

**NORTHWEST AUSTIN REPUBLICAN WOMEN
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
FRIDAY, May 18, 2018**

The NWARW Executive Committee Meeting was called to order at 11:32 AM by President Susan Friedrich at the home of Carolyn Isbell. Members present: Julia Johnson, Olga Lasher, Linda Durnin, Nubia Devine, Rhonda Murphy, Carla Birk, Connie Ripley, Mary Heffernan, Jan Duncan, Chris Sale, Sandy Woerner, Carolyn Isbell, Rossy Farina-Strauss and Susan Friedrich. The Minutes of the April 18, 2018 Executive meeting were approved as written.

Officer Reports

- **President** – At the beginning of the meeting, Susan stated the voting members of the Executive Committee are the Officers and Chairs of Standing Committees. Susan reminded Committee chairs to create a binder or folder with information they think might be helpful to anyone in the future in that position.

Susan reminded everyone to please confirm when they receive her emails with requests. Susan stated that we may have an August Executive Committee meeting either early in the month and may do some by email before that time. TBA.

A wonderful announcement by Susan, the NWARW has won the TFRW Challenge for increasing the number of delegates from the 2016 RPT convention to 2018. We tied as a Large club with 243% increase and 38% of our Active club members as delegates. Our club will be recognized at the TFRW luncheon and seated toward the front.

Membership- Ann was absent, but had reported to Susan that the New Member Luncheon on Saturday, April 28th was a great time together. Rhonda said that a lady turned in a membership card. Rhonda reminded Committee Chairs to remember to follow up when we get information from probable members. Rhonda also reminded us to remember to greet visitors. The club currently has 73 Active members; 29 Associates, and 1 Young Affiliate. Ann reported to Susan that we had 3 to be added which would bring our total to 76.

Susan also reported that our club is 2 ahead of membership this time of year than we were last year at this time.

- **Programs** – Connie stated that she is still waiting to hear back from people she has contacted. Therefore, our September speaker is a TBA.
- **Treasurer** Sandy Woerner reported a bank balance of \$4,373.00. Sandy again brought up the idea of credit card usage. Sandy stated that the treasurer would need help with the credit card charges. That person would be in charge of the device at the meetings to take credit card payments. Companies discussed were Eventbrite, Squarecard and Paypal. It was stated that Eventbrite is expensive and Paypal may be a way to go. We did discuss that we do need to come up with the method of credit card payment. Mary Heffernan suggest the idea of perhaps ordering meals quarterly vice every meeting. She also suggested creating a list of ways to choose how to order.

- **Corresponding Secretary** – Elaine Lehmann was absent, but Susan suggested keeping Carol Gontko, Ellen Harrison, and Missy Leibbrand in our prayers.

Committee Reports

***Americanism** –Mary Heffernan suggested the idea of bringing cookies to the State GOP convention with NWARW info to hand out. All agreed it was a terrific suggestion.

***Awards**-Susan stated she will update the John Tower award information form.

***ByLaws** – Article VI – Meetings, was presented for discussion, but no one had any comments or questions on it. There were two things discussed later in the meeting regarding our Bylaws:

One-Whether the Executive committee can go ahead and vote on items needed to be addressed. It was decided we can according to Article V, Section 3 The Executive Committee:

The Executive Committee shall “to transact necessary business between meetings”

Two-The number of people who can serve on the Nominations Committee. It was brought up that we could not have more than 3 on the committee. We had initially named 5 people but brought it down to 3.

*NOTE: It was later determined that 3 people or more could serve on the Nominations Committee. **Article VIII-Nominations and Elections** - “A Nominations Committee of not less than 3 members shall be elected by the club.....”*

***Campaign Activities/Political Action** – Carolyn Isbell reminded us that we still have until May 31st to report for 1st quarter, and 2nd quarter is due by end of June. Susan’s suggestion of doing a ‘Campaign Honoree’ as proposed by the TFRW Campaign Activities VP, was discussed. Pros and Cons-with those members who have titles and work with those activities, would this be indicative of those people being named more than once. Pros-why would we not want to honor those who undertake activities that do call for long hours and would increase our campaign hours that we report to TFRW.

The Executive committee decided we begin doing so and will be reported in the e-News and at general meetings.

Susan said she will send an email before and after the Convention reminding Delegates of hours they are able to count.

***Caring for America** – A discussion as to summer CFA project with suggestion that spices/canned items for the Capital Area Food Bank be brought to summer activities. Nubia suggested the church which she is working with for TCRP Outreach has a food pantry. The Executive committee members felt this would be a good place to donate the food and spices.

***Chaplain** – Chris Sale suggested we approach a new member to serve as Chaplin. Susan asked Chris to write up a ‘job description’ for the NWARW Chaplin office.

***Community Engagement** – Susan asked Nubia to update up on the latest. Nubia was excited to report what she had engaged while working with the Travis County Republican Party’s Community outreach and how the NWARW could do the same. Nubia stated that the engagement at the Mollie Barrington School was very rewarding and that perhaps the NWARW could help. She said this particular school could use volunteers. Susan asked Nubia to do some research and let us know how we can help with the volunteer aspect of this. Nubia said there is a website where we can find out more on volunteering at the school: austinpartnersineducation.org Nubia will report back on how the NWARW can help.

