

Minutes of CWZ Executive Meeting  
Thursday, March 4, 2021  
Conference Call

The meeting was called to order by Co-President Mary Ellen Morgan at 9:05 a.m. Since this was a conference call, a roll call was taken. The following people were present: Mary Ellen Morgan and Robyn Ballard, Co-Presidents; Elaine Leasure, Recording Secretary; Betty Pilato, Treasurer; Carol Lord, Assistant Treasurer; Barb Rosecrans, Friendly Service; Betty Weber-Worden, Health Care; Bill Lesniak, Legislation and Website; Judie Byndas, Resolutions; Jane Crosby, Membership and Bulk Mail; Joan Handfield, Community Service; Sandy Kushner, Past President, Hudson Kramer Award and Wyoming County President; Jane Behnk, Past President and representing Steuben County; Linda Snyder, Yates County Co-President; Mary Beth Tyndall, Monroe County Co-President; Mary Corey, Livingston County President; Bruce Croucher, Ontario County President; Frank Berger, Orleans County President; Joyce Pittenger, Wayne County President; and Carol Westlake, Seneca County President. Phyllis Dunlap, Public Relations and Historian, joined the call in progress.

CARES AND CONCERNS -Carol Lord reported that Anna Joseph, wife of Dick Joseph, a long-time member of the Board, passed away in December. Elaine Leasure reported that Linda VanderBrook Moshano, Friendly Service Rep and long-time Wayne County member, passed away in December. Carol Hall, a county Friendly Service Rep, passed away. Seneca County lost 5 members since November. A Moment of silence was held for these and all others who have passed.

SECRETARY'S MINUTES - The Minutes of the November 12, 2020 meeting were presented. Jane Crosby made the motion, seconded by Bruce Croucher, to accept the Minutes as presented. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Betty Pilato - copy attached. The Checking Account Balance as of December 31, 2020 was \$51,448.24. The Presidents' Appeal was \$10,063 as of December 7, 2020. The balance in the Checking Account as of March 4, 2020 was 51,695.09. Note was made that there have been few expenses because of Covid protocols. The biggest disbursement was the \$500 checks sent to each county to deliver to local food pantries. A motion was made by Frank Berger, seconded by Bill Lesniak to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

The books were audited by Jane Crosby, John Hogan and Sharon Croucher. A big thank you to them for their hard work.

The proposed budget for 2021 was presented with the changes from November's meeting.(see attached). Treasurer Betty Pilato reported that we received \$16,616 in income and had \$8,900 in expenses. This amount is low because there were no expenses for convention or meetings being held. Normal expenses would be \$14,000 to \$15,000. \$100 for the website and an increase in the Hudson-Kramer Award to \$300 were made.

With these changes, a motion was made by Frank Berger and seconded by Joyce Pittenger for the executive board to pass the proposed budget with thanks. Motion was carried. This budget will also be need to be passed by the entire membership at their next meeting, hopefully in September.

MEMBERSHIP -There was a teleconference in January with state officials about new incentives to get unit members to become state members. This idea is outlined on the front page of York State. (see attached) In the future, anyone who joins the unit must also join the state. This will increase the cost. There were many questions about how to proceed with this and concerns about trying to force present unit members to do something they have not been interest in doing. This is 4000 people or at least 1/3 of our memberships. Jane is looking for some direction on what to do.

Mary Ellen-It must be in a positive format. Perhaps start small with just one unit and see response.

Elaine-It should be made personal to them.

Bruce-Could locals afford to pay local dues for first year so they would only have to pay state dues?

Joyce-Each county should decide finances for themselves.

Mary Carey-We need to offer something that is unique to RENY as discounts and travel opportunities are available in many other organizations.

Sandy-Insisting on RENY membership could kill the local groups, especially for those already local members.

Barb-Three of my Friendly Service members are not state members. I approached them and got a cold reception.

Frank- In some cases, even officers of the locals are not members and don't see any reason to join.

Betty-New members are changing the directions of her group. "they don't want to be with old people and do old people things."

Note: With the incentive, the zone gets \$25 for each new member and the unit gets \$50 for five new members.

Jane will draft a letter and send it out to the Committee. Units will need financial help to do a mailing.

NEWSLETTER-Sharon Robinson, who has been formatting our newsletter, is retiring. We will need a new person to format.

BULK MAIL- Our fee is paid until August, so no new forms should be needed. All is going well.

