

Business Meeting #1. 27 authorized votes.

7 officers, 12 delegates, 2 alternates and 6 proxies authorized to vote.

6:05- Welcome by D7 Governor Tania Hughes-Kremers.

6:06- Pledge of Allegiance.

6:07- Reading of Zonta International mission by Lt. Gov. Jane Austin.

6:07- Introduction of the board of directors.

6:08- Welcome by the St. Cloud conference organizers.

6:10- Welcome message by ZI president, Ute Scholz, via recorded video.

6:13- Tania welcomed special guests.

6:14- Tania further thanked all of the people who worked so hard to put this conference together. She also thanked donors and sponsors.

6:15- Business Session 1 called to order. Introduction of D7 District committee chairpersons. She also noted several past Governors who are in attendance and those who have been members for 25 or more years!

6:17- roll call of clubs- Penny Briese, Secretary; delegates and proxies

6:21- Mary Reed read the credentials; there are 23 authorized votes.

6:22- Sue Dege reviewed the Conference Standing Rules. Susan motioned to adopt the conference standing rules as presented. Marcia Charney seconded. Tania called for a vote but there was discrepancy in the count. Delegates and proxies reverified.

6:30- AMENDMENT- 27 authorized to vote; 7 elected district officers, 14 registered delegates and 6 registered proxies. Motion carried unanimously with 27 ayes.

6:31- Sue Dege reviewed the District Rules of Procedure. Sue Dege motioned to approve the District Rules of Procedure. Ruthi Sturdevant seconded. The motion carried unanimously with 27 ayes.

6:34- Sue Dege presented the proposed district bylaws. Sue motioned to adopt the amended bylaws to strike out the word "classified" in article 9, section 2. Joan Halvorson seconded. The motion carried unanimously with 24 ayes.

6:37- Tania presented the conference program and called for a vote by unanimous consent to accept. Motion passed by unanimous consent.

6:38- Cheryl Retterath presented the slate of candidates on behalf of the nominating committee. Nominations from the floor were closed on August 8th, due to the pre-recording of speeches. No additional nominations were presented. Tania addressed the candidates: Jane Austin- Governor- accepted. Penny Briese- Lt. Governor- accepted. Peggy Jensen- Treasurer- accepted. Nancy Pranke- not able to attend this weekend but gave written consent- Area 1 Director- accepted. Ruthi Sturdevant- Area 2 Director- accepted. Deb Kellerman- Area 3 Director- accepted. Marcia Charney- area 4 Director- accepted.

Nominating committee nominees- Gayle Borchert, Jackie Forck, Mary Reed and Linda Jacobsen- all accepted. Pat Retterath self-identified as being ineligible, although she was prepared to serve. She recused herself from the ballot. According to Roberts Rules, we are allowed to have only 4 members.

6:43- Mary Reed explained where voting would occur downstairs in the other conference room. She explained the process and asked that delegates check in before 8:30. She asked that attendees please do NOT come vote if you are NOT a delegate. Also, she reminded delegates that in addition to the executive committee and nominating committee, delegates remember that they may only vote for the Area Directors from their own district.

6:45- Deb Kellerman spoke to the group about the service project this evening and the aprons provided to all attendees; blue Zonta aprons. She also talked about this evening's social event; the Pub Crawl. She

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directed everyone to the information sheet in their conference bags. She gave everyone directions to the various businesses participating. Give Deb the check-off sheet in the morning.

The service project is located downstairs. There will also be appetizers. She gave instructions to those who will participate in packing bags. Deb also thanked all of the attendees for the nearly \$1,000 in products that will be packed now for women in the St. Cloud area who are fleeing dangerous situations and showing up the women's shelters across town. Bags will be distributed to the shelters after this conference. Please stop and have your club photos taken by the special conference banner!

"Zuber Rides" will be available for people tomorrow evening to the Iron Street Distillery supper event. Several people indicated they will take advantage of this offer and were advised to show up at 5:45 tomorrow in the lobby.

Deb then thanked her wonderful team of workers who have made this conference a success. The bathrooms are ONLY on the first floor, so be aware of that.

6:56- Tania reiterated that this conference is going to be FUN!!! "Zonta Proud" is the theme of the conference this year and is printed on our work aprons.

6:59- Shelley reported that we already have donations to the Foundation for Women! She encouraged all to keep bidding on the baskets and keep donating. She will give updates as the conference progresses.

7:01- With no further business, Tania adjourned the meeting. Attendees to meet on the stairs for a conference photo! We will reconvene tomorrow at 9:00 AM.

