**DRAFT**

MINNESOTA FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN

BOANRD MEETING

February 8, 2014

Attendance: Deb Kaczmarek, Margaret Flower, Chris Jacobson, Janet Beihoffer, Maureen Krumrey, Marie Thurn, Cindy Anderson, Marge Gruenes, Jennette Gudgel, Kathie Roberts, Sue Ek,

Meeting was called to order at 9:58.

Cindy Anderson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Marge Gruenes shared a quotation of Margaret Thatcher, “if you cannot defend your country, nothing else matters.”

Marge handed out three ring notebooks to each board member and went through material she pulled from the NRFW website.

Introductions were made around the table.

The Duluth board members could not be there to due their own luncheon. Rochester needs reenergizing

Board minutes approved as corrected. Passed.

Treasurer’s report – Ending balance $3,112.77 with 166 members as of 2/8/14. (McCloud Club is now Greater Minnesota Club) Report was filed for audit committee

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Marge feels we have a renewed energy and commitment with the State Party. She met with the Executive Director, Bob DeHaven and got great cooperation. The Party reached out for caucus comments and a number of MFRW members responded.

Marge thanked Janet Beihoffer for her work in making sure that we have a voice, and we need to continue that.

There are great materials from NFRW. We need to use them to educated membership. She called attention to the reprints in the Board Handbook.

She passed around a draft of the new brochure for members to look at and make suggestions. by writing directly on the draft. We will have them for the district conventions as well as county a state fairs.

NFRW has a “talking point” on its website once a week. Marge suggested we all sign up for it.

She also noted that clubs need to get Beverly Aplikowski members’ email address and zip code in addition to the other information.

 Women legislators are honorary members of the Federation. MFRW needs to follow suit.

 There was discussion about having brochures at events. Cindy Anderson will take leadership while Marie Thurn will follow-up on brochure holders.

 In answer to the question, Marge noted that Democrats do not have a women’s group.

She also noted that the NFRW magazine is on line. The website user name is nationalfederation; the password is nfrw1938.

**CLUB PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Clubs turned in detailed written reports along with their oral reports.

Chris Jacobson reported that the Tea Party is a challenge to Capitol Republican Women membership. Two of the four leaders of the club are involved. Meetings at a local pizza parlor with a private room. Members order off the menu and pay $5 to cub

Rosella Dambowry sent a written report of the activities of Central Republican Women.

 Deb Kaczmarek handed an extensive report of Metro Republican Women. 50% of the members are actively involved. They have started “happy hours” to attract younger women. Also use the August meeting to brainstorm ideas for the club.

 Greater Minnesota Republican Women is the new name for McLoed County Republican Women since members are coming from a number of counties. There are eleven members. It seems there is an “international property maintenance code” which is anti-fourth amendment. Maureen Kumrey suggested members check with mayors.

**Board Discussion**

Janet Beihoffer shared the district convention dates:

 March 29 - Districts 3 & 7

April 5 - Districts 1 & 2

 April 12 - Districts 5, 6 & 8

April 26 - District 4

Discussion of Standing Committees was postponed due to lack of time.

 Marge said there is need to have fewer committees that are working. She noted the need for Communications and Fundraising. Jennifer Wilson has agreed to chair the Americanism Committee.

 Margaret Flower agreed to chair the By-Laws Committee.

Sue Ek moved and Deb Kaczmarek moved and seconded that the MFRW President be our delegate to State Central and the State Convention. Alternates are Kathie Roberts and Cindy Anderson.

Fundraising – chapters need to share ideas.

 Marge brought attention to that section in the notebook. The idea of having shopping bags at the State Fair was brought up. Another idea is to create donor levels of giving.

Marge is not going to go to the March NFRW Board meeting and will not attend until MFRW treasury reaches $10,000. She feels we need to help support local clubs with brochures and other marketing tools. She also pointed out the membership section of the notebook. It was suggested that we have memberships for military wives.

Marge will resend a copy of the new volunteer hours form. She also asked how we recognize the members’ contributions. She will send out material on current awards.

Website – We need to find someone who can take over that responsibility.

It was noted that we don’t support candidates until after endorsement

Next Meetings – July 12, 2014 in St. Cloud

 November 15, 2014 in St. Cloud?

Chris Jacobson noted that her email address is: gopchris47@comcast.net and her street is Larpenteur East.

Adjourned 12:31 p.m.

Jennette Gudgel, Secretary