LEGISLATION-A priority list of legislative priorities has been sent to the Committee.(see attached) Bill will be contacting our local representatives and meeting with them to advocate for these. Several members said they had received legislative packets in the mail to prepare them to meet with their representatives.

WEBSITE - Bill is working to keep this up to date. The website has been difficult to upload, so send information in a PDF if you can.

NOMINATIONS -No report

FRIENDLY SERVICE -(see attached) Barb Rosecrans stated that she had received \$400 from the State and the Zone for this year.

COMMUNITY SERVICE -(see attached) Joan is looking for new projects for our September meeting.

HEALTHCARE -(see attached)

EPKE-MEAGHER AWARD for NEWLY RETIRED TEACHERS - Judie Byndas stated that the Epke-Meagher Award was not given in 2020. She would like to give both the 2020 award and the 2021 award this year. She will send out applications to Unit Presidents.

BARRY FLEEGEL AWARD- Anne reports that Split Club winners receive \$129. The amount available for the Award is \$2000.

RENY HUDSON-KRAMER MEMORIAL GRANT - Sandy Kushner stated that this grant from RENY would be given by our zone in 2021. Applications are out. She would like someone from each county to put it in their local paper. The application is also on the website.

BYLAWS - Bruce Croucher - Nothing to Report

RESOLUTIONS - Judie Byndas stated that only two resolutions were presented in 2020, one of which was ours. This resolution was approved by committee and will be presented at the convention in 2021. If you have an idea for a resolution for 2021, please get it to Judie and she will help you write it for presentation.

HISTORIAN AND PUBLIC RELATIONS -Phyllis has not yet sent out the scrapbook pages, but will do so soon.

PUBLIC RELATIONS-Ontario and Monroe Counties are featured this time. Articles are due to Phyllis by April 20. She would also like photos and pictures.

UNIT PRESIDENT'S REPORTS -

Livingston-Mary reported that they have had to cancel three meetings. They are staying in touch via Facebook and e-mail. Their \$500 was given to Foodlink which has a large presence in their communities.

Monroe-Mary Beth Tyndall stated that they sent their \$500 to Foodlink and their Board of Directors was very pleased. They are trying to communicate frequently via e-mail with all their members. Activities group are starting to function again. They also have sent out some RENY applications.

Ontario-They are not yet ready to meet in person. \$500 was sent to food pantries in each of the 10 school districts in the county.

Orleans-They are not meeting at present. \$500 received was sent to the 5 school districts in the county.

Seneca-Seneca County sent their \$500 to their 4 school districts for use in their school backpack programs, which serves students on weekends.

Steuben-There are no officers at present, only a Treasurer. Joanne Bennett, the Treasurer will be the contact person for now.

Wayne-A winter newsletter was sent out. Wayne County identified 11 food pantries. They added \$200 to the \$500 received to give \$100 to a food pantry in each district.

Wyoming-Sandy Kushner reported that money was added from their Treasury to the \$500 received. It was distributed to 7 food pantries in the county.

Yates-Linda Snyder reported that their \$500 was sent to two food banks in the county. They are publishing a spring newsletter. They are finalizing plans for two scholarships to be presented to the Dundee and PennYan Central Schools.

VICE PRESIDENT - is still vacant.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE-They have attended state meetings via teleconference and have passed on all necessary information. They have published the 2021 directory, and all committee members should have received one.

OLD BUSINESS-There is a new membership application for use and it has been sent out to everyone. Please send a copy of all newsletters to the Co-Presidents. Bumper stickers are available if you would like one.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) We presently have a healthy bank account. Discussion ensued about the possibility of making more donations or the possibility of one large donation. The money was well received in all counties. We will discuss this further at our next meeting.
- 2) We need a new representative to the De Cormier Fund. Contact one of the Presidents if interested.
- 3) The RENY Trust Foundation is offering a 3 year membership in RENY for \$75. This is an incentive for those who are local members to join the state. A portion of the money will be returned to local units. This will only be available in 2021.
- 4) CWZ Meeting Dates for 2021 are: May 6th, August 5th, and November 4th. The CWZ annual meeting is scheduled for September 16, 2021. We will make a decision about the Annual Meeting at our August meeting.

Our business being completed, a motion was made by Judie Byndas and seconded by Barb Rosecrans for adjournment. The motion was carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elaine Leasure, Secretary