

# Des Moines Women's Club

## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Wednesday, August 12, 2020 **AMENDED**

**Call to Order:** A regular meeting of the Des Moines Women's Club Board of Directors was held in the gallery of Hoyt Sherman Place on Wednesday, August 12, 2020. The meeting convened at 10:05 a.m. with President Pat Henson presiding.

President Henson presented Past President Jean Shires with a gift of a charm featuring Hoyt Sherman Place, her name and year. She thanked Jean for her service on behalf of Des Moines Women's Club.

**Members in Attendance:** Pat Henson, Chris Foss, Joyce Perkins, Wendy Prigge, Kathy Crall, Jo Berry, Joann M. Young, Michelle Clark, Jean Shires, Pam Deeds, Marti Puff, Sheila Bingaman, Mary Ellen Imlau, Karen Sievers and Sheila Sapienza.

**Members not in Attendance:** Toni Van Cleve and Margie Taylor

**Staff:** Beth Oberender

**Survey Report:** Sheila Bingaman, Chair of the Survey Committee, presented a PowerPoint with results of a survey that was developed by the Survey Committee including Jo Berry, Pam Deeds, Chris Foss, Pat Henson, Mary Ellen Imlau, Beth Oberender, Malka Naggar, and Joyce Perkins, and sent to all Club members.

- A total of 84 responses revealed that health and safety and communication were major concerns. And 60% of the respondents would like to have programs available via the internet and 52% would like programs in the Hoyt Sherman Theater which can seat 300 people socially distanced.
- At August 1, 2019, there were 134 paid Club members. As of August 1, 2020, there were 90 paid, resulting in a drop of 44 members and a fiscal loss of over \$5,000.
- **The Survey Committee recommends that Club programs be held in the Hoyt Sherman Auditorium subject to IDPH, CDC and HSP Guidelines and Regulations in the period of October to December 2020. The content of the programs will be determined by the Chairs and their Committees.**
- **The Survey Committee recommends the Board investigate costs and technical feasibility associated with providing access to the programs via electronic means**

After discussion of the survey and based upon recommendations, the following actions were taken:

- JoAnn M. Young moved to do two programs a month in the auditorium during months of September, October and November, 2020. Departments to arrange for the speakers. Sheila Bingaman seconded. Motion carried.
- Kathy Crall moved to make wearing masks mandatory while Club members and their guests are in Hoyt Sherman Place. Joyce Perkins seconded. Motion carried.
- Chris Foss moved to appoint a research committee to study the feasibility and costs associated with electronically recording and transmitting Club programs. Michelle Clark seconded. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes:** Sheila Sapienza moved to approve minutes of the June 17, 2020, and July 1, 2020 meetings. Sheila Bingaman seconded. Motion carried.

## **Officer Reports**

**President:** President Henson asked for recommendations for two open Board positions.

**Treasurer** Michelle Clark reported that payments to all scholarship winners are complete. Approval to increase the amount of money that can be transferred from the General Unrestricted Fund 5% to 7% for two years is planned for a vote next month. This was included in the Blast which allows for a 30 days notice to the membership. The Treasurer's report will be filed for audit.

**Communications Vice President:** Joyce Perkins encouraged members to call a Club friend and remind them to keep paying dues to help the Club. Mary Ellen Imlau is working on the newsletter and needs any calendar additions.

**Fundraising Vice President:** Wendy Prigge gave a printed report including fundraising topics of masks, nuts and candy, a basket auction, jewelry sale, plant sale, a fashion show, direct donations and applying for grants.

Joann M. Young moved to approve expense of the Club facemasks to be sold as a fundraiser. Sheila Bingaman seconded motion. Motion carried.

**Membership Committee Vice President:** Kathy Crall expressed concern about the possibility that members who hadn't paid their dues would receive the same Club benefits as those who had - if nonpaying members are to remain in the directory and continue to receive communications. Discussion followed regarding extending payment of dues beyond Sept. 1 as stated in the Bylaws – no action taken from this discussion.

President Henson offered to send a letter to those who have yet to pay their dues emphasizing the longevity and importance of DMWC and its need for sustained funding. Chris Foss offered to help create the letter.

**Corresponding Secretary:** JoAnn M. Young reported that thinking of you cards were sent to Beverly Broyles, Dorothy Perry, Jean Shires, and Evelyn Fisher. Sympathy cards were sent to Rose Marie Webb, D.J. Newlin, Grace Olson, and Cyndi Cox. Get well cards were sent to Ginny Livingston and Maurice Edmond.

**President-Elect:** Chris Foss reported that strategic planning for DMWC continues to address issues of markets for new members, member retention, By-laws, core values, mission statements and more – all topics to make a strong and healthy organization. The Strategic Planning Committee is a two-year project.

**Bereavement Policy** of hand carrying a rose or a bouquet to visitation for member or member's spouse was discussed and motion made to change this policy as stated:

In the event of Club member's death or the death of a close family member of a Club member, the Corresponding Secretary will send a card to the member family or member as appropriate. Mary Ellen Imlau made the motion, seconded by Marti Puff and passed by vote of the members. With no further business, meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by  
Jo Berry, Recording Secretary

8/2020  
Amended 9-2-2020