***Fundraising-** Mary reported that the Bakeless Bake Sale was a success after all. Mary said that we need to find a replacement effort for the Bakeless Bake Sale as it had outgrown its use. Sandy suggested Birthday donation day, that whoever has a birthday would donate on her own behalf. Mary asked that we put our heads together and come up with new ideas on social events. She would like to report in August. She and Carla will look into this.

***Literacy** – In addition to the schools NWARW has decided to sponsor, it was decided to include Mollie Barrington School (the school Nubia so passionately spoke on). Since Carolyn Bishop has resigned her Chair position due to her commitment to her new profession, we will need someone to volunteer to follow through with the Constitution and Dictionary projects. The schools previously decided on will need to be contacted at the beginning of the school year to get the approximate number of students eligible for the projects – Pillow Elementary, Athlos Academy School, Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired (Braille copies), and Mollie Barrington. There are very detailed and specific instructions for ordering and distributing the books.

Susan brought up the need for someone who could help Nubia organize members from our club to participate with her suggestion. Rhonda suggested Joyce Melugin and Kathie Holliman. Both would be contacted and given names of other members who have shown an interest in Literacy.

***Hospitality** –A couple of ladies turned over donated cards for Elaine to use. Rhonda praised Elaine for the way she writes up the cards that go out stating the Elaine takes time choosing the message. Many members agreed that she has done a wonderful job as Hospitality Chair.

***Legislative** –Jan Duncan reminded everyone to remember to go vote. She brought with her a handout for us with election information and TX GOP convention information.

***Media Communications** – Susan again reminded us to submit pictures to post. We need to brag on our ladies.

***Parliamentarian** – Julia stated nothing to report.

***Political Action** – Carla said the block walking in Cedar Park had been a success. She said we need a better phone banking communication means so all parties out block walking can coordinate better.

***June Social Committee Report** – Susan stated that the committee had chosen Thursday, June 28th, 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM, at the Villa Serena Townhomes Clubhouse (thanks to Linda Durnin). We still had no menu and no ticket price as the menu would determine the ticket price. Suggestions were: Pok e Joe’s BBQ, Austin Pizza, Mexican Food, Italian Food. It was suggested we go with the Italian. Mary Heffernan volunteered to prepare homemade lasagna with garlic bread and the club supplement with Austin’s Pizza. Salad items could be bought from places like Costco and Sam’s. Members can bring homemade desserts. All liked the idea of keeping the ticket for the event at \$20 so more might be attracted to a fundraiser Wine Pull. Number attending would need to be limited to 50 because of the space available. There will be an email with more information and in the e-News.

***Convention Report** – A mentioned above, Jan Duncan brought with her a handout with convention information included and reminded everyone to have a great time in San Antonio. Training for the convention, especially new delegates, was discussed and would be looked into. Details TBA.

Unfinished Business

*Donations to Candidates-it was moved and seconded by Julia to donate \$500 in the month of May to the four Third Court of Appeals Candidates and also include Paul Workman with each candidate receiving \$100. The general membership had passed motions at the May 7th meeting to let the EC choose the candidates.

We also discussed the possibility of donating to the Candidate Resources Committee (CRC).

The CRC supports Republican candidates in local-level races, including County Judge, County Commissioner, District Attorney, Sheriff, County Court at Law, County Attorney, Tax Assessor-Collector, Justice of the Peace, Constable, and other miscellaneous partisan local elections.

The CRC is set forth by the Bylaws of the State Republican Executive Committee as one of its Standing Committees. The 12 appointed members, all SRECs and 6 non SRECs have the responsibility of providing support to the Republican candidates within the fund’s limits. The CRC also provides candidate and grassroots educational and campaign tools.

An email meeting of the EC will be called in early August to determine how to donate the remaining \$500 approved by the general membership.

New Business

*2019 Nominations Committee-Carla Birk, Julia Johnson, Mary Heffernan, and Jan Duncan. Rhonda to send out suggestions as she has previously done for our club.

*Campaign Hours-It was discussed to begin honoring members with a large turn in of hours and to mention them in the newsletter. Pros and Cons as mentioned above

regarding 'Campaign Honoree' as being those members who have titles and work with those activities, would this be indicative of those people being named more than once. Pros-why would we not want to honor those who undertake activities that do call for long hours and would increase our campaign hours that we report to TFRW.

*Member Bios-we discussed having our Active members submit Bios as this would be a good way to know more about our members before they became involved in the Club and their involvement with the club. Susan said she would send an email to all Active members and explain it is entirely optional and will only go out to our Active members for distribution.

Announcements

May 18-Last Day of EV in Primary Election

May 22-Primary Election Runoff

May 28-Memorial Day

June 14-16-TX GOP Convention, San Antonio

June 28-NWARW Summer Social

TFRW News- June 20-TFRW Patron Event and July 21 TFRW Board Meeting

RNC will be hosting the summer meeting in Austin-need to be hosted

No further business to be considered, the meeting adjourned at 1:39 PM.

Olga Lasher, Recording Secretary