**MINNESOTA FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN**

BOARD MEETING

April 23,2015

(draft to be approved at July 11, 2015 Bd meeting)

Attendance: Monica Jensen, Janan Sharpe, Chris Jacobson, Sue Ek, Deb Kaczmarek, Pat Meisner, Kathie Roberts, Jean Haskell, Margaret Flower, Carla Bayerl, Pam Myhra, Rosella Dambowy, Maureen Krumrey, Marie Thurn, Caron Johnson, Kathy Tingelstad, Ginny Newman Mary Ann Sexton, Cindy Anderson, Janet Beihoffer, Beverly Aplikowski, Marge Gruenes, Jennette Gudgel.

Secretary’s Report was approved as amended.

Treasurer’s Report: Beverly Aplikowski reported a November 11, 2014 balance of $4,636.46. Total income of $3,925.00 and expenses of 3,545.81 with an ending balance of$5,015.65.

Bev also presented a budget based on the past two and a half years’ history. A good discussion followed. Budget was passed.

Club Presidents’ Reports:

Capital – Janan Sharpe reported the club is slowly growing. She gave the schedule of speakers for the coming months.

St. Clouid – Cindy Anderson and Rosella Dambowy reported elections were held on March 4th. There were four founding members. Members were very active in the 2014 elections.

Duluth – Carla Bayerl reported that Rachel Hart is the new President. The club has four luncheons a year. The club is well organized and has about 120 members.

Greater MN – changed its name from McCloud Co. to include more women. President Virginia Newman stated the club continues to grow and they have a variety of club activities. All were very busy with the 2014 elections especially Ginny, whose husband Senator Newman was the Republican endorsed candidate for Attorney General.

Metro – Deb Kaczmarek reported about 84 members and submitted an extensive report on club activities. She noted that Metro now has a publicity chair to publicize activities, and she noted that three members were elected to the State House.

Kathy Tingelstad and Pam Myhra are working to get a new club organized in the northern metro area – Coon Rapids/Anoka. They had about a dozen women with many questions. They are looking for a meeting place on Hwy 69.

President’s Report: Marge Gruenes noted that when she took office she announced that she would not attend National meetings until the bank balance is healthy. It is important to have MFRW represented at the National Board meetings. Pam Myhra represented MFRW at the spring Board meeting and Marge plans to attend the meeting in conjunction with the National Convention in Arizona this fall.

Marge noted that the goal of leadership is to strengthen the organization and train new leaders to replace oneself. We need to grow each club in a way that empowers people to be leaders. We must focus on membership. It is critical that we move in that direction. There needs to be clusters of women throughout the state building a network of Republican women leaders.

Pam reported on the National Board meeting. She noted that women were very strong in the party two decades ago. Membership is about 10% of what it was. Currently there are 45,000 members nationwide. She noted that women are eager to talk about politics. She also noted that National Federation of Republican Women gave 4.5 million hours over the past two years across the country.

Meeting Action Items:

1. MFRW can elect 5 at large delegates and alternates to attend the National Convention September 10-12 in Arizona. If you are interested in being an at large delegate, please let Marge know by July 1. **In addition, each club can have one delegate and one alternate.** We need to formalize the delegates to the national at our July 11th Bd meeting in Duluth. Please call Marge if you have questions.
2. Fundraising – Bev noted that $1,000 contributors have been designated “Regions members”and in the past had received a Lady Slipper pin and special opportunities. This fundraising level needs clarification of benefits and recognition.

Marge said she will welcome a committee to focus on fundraising as well as Public Relations.

Marie Thurn noted the amount of money that can be made with garage sales.

Marge asked for volunteers to work on these projects.

1. Maureen Krumrey has agreed to chair the Nominating Committee of MFRW Officers to be elected Oct. 3 at the MFRW State Convention. 320-510-2222 is her cell number. All officer positons are open or up for re-election.
2. Marge noted the MFRW Calendar handout with the list of MFRW events and due dates.
3. MFRW Convention Oct. 3 – each club has 4 delegates plus 1 per 10 members as of September 1.
4. Monica Jenson researched convention sites in the northern metro suburbs and found that October weddings had everything booked. Finally found:

St. Cloud – Tuscans Center –Oct, 3rd - $30/person registration

Beverly moved the acceptance of this site and registration cost, Second, Passed

1. Other business at the State Convention will be to Elect 1 delegate and 1 alternate to State Central for 2015-16 and Elect 2 delegates to State Convention (no alternates). More Convention details will be shared at the July 11 MFRW Bd meeting in Duluth.

1. MaryAnn Sexton has agreed to be our MFRW Database Manager. NFRW has created a new program and Mary Ann will be working on keeping our information current.

A final exercise was a SWOT analysis of MFRW.

Groups of 5 or 6 worked in groups listing MFRW strengths, weaknesses, opportunities. Results were posted. See attached.

Jennette Gudgel, Secty.