

**Winnipeg Regional Women's Committee – Annual
General Meeting
Tuesday – 10 January 2017 – 5:15pm
PSAC – 175 Hargrave Street**

Minutes

Attendees: Gloria Kelly, Nicole Papineau, Rachel d'Eschambault, Yvonne Hein, Dawn MacAulay, Sheila Hanson

Regrets: Valerie Denesiuk, Anna Goldfeld, Mona Simcoe, Darlene McClure

1. Call to Order at 5:30
2. Statement on Harassment accepted as read
3. Approval of the Agenda, agreed
4. Review and approval of minutes from November 2016 meeting
 - With one minor correction, Dawn moved that it be accepted, Rachel 2ndd, and all accepted
5. Treasurer's Report:
 - Gloria reported (on Lorelei's behalf) that our bank balance as of December 31, 2016 was \$132.59, there are no outstanding cheques so that is what we start 2017 with.
6. Chair's Report
 - Gloria provided her report. (See attached)
7. Previous business:
 - (i) Confirmation of who is attending PSAC convention from RWC
 - Anna Goldfeld is our delegate (Rachel is delegate to the Equity Conference)

There was a bit of discussion about the delegate situation for the Prairies Convention in June here in Winnipeg. It will be a bit longer before people find out if they've been chosen. The PRC has a meeting towards the end of the month and evidently they have some say in it.
 - (ii) Sisters Yvonne and Lorelei volunteered at Siloam Mission on December 10th, and Sisters Serina, Sylvie, and a friend were there on December

17th (Frank Janz got the ball rolling on this but Sister Sheilagh was looking after the coordination of it)

8. New business:

- (i) Work plan proposal for 2017 with proposed budget ask presented by Gloria. Sheilagh and Rachel also had proposals which Sheilagh will see about working into the proposal that Gloria presented and bring back to the February meeting. Might have to plan an event to fit the social justice criteria.
- (ii) The \$2,100 from the social justice fund will be presented to the West Central Woman's Resource Centre soon. They are most grateful to be able to finish equipping their kitchen so that they can help the families learn how to use the food that they have (immigrant families unused to Canadian foodstuffs) and then be able to take the prepared food home. There might be something that we can do for them in the spring with their garden boxes / community gardens.
- (iii) National Child Care campaign request from national – phase II
 - Not much info at this time as Gloria has a conference call happening tomorrow.

9. Election of officers for 2017. Here is the new Executive.

Chair: Sheilagh Hanson
Co-Chair: Yvonne Hein
Treasurer: Nicole Papineau
Secretary: Rachel d'Eschambault

The Executive took the Oath of Office.

Sheilagh and Nicole will need to attend the financial institution to be added to the account. Gloria and Lorelei will also need to be removed as signors from the account,

10. Next meeting date is February 14, 2017 at 5:15 p.m.

11. Adjournment at 6:30

Winnipeg Regional Women's Committee
Chair's Report to 2017 AGM
10 January 2017

As my term as chair of the Winnipeg Regional Women's Committee draws to a close I want to say what an honor and a pleasure it has been to work with such a dedicated group of sisters in this organization and community. You are the heart and soul of the work we do and give such a positive face to our activism.

The past year has flown by and we have been busy as a team and individually.

In June we hosted a highly successful Regional PSAC Women's Conference and our RWC authored a group of interesting resolutions that are now going forward to the national equity conference being held at the end of March.

Through various means many of us will attend that conference and the PSAC Regional convention here in Winnipeg in April.

Earlier in the year we lobbied for legislative changes that provided victims of domestic violence with paid time off to seek professional services and Manitoba has now become the standard across the country for such legislation. What we as sisters working within the wider house of labor and with groups who work daily with victims of violence were able to achieve is ground breaking.

Many of us actively campaigned for our politician of choice in the provincial election as we sought to have more and more women taking leadership roles in the political arena. Regardless of our political stripe, we as women recognize there is a growing need for more women to become active at all levels in the political makeup of this country.

There are two main focus points for PSAC within the women's directorate and they continue to be child care and domestic violence. However, there are other focal points that many of you may find interesting. A big one from my perspective is women's economic security and that means the need for good paying jobs for women of all ages. A living wage and a secure place to live are the very foundations that families need to be built upon and these issues must never be overlooked as we enter our fourth decade fighting for a national child care program.

As sisters we marched up to the plate at various PSAC activities this past year. We were front and center at the annual Labor Day Picnic manning the PSAC booth and serving lunch to the thousands who paid the picnic a visit. Had it not been for the efforts of our sisters the PSAC entry into the Santa Clause Parade would not have been so beautiful. You spent hours turning a flatbed into a work of glittering art. In the heat of September and the chill of November you came out to make us shine.

We were represented at both International Women's Day and National Day of Mourning events hosted by the MFL. Our presence is important and I thank each of you who was able to make the time to attend one of the events.

In terms of social justice, again this year we were able to provide the provincial shelter network with comfort kits and through our silent auction at the regional women's conference we presented Nova House with over \$1200 for their capital campaign.

The kids at Kent Road School, or at least the organizers of the breakfast program, are thankful we exist and continue to support them. Without our annual donation it is doubtful the five day program could continue. As it is they operate close to the bone and any support our locals can generate for them would be gratefully accepted.

As I move towards retirement and after 40 plus years as a community activist I want to encourage you all to keep up the excellent work you are doing. Our numbers may come and go but at its core this RWC is a strong and vibrant entity that does excellent work for our members and the greater community in which we live.

I also want to say a massive thank you to the staff members who have provided support in such a professional capacity. You are indeed friends as well as colleagues and I treasure that relationship.

The coming year will be busy – enjoy it to the fullest.

Gloria Kelly
2016 Chair- Winnipeg Regional Women's Committee