Virginia Synodical Women’s Organization

***CONVENTION MINUTES***

***Session I***

**Meeting Date: 8/2/19**

**Call to Order:** Session I of the Annual Convention of the Virginia Synodical Women’s Organization (VSWO) held at First Lutheran Church in Norfolk, VA on August 2, 2019 convened at 11 AM, President Jody Smiley presiding with Judy Casteele, secretary. The chair introduced Pastor Leslie Weber who led opening devotions. The chair led the attendees in the Women of the ELCA purpose statement.

**Introductions:** Special guests and VSWO Officers and Board Members were introduced.

Carol Johnson - Editor of Visions

Genie Brown – Visions Circulation Manager and Convention Registrar

Helen Weaver – Parliamentarian

**Past-VSWO Presidents**

Judy Casteele

Janice Brown

Judy Ann Fray

Past VSWO Board members

 **VSWO Officers:**

 Judy Wilfong – Vice President (Not present at convention)

 Judy Casteele - Secretary

 Edith Blake - Treasurer

**Board members**:

 Sylvia Eley

Ellen Greene (not present)

 Linda Lowry

 Bonnie Mantta

 Michelle Poore (not present)

**First Lutheran Greetings:** The chair called on Pastor Rick Goeres of First Lutheran, Norfolk to welcome the attendees.

**Director of Evangelical Mission:** The chair called on the Rev. John Wertz, Assistant to the Bishop to bring greetings from the Office of the Bishop.

 **President’s Address:** The president relinquished the chair to Judy Casteele, secretary, who introduced Jody Smiley who gave her presidential address.

The chair called on Sylvia Eley to report on the VSWO Scholarship Fund at Roanoke College. She read a thank you letter from the most recent recipient, Isabelle Plath.

Judy Casteele reported on the Women of the ELCA Triennial Convention in Phoenix in 2020.

**Nominees:** The chair called on Bonnie Mantta and Linda Lowry of the Nominating Committee to present the nominees for officers, board and Triennial voting members. Triennial Voting Members – Sylvia Eley, Gloria Fennell, Shelia Sanchez, JoAnn Fawley, Carol Johnson, Lisa Somerville and Ellen Gunter.Those included: President – Jody Smiley; Treasurer – Deniese Powell; Board members for 2 year terms – Sylvia Eley, Shelia Sanchez, JoAnn Fawley; Board members for 1 year terms – Edith Blake and Lavelva Stevens.

**Prayer:** The chair called on Pastor Leslie Weber for a prayer before lunch.

-Lunch break -

**Opening of Convention:** The chair led the attendees in the Opening of Convention.

**Credentials Committee:** The chair called on Lisa Somerville, chair of the Credentials Committee, for their report. Ms. Somerville reported as follows:

 Officers

 Board Members

 Voting Member

For a Total Voting Strength of

 Participants

 Guests

Total Others

Convention Total

*MOTION*: Moved by Lisa Somerville that the report of the Credentials Committee be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

**Appointment of Parliamentarian:** The chair appointed Helen Weaver as Parliamentarian for the 32nd annual VSWO convention.

**Convention Committees:** The chair called on the secretary to read the Convention Committee assignments. Judy Casteele read the Convention Committee assignments as listed in the Supplement to the Bulletin of Reports (BoR). The Chair declared the appointment of the Convention Committees as printed below for the official record:

**Claims** **Credentials Elections**

Chair: Diane Chafin Chair: Lisa Somerville Chair: Sally Trone

Julia Ann Freeze Board: Bonnie Mantta Betty Bowers

Board: Edith Blake Theresa Thomas Board: Linda Lowry

**Minutes**   **Reference & Counsel**

Chair: Carol Johnson Chair: JoAnn Fawley

Mary Gayle Ryman Peggy Davis

Board: Judy Casteele Board: Sylvia Eley

**Rules of Procedure:** The chair called on the secretary to present the Rules of Procedure. Judy directed the voting members to the Rules of Procedure as printed in the BoR. Seeing no objections, the chair announced that the rules would not be read.

*MOTION*: Moved by Judy Casteele that the Rules of Procedure be adopted as printed in the Bulletin of Reports. Motion carried.

**Convention Schedule:** The chair called on the secretary to present the Convention Schedule. Judy directed the voting members to the Convention schedule as printed in the BoR.

