

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

Present: Jackie Caratinni, Diane Nickel, Jim Nickel, Darlene Schumacher, Marilyn Cournoyer, Pat Klein, Wendy Young, Christine Goodness, Agnes Langeberg.

Minutes: Secretary's minutes from the Board Meeting of December 8, 2020 were read by Jim Nickel. A vote to accept the minutes by Diane Nickel. All approved.

Treasurer's Report: Discussion on the budget. Darlene made a request to change Western District to West District. Budget was approved with the change of Western to West.

Word From Jackie: Jackie appreciates everyone's articles. Jackie will continue to put in things on classes in our community and specifically on classes sponsored by the Extension. There is a session on Aging Mastery that was done in December and January. They will be starting another one soon. It is a ten session program and comes from the National Council on Aging. There is one in February and other one starting in April. They will be twice a week for ten weeks done in Zoom. Also coming is Wise Wednesdays in Zoom with informational and fun topics. They will be open to the public and she will keep us informed when they start. They are all free.

Old Business:

Connection Progress: We will have some regular contributors. Marilyn will do an article on Cultural Arts. Agnes Langeberg will do an article on gardening. Dr. Carl De Luca will do an article on exercise. Carol Grorich will do an article on cutes sayings and jokes. Amy Wiza will do an article on the Wisconsin/Nicaragua Project. Jackie will do her article on what is happening. Pat Klein and Julie Carlson will be doing a one time letter for the February issue of The Connection. Christine Goodness will do an article on Bookworms. The Marketing Form will be in the February issue. Let Diane Jim know if you want to do an article.

Thank You basket For Julie Carlson: Tabled until the next meeting.

Scholarship Report: Wendy mentioned that she does not send out a scholarship letter. The schools contact her and if they do not hear from Wendy they just assume it is not being offered.

New Business:

Budget Report: Should the Budget be posted in The Connection? No.

Membership Drive: We have a lady at the Wisconsin Rapids Chamber that will help with brochures. Are there any ideas for new membership. Diane will contact Denise Mancl to see if she has anything. Most new members are usually from word of mouth. Diane will check with the River Times. If anyone comes up with and ideas, give Diane and Jim a call.

2021 Events: The three major events for 2021 will be hosted by individuals versus clubs as in the pass. Looking for hosts for County Day, Fall Kick-Off and the Christmas Party. Darlene will help with County Day. If a club wants to do it they can. Agnes will check with her club to see if they would like to host an event. Christmas is Club 51.

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Telephone Tree; Diane is wondering if we need a telephone tree for notifying member of an upcoming meeting. Diane and Jim will continue notify everyone of a meeting. They will also send out the minutes and an agenda a week prior to the meeting. Jim gave information on how to transfer your telephone to your cell phone and will publish it in The Connection.

Condolences: Do we send flowers for the passing of a member? The Board decided not to do this. Each club does their own thing.

Nicaragua Service Project: The WAHCE State Conference will be having a tour to their facility in Stevens Point. Will Amy's article suffice to fill the International Position for the county.

Money Making Ideas For Bookworms: 2021 and 2022 are taken care of. Bills will be sent to Connie Eisch and she will pay them. Julie said we need to plan two years in advance. There are grants that are available. Christine Goodness follow-up on this. A discussion followed about the web site.

Bookworms: Christine Goodness gave us a biography about herself.

Hardship Dues: It was brought up last month that maybe we need a hardship clause for dues. Also should there be an age limit for dues or become charter members. Maybe something that can be brought up at the state level. Tabled until the next meeting.

Membership List: Would the Board like a membership roster. This would be for board members only and not to be released. Wendy will check with Jackie to see if we can share this. Possibly a release of information form.

Cultural Arts: Marilyn Cournoyer said there is a list of items that can be made for the Marshfield Hospital. The list is available on their web site. Marilyn would make arrangements to pick items up. Marilyn would like ideas for making things at home. It may be possible to do this with Zoom. She is checking on how to do this. Darlene Schumacher and Marilyn Cournoyer explained about diamond painting. Diane mentioned about a block of the month. And explained the disappearing nine patch block.

Marketing Report: Carol Grorich would like us to put the form in The Connection.

State report: Darlene Schumacher gave a report on state news. The insurance that we had is not available this year. We may have to look for our own insurance. West District Spring Meeting on April 12, 2021 is a Zoom meeting. They are encouraging everyone to attend. Hotel reservations can be made for the state conference. Discussion followed about state conference.

Message From The President: We are so blessed to have all of you to help us through this. COVID has put a crimp in everything. We plowing a new road this year in trying to keep everyone enthusiastic about HCE. Call us with any questions or concerns. Thank you to everyone.

Closing: Jim led the Homemaker's Prayer.

Board Meeting: Next Board Meeting is March 16, 2021 at 9:30am. It will be a Zoom meeting. The numbers and the pass codes for all future Zoom meetings will be the same as it was for this one.

Adjourned:

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