Business Meetings #2. 27 authorized votes.

7 officers, 12 delegates, 2 alternates and 6 proxies authorized to vote.

9:00- Tania introduced Shelley Schulz, who shared "clues" about the Governor's Purse that will be going up for auction tonight. She then thanked everyone for being so efficient yesterday. Deb Kellerman shared that there were 30 bags packed last night during the service project event. Tania thanked everyone for all of the service projects done by all of the clubs. She also thanked the organizing team for such a fun event last night at the pub crawl.

Deb Kellerman reminded everyone to put their pub crawl entries in the bag. Tania reminded everyone to put their names in for the Brisbane conference prize.

Question was raised about the new Zonta colors. Tania clarified that the maroon is not going away, but the blues, golds and purples of the 100 centennial are here to stay.

9:12- Meeting called to order by Governor Tania. Roll call of Clubs- Penny. Credentials of delegates and proxies confirmed by Mary Reed.

9:15- Meeting minutes presented from the 66th conference of D7, held in 2021. Tania called for amendments or corrections. None were brought forward. Minutes approved unanimously.

9:16- Peggy Jensen presented the treasurer's report and reviewed totals. See report.

Total income- \$33,945.04. Total expenses- \$25,347.92. Profit- \$8,597.79. No questions. Tania stated the report will be filed for audit.

Peggy then presented the proposed budget for the next biennium. See report. Projected for 400 members at \$26.50 per member. We will be pulling some funds from our reserves to cover this budget because, as Peggy clarified that the board has been very diligent with their funds; we will not be raising dues at this time. Peggy moved for approval of the budget. Jane Austin seconded. Tania reminded everyone about the rules for delegates to come to the microphone to discuss the budget.

Sherry Doctorian asked about the number of 400 for projected membership. Jane responded that 400 was our goal for the last biennium. We need to envision building our district membership, so the board chose to keep that number. Question raised about current membership; Jane responded that we are at

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approximately 377 members, so it won't take much to get us to 400. No further questions. Tania called for the vote. The budget was approved unanimously.

9:28- Tania introduced our Zonta International Director, Britt Vaughan. She spoke about what is happening at the board level as well as the ZI strategic plan. She also answered questions after the presentation.

10:07- drawing for pub crawl prizes.

10:10- Break.

10:46- Second business session resumed with a speaker via Zoom, an Amelia Earhart Fellowship awardee, Dr. Cheryl Schrader. The district will be making a donation to the Amelia Earhart Fellowship in her honor and will be gifting her with a book, signed by all members present.

11:15- Break

11:26- Workshop presentation part #1- The Zonta Club of Cape Girardeau. "Recruiting the Next Generation of Leaders; Racing to Connect." They are sharing the presentation that they gave at NAIDM.

12:00- Lunch.

12:35- Guest speaker Dr. Robbyn Wacker, president of St. Cloud State University.

1:10- Break.

1:25- Cape Girardeau team workshop part #2.

2:14 Break. Shelley updated on foundation giving and gave a few more clues about the Governor's Purse contents.

Business Meeting #3. 27 authorized votes.

7 officers, 12 delegates, 2 alternates and 6 proxies authorized to vote.

2:30- Business session #3 called to order by Tania. Credentials of delegates and proxies confirmed by Mary Reed. Roll call of Clubs- Penny

2:38- election results. Gov- 26 for Jane, 0 un.

Lt. Gov 26 cast 25 for me 0 un

Peggy- 26 with 0 un

Area Directors:

Area 1- Nancy Pranke- all 4 votes

Area 2- Ruthi Sturdevant- all 8 votes

Area 3-Deb Kellerman=4

Area 4- Marcia Charney-4

Nominating Committee: Total of 79 votes cast. Gayle Borchert received 22 votes, Jackie Forck- 21, Mary Reed- 20, Linda Jacobson- 16.

2:40- Resolution presented to the attendees for the "Young Women in Public Affairs" award be renamed "Young Women in Civic Leadership". Marcia motioned for the name change. Ruthi Sturdevant seconded. Tania opened for discussion; she clarified that the name change would encourage young women to apply, as it is a clearer description of what it required of applicants. Deb Kellerman asked for clarification of the procedure of how this resolution, if passed here, would be presented at the International Convention. Question raised about what all is covered by this award; Tania clarified that this is an award for young women aged 16-19. It is not dependent upon their chosen career, but rather what they have done as a volunteer or a leader in their community. For tax purposes in the US, it needs to be clarified whether they are using the money for scholarship. Sue Kierstad informed the group that award information is on the ZI website, under service and education.