*MOTION*: Moved by Judy Casteele that the Convention Schedule subject to any emergency revisions be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

**Nominations and Voting:** The chair reviewed the Rank Order Process for electing Triennial Voting Members. The following women were included on Ballot A Voting Members – Women of Color or Whose First Language is other than English: Sylvia Eley and Gloria Fennell.

The chair called on Pastor Leslie Weber for a prayer prior to elections.

The chair then called on Sally Trone, chair of the Elections Committee to distribute Ballot A and instructed those present on voting procedures.

**Proposed Budget:** The chair called on the Treasurer to present the proposed budget of the VSWO for February 1, 2020 to January 31, 2021. Edith Blake directed the voting members to the proposed budget as found in the BoR. The chair declared that voting on the proposed budget would take place prior to the conclusion of Business Session II.

**VSWO Financial Reports:** The chair called on the Treasurer to give her report and present the VSWO Financial Reports. Edith Blake directed the voting members to the VSWO Financial Reports for February 1, 2018 to January 31, 2019 found in the BoR.

**Auditor’s Report:** The chair called on the Treasurer to present the Auditor's report. Edith Blake directed the voting members to the Auditor’s Report for February 1, 2018 to January 31, 2019 found in the BoR.

*MOTION*: Moved by Ms. Blake, on behalf of the Board, that the Auditor’s Report be adopted as printed in the BOR. Motion carried.

**Roanoke College Scholarship:** The chair called on Sylvia Eley to give a report on the VSWO Endowed Scholarship.

**Triennial Ballot A** The chair called on Sally Trone, chair of the Elections Committee to report on Ballot A.

**Triennial Voting Member – Ballot A**

 Number of votes cast: Number of votes needed for election:

 Sylvia Eley received: votes

 Gloria Fennell received: votes

The chair declared that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ has been elected as a Voting Member for the 2020 Triennial Convention.

**Nominations:** The chair noted that the following women were nominated as Triennial Voting Members – Ballot B First Time Voting Members: JoAnn Fawley, Carol Johnson, Shelia Sanchez and Lisa Somerville.

The chair then called on Sally Trone, chair of the Elections Committee to distribute Ballot B and instructed those eligible on voting procedures.

The chair presented the following nominees for officers and board members: President – Jody Smiley; Treasurer – Deniese Powell; Board members for 2-year terms – Sylvia Eley, Shelia Sanchez, JoAnn Fawley; Board members for 1-year terms – Edith Blake and Lavelva Stevens.

**Announcements and Recess:** The chair reminded voting members that any proposed Resolutions or new business should be given to the secretary for review by Reference and Counsel. The chair declared a recess of the business meeting until \_\_\_\_ pm.

Secretary Date of Approval

Virginia Synodical Women’s Organization

***CONVENTION MINUTES***

***Session II***

**Meeting Date: 8/3/19**

**Call to Order:** Session II of the Annual Convention of the Virginia Synodical Women’s Organization (VSWO) held at First Lutheran Church, Norfolk, VA on August 3, 2019 convened at \_\_\_pm, President Jody Smiley presiding with Judy Casteele, secretary. The chair called the meeting to order and asked Lisa Somerville to report on any changes in credentials.

**Triennial Ballot B** The chair called on Sally Trone, chair of the Elections Committee to report on Ballot B.

**Triennial Voting Member – Ballot b**

 Number of votes cast: Number of votes needed for election:

 JoAnn Fawley received: votes

Carol Johnson received:

 Shelia Sanchez received: votes

 Lisa Somerville received: votes

The chair declared that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ has been elected as a Voting Member for the 2020 Triennial Convention.

**Nominations and Voting:** The chair called on Bonnie Mantta for the report of the Nominating Committee on Triennial Voting Members – Ballot C. Ellen Gunter and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. And \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_were presented as nominees. The chair called on Pastor Leslie Weber for a prayer prior to elections.

The chair called on Sally Trone, chair of the Elections Committee to distribute Ballot C and instructed those eligible on voting procedures.

**Nominations and Voting:**  The Nominating Committee presented the following nominees: President – Jody Smiley; Treasurer – Deniese Powell; Board members for 2-year terms – Sylvia Eley, Shelia Sanchez, JoAnn Fawley; Board members for 1-year terms – Edith Blake and Lavelva Stevens. The chair opened the floor for additional nominations.

