

Victoria Regional Womens Committee Meeting August 24 2016

Attendees : Julie Bussiere, Vaillancourt, Catherine Sindani, Vanessa Miller, Leanne Hughes

Guests: Deana Kimball – Staff Rep

Call to order: 5:40 pm Motion by Julie Bussiere and seconded by Leanne Hughes

Adoption of the Agenda. Addition to listed agenda Deanna requested to speak about YW conference
Motion to adopt agenda as amended moved by Virginia Vaillancourt, seconded Vanessa Miller. All in favour.

Previous minutes: bring forward for next meeting. February 17 2016 minutes had been provided however, it was thought that there was a meeting April 27 2016. It was determined by the end of the meeting this meeting had been canceled. There was a motion to adopt the minutes at the following meeting. Moved by Julie Bussiere and seconded by Catherine Sindani. All in favour.

President Report – Julie provided a brief report on activities between meetings. Julie indicated that the Women’s Conference has been taking time to plan and as a planning committee they were sad they had to turn people away. There were 5 people placed on a waiting list in order to attend due to both funding shortfalls and location of the applicants as there was a breakdown of how many sisters would be taken per area in order to make the most use of the budget.

Financial Report: No financial report submitted as treasurer Kay Ahmadi sends her regrets. Julie did indicate that we are almost done getting the signing authorities changed over and this should be taken care of soon.

Resolutions – Four resolutions were submitted to the committee for review for the upcoming Regional Womens Conference. Please see attached document for the resolutions submitted from the committee to the regional conference.

Virginia Vaillancourt read out resolution titled: ***Funding increase for Women’s conference***

Discussion ensued. Vanessa Miller asked what budget do we currently have for the conferences and is there a shortfall? Virginia Vaillancourt stated that currently we get \$68000 for the regional conference. This is the same for the other conferences and is given as a part of the PSAC National Triennial budget. This allows for a maximum of 65 attendees with the majority of the delegates being based in Vancouver. For this conference we have allocated 40 seats of the 65 attendees to Vancouver because they would not be on travel status and this allows the most sisters to participate within the limited budget. This time they were able to reallocate seats to other regions of BC when they did not have 40 applicants from Vancouver. However this brings the number of overall participants down because they are coming outside of Vancouver and therefore there is travel costs associated.

Julie Bussiere asked why there is no costing attached to this. Virginia Vaillancourt stated that she has not specified costing because she is asking for this to come out of the already established PSAC budget. Virginia Vaillancourt stated that she is requesting that surplus funds be used for this rather than requesting an increase in dues to the members. Deanna Kimball stated that you can find the line item that specifies the monies allocated to the Womens Conferences in the HR activities line item in the PSAC budget. If you read back you can also find out how the funding was established at a past convention and exactly how many cents per member per month this costing is currently. No further discussion past this point. Julie Bussiere seeing no further discussion motioned that the resolution be submitted from the Victoria Regional Womens Committee to the BC Regional Womens Conference. This was seconded by Virginia Vaillancourt. All members in favour.

Julie Bussiere read out resolution titled: ***Funding for womens coordinators***

Julie asked if there was questions or discussion. Virginia Vaillancourt began to provide some background on the resolution. She stated that given the limited budgets that the coordinators are given it is nearly impossible to be able to do the job. She stated that for those with Province wide portfolios the current funding does not give you sufficient funds to be able to visit each of the committees due to costs. Virginia Vaillancourt indicated that Vanessa Miller could attest to this as the Young worker coordinator. Virginia Vaillancourt stated that her intention is to see this resolution replicated for all the coordinators with a province wide portfolio.

Deanna asked if this was a resolution that would go to the national equity conference as well or just the PSAC BC convention. Virginia Vaillancourt stated that it was her intent to have it go to all conferences. Deanna stated that this may not be a national issue as the budgets are set at the Regional Conventions.

Julie Bussiere seeing no further discussion motioned that the resolution be submitted from the Victoria Regional Womens Committee to the BC Regional Womens Conference. This was seconded by Virginia Vaillancourt. All members in favour.

Julie Bussiere read Resolution: ***Priority Equity Resolutions***

Julie Bussiere called for questions and discussion. Virginia Vaillancourt provided background to the resolution. She stated that in order to have resolutions and equity voices heard at the PSAC triennial Conventions she wants this to go forward. She stated that a lot of the time the priorities of the equity members are not recognized as important by the committee creating the priority listing for Convention. Virginia Vaillancourt provided the example of the Young Worker Age Resolution at convention which was not going to hit the floor. Virginia Vaillancourt stated that the only reason it did was because of the incredible amount of work that was done by the Young Workers at convention and in the months leading up. It is not fair that we are not having the voices of the equity groups at all at convention. This resolution will ensure that the priority from the National Equity Conference is reflected at Triennial.

Leanne Hughes asked what it is that we currently spend most time on aside from the budget. Virginia Vaillancourt stated that aside from finance its Constitution resolutions. This is because the NBOD is unable to deal with resolutions that have costing and constitutional changes between the conventions. Virginia Vaillancourt stated that she had also thought of adding a category of resolutions for equity but she felt that the reality would be that it would be the last priority of the PSAC and none of the resolutions would be making it to the floor anyways.

Julie Bussiere seeing no further discussion motioned that the resolution be submitted from the Victoria Regional Womens Committee to the BC Regional Womens Conference. This was seconded by Virginia Vaillancourt. All members in favour.

Julie Bussiere read resolution: **Utilization of alternates**

Julie Bussiere called for questions and discussion. Virginia Vaillancourt provided background to the resolution. She stated that the practice at the moment is that if there is a meeting that the Coordinator is funded to attend but is not able to, the Alternate is not being authorized by the REVPs office to attend.

Leanne Hughes asks what the point of spending all the money at convention to elect alternates if we are not going to use them. This was echo'd by much of the committee.

Julie Bussiere seeing no further discussion motioned that the resolution be submitted from the Victoria Regional Womens Committee to the BC Regional Womens Conference. This was seconded by Virginia Vaillancourt. All members in favour.

New Business:

Deanna gave update on YW conference indicated that it was posted and to please share the information and encourage our young workers to attend. Deanna Kimball also stated that there are upcoming education courses in the fall on Vancouver Island. She stated that there is likely to be another course not listed with is the National Aboriginal Peoples Course and this will be in December.

Virginia Vaillancourt mentioned the Raffle Basket that will be happening at the Regional Womens Committee. She stated that they have not had a great response to date and she would like to request the Committee support. Virginia Vaillancourt motioned that the Victoria Reional Womens Committee put together a basket totaling up to \$100.00 for donation to the Regional Women's Conference. Vanessa Miller seconded the motion. All in Favour. Vanessa Miller offered to shop and transport the basket.

Virginia Vaillancourt stated that she is also actively working on the December 6 event. She stated that she will be bringing a motion at the next meeting regarding the cost of the noise bylaw allowance. She is actively planning and the letters requesting support and funds are being drafted as well.

Seeing no further new business Julie Bussiere requests a motion to adjourn. Moved by Vanessa Miller and seconded by Leanne Hughes. All in favour.

Meeting adjourned at 6:58. All in favour

September 20 2016 at 5:30 pm next meeting