VSWO

***MINUTES***

***Board of Directors***

**Meeting Date: 3/10/18**

**Call to Order:** A regular meeting of the Board of Directors, VSWO, was held at St. Mark’s Lutheran Church, Charlottesville, VA on March 10, 2018. The meeting convened at 10:07 AM, President Jody Smiley presiding, Helen Weaver, Secretary. Members of the Board in attendance were Bonnie Mantta; Michelle Poore; Linda Lowry; Judy Wilfong, Zelda Wetzel, Sylvia Ely and Ellen Greene. Members not in attendance were: Renée Ballentine and Edith Blake.

**Approval of Minutes:** Upon motion duly made and seconded, the VSWO Board meeting minutes for November 11, 2017 were approved as submitted.

**Convention 2018**

Judy Wilfong provided an update of planning for next year's convention August 3rd & 4th, 2018.

1. Will send tentative schedule to group within two weeks. Judy will check with Renée on schedule and convention chaplain.
2. Suggestion of table discussions on how to do more together as a synod.
3. Any resolutions would need to be submitted in advance or at start of convention.
4. Start with boxed lunches and devotions. Business would start at 1:00pm and end at 5:00pm. Dinner on own. Fellowship, large and small groups in evening.
   1. Large group skit and/or energetic activity.
   2. Small groups with ice breaker activity.
   3. Biblical storytelling then share story related to passage in 1-2 minutes (7:30-8:15).
   4. Large group evening prayer, song (8:15-8:30).
5. Non-voting members can assemble kits during business.
6. Churchwide rep is Lydia Davila. Jody suggested she speak at convention about finances then Friday evening share history & WELCA ministry. Jody will be contact for Lydia.
7. Jody will have Judy Casteele bring information on Women & Justice Social Statement.
8. Judy will apply for Thrivent action grant for snacks during evening fellowship.
9. Hotel is $75 for king or 2 queen bed room & $85 for suite.
10. Saturday tentative schedule
    1. Gathering 8:45-9:00am.
    2. Large group with skits, song, prayer 9:00-9:30am
    3. Small groups starting at 9:30/9:45
       1. Workshop 1: 9:45-10:45
       2. Workshop 2: 11:00-12:00
       3. Lunch 12:15-12:45
       4. Workshop 3: 1:00---2:00
       5. Closing worship 2:30-3:30
11. Terri Hollingsworth is contact at Bethel, Winchester. Music worship leader from St Phillips, Roanoke agreed to be leader again at Winchester convention.
12. Becky Watson to lead Music for Wellness worksop.

***Motion***: Moved by Ellen Greene and seconded that “the VSWO provide $500 stipend to Beck Watson for 3 workshop sessions and travel and that the VSWO will pay for hotel and meals.”

Motion carried.

1. Jody shared memorial on the ELCA's 50th anniversary of the ordination of women. Will be submitting to synod assembly and as resolution at the VSWO convention to be forwarded to WELCA Churchwide Assembly.
2. Jody reviewed sample letter to pastors and save-the-date magnets that she will mail.
3. Discussion of boxes that WELCA has assembled for sale with various items included. Could raffle some items and include others in the welcome folders.

***Motion***: Moved and seconded that “the VSWO purchase the $250.00 box from WELCA to be used at convention.”

Motion carried.

1. Agreement to make Bulletin of Reports digital with printed copies available by request for $5.00. Jody and Helen will work on costs and Call to Convention. Helen to announce in Visions.

***Motion***: Moved and seconded that “the VSWO offer the Bulletin of Reports digitally with printed copies available for $5.00.”

Motion carried.

**Officers/Committee Reports:**

**Treasurer’s Report** **(Report Attached)** Ellen to ask Edith to email her notes to group.

**Conference Coordinator - Bonnie Mantta**

* 1. Bonnie reviewed her recent efforts.
  2. Conference gatherings:
     1. Central Valley - April 15th, 2:00pm at Emanuel Lutheran. Linda to attend.
     2. Germanna - April 28th 9:30am at Hebron Lutheran. Jody to attend.
  3. Jody suggested Spring & Fall gatherings next year be centered around theme of domestic violence/abuse & prevention. Use women's resource center in the conference's area with half of conference gathering offering going to VSWO and half to local resource center. Bonnie to write article for Visions on next year's theme. Helen to put theme resources on website.

**Mission Justice - Sylvia Ely & Michelle Poore**

1. Racial justice news article. Shared information on Virginia Interfaith Center. Helen to add link to Justice page of website.
2. Michelle will ask Judy to write article for Visions on Women & Justice Social statement.
3. Would like to focus on triennial memorial #5 - Corporal punishment & UN Convention rights of the child.
4. Suggest future article from Anna on "Never Stop Being an Advocate".
5. WELCA wants to join with ELCA advocacy office to increase advocacy efforts.

**Mission Stewardship - Edith Blake & Ellen Greene**

* 1. Will put reminder in Visions for units to bring only 1 walker caddy to convention.
  2. Add Bold Connections link to Stewardship page of website.

**President's Report**

1. Jody provided updates on recent activities and news from the Synod.
2. Kelly Derrick, Assistant to the Bishop, is focused on Social Justice.
3. Synod will be hiring Director of Evangelical Mission.
4. Helen will transcribe thank you card received from Bishop Mauney and include in next Visions.
5. Active Unit Assessment
   1. Jody updated the Active Unit Assessment.
   2. Removed 35 units leaving 60 active units.
   3. Reduces voting member strength from 4 to 3 plus President.
6. Conference of President's
   1. Theme was "Here I Am Lord."
   2. Collected $6170 in gift cards and cash for Sarah's Inn.
   3. New stewardship initiative to increase Katie's fund endowment to $3 million by 2020.
   4. WELCA hiring new Director of Justice ministry.
   5. Should be sending minutes and financial reports to WELCA. Board decided to start next year.
7. Reviewed action items from 2017 Triennial.

**New Business**

Nominating Committee

1. Members - Dianne Heckel, suggestion of Doris Grant and conference coordinator. This committee would remain next year to identify Triennial voting member candidates for 2019.
2. Need Vice President, Secretary and two Board members.
3. Judy agreed to run for another term. Zelda declined. Helen will check with Renée.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:06 PM.

Next Meeting: Winchester. Arrive Friday night & meet Saturday. Jody to email exact date once advice from Judy and Renée is received.