The chair called on the Elections Committee to distribute ballots and voting instructions were given. Upon completion of voting, the chair declared balloting closed and ordered ballots to be collected.

The chair called on the Elections Committee to distribute ballots and voting instructions were given. Upon completion of voting, the chair declared balloting closed and ordered ballots to be collected.

**Report of the Officers:** The chair explained that Vice President Judy Wilfong could not be present at convention and directed attendees to her report printed in the BoR. The chair invited Secretary, Judy Casteele, to come forward and give her report.

**Adoption of the Budget:** The chair called on the Treasurer for a motion to approve the proposed VSWO budget for February 1, 2020 to January 31, 2021.

*MOTION*: Ms. Blake moved that the proposed budget for February 1, 2020 to January 31, 2021 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

**Thrivent Endowment Fund**: The chair called on June Nabors for the report on the Thrivent Endowment Fund.

**Mission Team Reports:** The chair directed attendees to the reports from the Mission Teams found in the BoR.

Finally, the chair called on Conference Coordinator Bonnie Mantta to describe her work and the work of the conferences around the state. She asked the conference coordinators to introduce themselves. The reports were accepted with a round of applause.

**Elections Committee:** The chair called onLisa Sommerville, chair of the Elections committee, to report on the balloting for Vice President and Secretary. Ms. Sommerville submitted the following report:

**Triennial Ballot C** The chair called on Sally Trone, chair of the Elections Committee to report on Ballot B.

**Triennial Voting Member – Ballot C**

 Number of votes cast: Number of votes needed for election:

 Ellen Gunter received: votes

 received: votes

 received: votes

The chair declared the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ has been elected as a Voting Member for the 2020 Triennial Convention.

The chair called on Sally Trone to report on the balloting for president and treasurer. Ms.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ submitted the following report:

**President**

 Number of votes cast:

 Number of votes needed for election:

 Jody Smiley received:

**Treasurer**

 Number of votes cast:

 Number of votes needed for election:

 Deniese Powell received:

The chair called on\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to report on the balloting for board members for a 2-year term. Ms.Trone submitted the following report:

**Board Members for two-year terms:**

 Number of votes cast:

 Number of votes needed for election:

 Sylvia Eley received: votes

 JoAnn Fawley received: votes

 Shelia Sanchez received: votes

 Edith Blake received: votes

 Lavelva Stevens received: votes

The chair declared the following elected to serve as members of the board for a two-year term: Sylvia Eley, JoAnn Fawley and Shelia Sanchez.

The chair declared the following elected to serve as members of the board for a one-year term: Edith Blake and Lavelva Stevens.

**Committee on Minutes:** The chair called on Carol Johnson, chair of the Committee on Minutes, to present their report. Ms. Johnson stated that she had received the minutes for August 2, 2019, Session I and found it to be complete.

*MOTION:* Moved by Ms. Johnson that the minutes for Session I be approved with final editing to be done by the Board.

*MOTION:* Moved by Ms. Johnson that approval of minutes for August 3, 2019, Session II be referred to the Board with the understanding that the Board would approve the minutes for Session II. Motion carried.

**Committee on Claims:** The chair called on Dianne Chafin, chair of the Committee on Claims, to present their report. Ms. Chafin stated there were a total of \_\_\_ claims, all valid, for a total of $\_\_\_\_

**Committee on Reference & Counsel:** The chair called on JoAnn Fawley, chair of Reference and Counsel for any resolutions before the Committee.

**Report of the Convention Planning Committee:** The chair called on Theresa Thomas to present the report of Convention Planning. She acknowledged all their hard work and the wonderful efforts of the entire convention planning team.

**Long-Range Planning report:** The chair called on Carol Bailey who announced that the 2019 Annual VSWO Convention would be at First Lutheran in Norfolk, August 9-10, 2019. The convention hotel will be the Springhill Suites.

**Ritual of Transition and Installation of Officers and Board Members:** The chair informed the voting members and guests that the Ritual of Transition and Installation would be held prior to Closing Worship on Saturday, August 4th.

**Closing of Convention:** The chair called on attendees to join her in the Closing of Convention found in the BoR. Following the recitation, the chair declared the 32nd Annual VSWO Convention closed.

Secretary Date of Approval