With no further questions, Tania called for the vote. Motion passed unanimously.

2:50- Change to the Rules of Procedure. Request for changes to the use of the Dorthea Radusch fund. In the past, it was "used as a tool to aid in membership development. An amount not to exceed \$250 per

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year shall be allocated for International, District, and Local Membership dues for District JMK or WIT winners. The District Membership Chair shall supervise the distribution." The new proposed purpose states that "The Dorthea Radusch fund shall be used as a tool to support the creation of new clubs in the District, with the amount not exceeding \$750.00 per year. The District Chair shall supervise distribution." Jane Austin motioned as such and Deb Kellerman seconded the motion.

A request for clarification of the rationale for this change came from the floor and Jane Austin came forward with the story of who Dorthea Radusch was and her legacy in club creation in the upper Midwest. She was instrumental in creating new clubs. Jane stressed that new club creation is expensive. Question from the floor about the Membership Development fund; Peggy clarified that that fund still has \$4,645.00 available. Clubs can request funds once a year and then come back for an additional \$300.00.

Question from the floor as to whether \$750.00 will be enough to fund new club development. Jane responded that currently, it is a challenge to fund travel and time for the Lt. Gov. Tania pointed out that the board did add some funds to the budget as well.

Question about the fund being perpetual; Jane clarified that both the Dorthea Radusch and the Membership Development Fund will be done, once all of the funds have been spent. We will need a new line of income once the funds are gone.

With no further discussion, Tania called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously.

3:00- Shelley Shulz- Foundation Ambassador report. Club giving to date: \$23,283.78. 11 of 17 clubs have given to date; 64% of the clubs. Last biennium at this time was 66%. Individual giving to date is \$12,147.26. 28.9% of the district has given at the individual level. Every member November is coming up so hopefully we will see this increase. Endowment giving to date \$5,478.00. Shelley said she would like to see more giving in this area, as these are the funds that are going to keep us going. Only 3 out of 17 clubs have given to the endowment to date and only 19/380 individuals have given to the endowment. Total giving of D7 to date is \$40,909.04. "We are small but very generous."

Zonta Foundation for Women Board updates; the "Mary E. Jenkin 1919 Society" is now called the "Zonta 1919 Legacy Circle".

Disbanded clubs have also contributed; all funds are supposed to go to International but we have been able to keep some back at our district level to help fund membership efforts. Starting now and moving forward, those monies will NOT be credited back to the districts.

Corporate donations; matching gifts can now be counted for local district total in giving. There will be monthly detailed donor reports as we move forward.

There is a QR code that can be used to make donations as well.

Shelley clarified the moving of the baskets for auction; every club grab your own basket and bring to supper tonight. We will also be doing the Governor's purse tonight. All funds raised from these efforts will go in as our DISTRICT 7 donation to the Zonta Foundation. Question raised about district giving; Shelley clarified that there is a box on the envelope that you can choose to give either as an individual or as from the district. Peggy clarified that all donations made with registration went to the service project. Shelley then distributed new foundation member pins to those who have moved up in cumulative total donations. She then gave more clues about the Governor's Purse. \$2,812.00 so far in conference giving.

3:20- Jane Austin gave a membership development update. We still have several months left in this biennium. We were standing at 377 at the end of May. Goal for the biennium is only 400! If each club keeps all members and brings in just two new members, we will go over the goal with 409. We have three proposed new clubs in Iowa and Nebraska, and we are hoping to reinvigorate the one in Springfield. This would potentially bring in 45+ new members! Jane reminded everyone about the Marvelous Membership Mondays. We have 15 young professionals in our district and there is great opportunity for more growth in this area. Encourage those who are stepping back from Zonta to still remain connected and separate the mission of Zonta as a Supporting Member. This is a "transfer", not a

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“new membership”. This is a great way of sustaining our global membership goals. She encouraged members to keep bringing in new members. Reorient your members as well with the New Membership video. Use the resources from ZI; there are many short 5-6 minute “Leadership Development Tools: Core Competency Program and Leadership Program” videos available online that inform members on how the club functions and the duties of the board. Jane has also expanded toolkits on our district website as well. She encouraged clubs to apply for membership funds from the district. She also encouraged everyone to download the ZI mobile app on their phones.

Comment on the membership development funds from Peggy; printing costs are also covered. Jane said to be creative in the use of those funds.

