup." They said that will happen.

Mary hopes for a response in the next few days. When she gets the new document from 4-H, she will forward and asks for our prompt reply to that email. Sending out to the membership in a timely fashion will allow members to receive and review the documents 14-18 days before the meeting.

- Mary and Mary Lynne have discussed proper parliamentary procedure for the IFYE vote at the Fall Council Meeting on September 26. It is imperative that we are buttoned up.
- Pat Brown presented the 2019 Budget. There were no questions or changes. Lenore Treba made the following motion: "I move to accept the 2019 Finance report as presented." Motion was seconded by Vicki Guntenaar. Budget was passed unanimously. It will be presented to the membership for approval at the Fall Council Meeting.

- Vicki Guntenaar presented the Spring Council Meeting minutes from May 24, 2018. They were approved by the Executive Committee and will be presented to the membership for approval at the Fall Council Meeting.
- Board of Directors meeting minutes of August 17, 2018 were also reviewed. There were a few changes which Vicki will make and resend to Mary Schwark for the meeting packet. Marcia Mandell made the following motion: "I make a motion to accept the August 17, 2018 board of directors meeting minutes with corrections." Lenore Treba seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

HANDLING QUESTIONS THAT MAY ARISE REGARDING THE IFYE VOTE

- Mary asked if any of us were familiar with parliamentary "calling the question". We were not familiar. It is the ability to halt a debate or discussion. The procedure we will follow for the endowment amendment is listed below.
 1. Vicki will make the motion to accept the 4-H language on recommendation of the Executive Committee.
 2. Mary will call for a discussion.
 3. After about 15-20 minutes (or less if the discussion doesn't continue) a board member will make the motion, "I move the previous question." This motion will need a second.
 4. Mary will halt discussion. She will call for a vote of the general membership to move the previous question. This requires a 2/3rds vote of membership.
- The question may come up on how the endowment issue happened. Our answer to any member should be that at this point that is not our concern. We are just trying to fix the problem. Mary is trying to get at 4-H person to attend the meeting.
- Mary and Sheila advised that Claudia Scioly stated that IFYE monies could always be used for other 4-H projects, not just IFYE. That was never our understanding or that of 4-H.
- Mary has asked 4-H to go back as far as 2009 and provide us with amounts and where the contributions have gone to. They said they are working on it. It is still a mystery as to what fund the \$5000.00 contribution from the Port Huron Garden Club went to.
- Sheila joined the call at 10:50am and was asked for an explanation of her email of this morning regarding reimbursement for mileage or gas money for the 4-H meetings she attends on behalf of MI Division. Mary and Pat will calculate 1000 miles at 20 mpg with gas at \$3.00/gallon. They will advise how this will be handled and the 2019 budget will be updated before presentation to the membership at the Fall Council Meeting.
- Pat Brown posed the question as to why Susan Chambers was not listed in the newsletter as part of the board of directors (board). Mary advised that the board is

elected officers and representatives. Susan is an advisor which is not an elected position.

- Pat also advised the board that the postage for last mailing came in at \$771.00 which came down from the last two mailings.
- Mary asked that all officer reports be to her by 9/20 so she can prepare the meeting packet to be emailed to all attendees. Please keep your reports brief. Jo and Charlotte, we are expecting a little something from you too.
- Lenore will not be in attendance at the 9/26 Fall Council Meeting.
- Mary asked at close of meeting if there is anyone that wanted to drive with her to the Council Meeting. Mary Lynne and Vicki took her up on her offer.

Lenore Treba moved to adjourn the call at 11:08am. Jo Sillanpaa seconded. Call ended.

AMENDMENT TO MINUTES:

After call was adjourned, Mary Schwark and Pat Brown remained on the line to calculate adjustments to the 2019 budget to accommodate the board's recommendation for the gas reimbursement decision.

By unanimous agreement all board members voted in the affirmative, by email, to support the 2019 budget, including the reimbursement decision.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Guntenaar
MI Division Interim Secretary