



**Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
December 8, 2020**

Opening: President Pat Klein opened with Pledge of Allegiance. Jim Nickel led the Homemakers Creed.

Minutes: Secretary's minutes from the Board Meeting of December 2019 were not read due to time constraints and we have not met for quite some time.

Present: Jackie Caratinni, Diane Nickel, Jim Nickel, Darlene Schumacher, Linda Hobbs, Judy Steinert, Pat Klein, Wendy Young, Connie Eisch.

WAHCE Conference: Hold this till the end of the meeting if there is time. Darlene mentioned that 60 to 80 people have registered and the WAHCE 2020 Conference was cancelled due to COVID-19. Diane thanked Darlene for her work for the WAHCE Conference. The 2021 Conference is in Stevens Point from September 20 to 22, 2021. Some tours have already been set up. If anyone needs help, contact Pat Klein or Diane Nickel.

Membership Dues: Diane Nickel put this on the agenda. Other organizations have carried the membership from 2020 to 2021 without having them pay for 2021. All members and clubs would remain the same as 2020. For those that did pay dues for 2021, the money will stay in the treasury and will be addressed in 2022. We would still have to pay \$1 to the state and \$1 to West District. The idea is that there were no meetings or events in 2020 so why should they pay for 2021. They thought they would rather drop out. By keeping the status for 2021 the same as 2020 they would still be members and all clubs would still be intact. Two clubs have already started the disbanding process, but everyone feels that it is still possible to reverse the process. A discussion followed about the status of the budget. Diane and Jim said that they would not be submitting for state expense. This money could go elsewhere in the budget. We have been operating for several years at a deficit. If this continues Wood County HCE will be in the red in two years. The consensus of people contacted about dues already paid, they would like to see dues stay in the budget as a donation and not be returned. Motion made by Diane Nickel that this year, 2021 only, that due to the COVID-19 that no dues would be required, four clubs would be retained as members, but the county could pay the \$1 to state and \$1 to West District. Judy Steinert said that the motion sounded great and "We have to take a breath". She seconded the motion. With the passing of this motion, all clubs and members will be retained. Discussion followed. Connie Eisch said that no money has been transferred from the disbanding clubs, so the process has not been completed yet. At this point we went to the budget report. We then came back from the Treasurer's Report. A vote for the membership dues was taken. There were four in favor and two against. The motion is carried. Jackie will pass on the information to Wendy.

Treasurer Report: Connie Eisch reported dues have been paid by 22 club members and 12 at members at large. A discussion followed to redistribute the budget funds for 2021. The WAHCCE Conference budget would be dropped to a minimum amount just to keep the line item in the budget. The state dues line item was reduced to \$1 per person due to COVID-19. A motion was made by Pat Klein to approve the re-adjusted budget. Seconded by Judy Steinert. All in favor. Non opposed. Motion carried.

County President: Pat Klein said that she wanted Diane and Jim to step in at this point because we would not be doing anything before the end of the year. Diane stated that they have been working with Pat over the last couple of months, but Pat will continue to be our president until the end of the year. Diane thanked Pat for the job she has done. Diane and Jim will take over at the beginning of 2021 and still continue to communicate with Pat on procedures and advice.

Connection: The Connection needs to be brought back but with more frequency to keep members in the loop. We need to communicate with the members to let them know what is still available to them. Diane is

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asking the board to have the Connection go out every other month so we can get documents and information that members need to know about. This information could then go out with the Connection. Diane and Jim would get the information to Wendy. There also could be a section devoted to what members have been doing during this COVID-19 situation. Other members then would have some insight as to what is out there to do in a safe manner. We do need to have content in the Connection. The budget line item for the Connection will need to be increased to cover this additional cost. Jackie would do a "Self-care" piece and a "What's Happening in the Community" piece in the Connection. Many members complimented Jackie on what she has been doing for the club and the community. Articles would be due by the 1st of the month the issue will go out. The Connection will now go out in February, April, June, August, October and December. Articles need to be sent to Diane & Jim Nickel.

The address: Diane & Jim Nickel
365 Peckham Road
Nekoosa WI 54457-1556

Or e-mailed to denickel@solarus.biz

Diane & Jim will send a reminder e-mail to those that have an e-mail account to submit articles for the Connection. Diane & Jim would like a member roster with e-mails, telephone numbers and address.

Bookworms™: Julie Carlson let Jackie know that she will be stepping down from Bookworms™. Julie stated to Jackie that when she started there were 200 children in the program and this year because of COVID-19 there are now 61 children. Because of the funding they had, instead of ordering four books, she has ordered the complete set of 8. Carol Dorn will deliver the books to the children. Diane talked with Julie. The Bookworm™ project is going virtual this year. Diane requested that the Bookworm™ checkbook be kept with the County Treasurer (Connie Eisch). The County treasurer would pay all Bookworm™ bills. A motion was made by Diane Nickel to have the Bookworm™ account to be transferred to the treasurer. Seconded by Pat Klein. All in favor. None opposed. The motion is carried. We need to search out a candidate to take over the Bookworm™ project. Connie suggested that the County show their appreciation to Julie Carlson for all of her work. Connie said she will take care of it with a basket from the Cranberry Connection and a card. Diane would like to have a card program set up for Julie Carlson.

Secretary: Nicki Jarosinski will continue to be the Secretary for Wood County HCE.

Calendar: Pat, Diane and Jim sat down and came up with a calendar for 2021. We at least need a calendar so we can cancel events if need be. The calendar booklet would not be published. The complete yearly calendar would go out in each Connection and could be updated as needed. A discussion followed to determine the dates. Most of the dates have been determined for state and district events.

Board Meeting: January 19, March 16, May 18, August 17, September 28, November 16. Board meetings will be held at 9:30am by zoom. Each member will receive a zoom invitation. Any cancellations of a board meeting, we will send an e-mail to all members having an e-mail and the five members that do not have an e-mail will get a letter in the mail.

Creed: Pat led the Homemakers Creed.

Scholarship: The scholarship for 2021 has been cancelled due to COVID-19. We need to pass a resolution to suspend the 2021 program because of our by-laws. A motion was made by Diane Nickel that we postpone giving a scholarship for 2021 and we will reassess this in 2022 according to our budget and COVID-19. Seconded by Judy Steinert. All approved. The motion is carried.

Adjourned:

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