3:35- Gayle Borchert talked about new club creation. We have two states in our district that do not have any clubs. So we are working on clubs in three areas; Des Moines, Iowa, Lincoln, Nebraska, and Springfield, Missouri. We have a former Mankato member in Des Moines. There is also a women's leadership conference there, so we are going to have a table in October 18-19 to reach out to women leaders in that area, followed by a service event. Gayle asked that everyone think about who they know in those three areas. Please send their contact information to her now. D7 needs people in those towns to form a club; they will let us form a club with less than 15 if needed. We need people!

3:37- Tania encouraged us to keep the momentum going in this area of new club creation and share our contact information. You can also share OUR names with your contacts instead.

Announcements- Deb Kellerman gave the drawing for the Brisbane prize to Tania to do later. Deb shared that tonight will be an “Orange Out” night so wear your orange. Everyone, grab your baskets and clipboards and bring them with you to dinner. Those who need Zuber rides, please be in the lobby at 5:45. Question raised about walking to the venue for supper; Gayle gave updates about the Distillery. It is a difficult walk so she encouraged taking a vehicle or a Zuber ride. Happy Hour is 6-6:30 for craft cocktails. You will get a gold coin for a free drink. There will be trivia, baskets and the Governor's Purse. There will also be table favors available for purchase.

Jane presented Tania a gift in honor of her service during this first year of the biennium.

3:49- With no further business, meeting adjourned.

Business Meeting #4. 25 authorized votes.

5 officers, 12 delegates, 2 alternates and 6 proxies authorized to vote.

9:00- Memorial service; led by Marcia Charney and Ruthi Sturdevant. We celebrated the lives of our Zonta sisters who passed away since our last conference: Jane Oleen (St. Cloud, MN), Barbara Ann Page-Stocks Daly (Johnson County, KS), Ruth Holzschuh (Johnson County, KS), Nancy Englerth (Bismarck, ND) and Joyce Vincent (Minneapolis, MN).

9:15- Tania reminded everyone about the upcoming workshops and locations.

9:30- Workshop Session. Attendees chose between two sessions: “Finding Peace Anytime. Anywhere.” and “Zonta's Unique Relationship with the UN”.

10:15- Break and Marketplace

10:37- Meeting called to order by Governor Tania. Roll call of Clubs- Penny. Credentials of delegates and proxies confirmed by Mary Reed. Final credentials report 16 clubs in the district- 9 are represented by delegates, 6 by proxies and 1 not represented.

10:41- Conference Committee final report-Susan Voeltz- We had 7 district board members in attendance, 1 international representative, 14 delegates and alternates, 30 other registered Zontians, no registered guests. Total number of attendees -52, including 7 “first timers” and one young professional. We also had 10 outside guests joining us on the Friday night event! Cape Girardeau won the travelling award for coming the furthest with the highest number of members.

10:45- Zonta USA Caucus update given by Penny Briese, D7 representative.

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11:19- Governor's report. Tania spoke to this conference theme, "Zonta Proud". She reminded all of us to be proud of belonging to our clubs. Three main pillars: be proud to be members of our clubs and ZI. She encouraged us to remember all of the incredible information we have heard at this conference; we change people's lives. We build a better world for women and girls. Invite others to become a Zontian. We should also be proud of the service that we do. And we should be proud of the advocacy work that we do as well. We have a voice to change the world. Zonta International has a voice at the UN!

Tania asked that everyone reflect on this conference and write down what they will take away from this conference. What do you want to do differently? What personal or club commitment do you want to make? Will you go to CSW or become part of the USA Caucus?

She then thanked the various people and organizations that made this such a successful conference and our international representative, Britt.

11:31- Foundation Ambassador report. Shelley Shulz shared that she has received approximately 6,000 from individuals. \$2,950.00 came in from the basket auction and Governor's Purse. \$8,970.00 will be going to ZI Foundation for Women.

Jane and Tania announced that next D7 conference 2025 will be held in Cape Girardeau, MO! Area 1 & 3 meeting will be held in Austin, MN in April. The location of the Area 2 & 4 meeting has yet to be determined; will be somewhere in Kansas. The next International Convention will be in Vancouver, Canada and the next NAIDM meeting in 2025 will be in Michigan!

Tania then announced that the winner of the D7 Welcome Basket goes to Dr. Penny Briese. She must attend the Brisbane conference in order to collect her prize!

Tania then shared the "Welcome to Brisbane" video from ZI. It is available online to show to your clubs.

Tania shared that all photos taken at the conference will be in a drop box, the link to which Tania will share with all club presidents. She then asked Deb to talk about the conference evaluation form.

11:50- With no further business the meeting was adjourned and the conference came to an end.

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. Penny Briese, RN, CHSE
Zonta International
District 7 Secretary