Minutes of the Saskatoon Regional Women's Committee October 24, 2024

Attendance: Lisa Leuty 40340 UNE, Jodie Schafer 40802 CEIU, Laura Westman 40024 UVAE, Dawn Montgrant 40195 UNE, Marissa Boute 40195 UNE, Shaina Ledoux 40803 CEIU, Ariel Alvarenga 40818, Jacqueline Maurice (PSAC Rep), guests from Regina Regional Women's Committee – Michelle Lang DCL 40005, Angie Conklin CEIU 40808

Hybrid meeting held by Zoom and at the PSAC regional office in Saskatoon.

For meeting information contact Jacqueline Maurice 3062927037 mauricj@psac.com

Land Acknowledgment and Harassment Statement

Acknowledged

Introductions
Minutes will be emailed to the attendees following the meeting

Adoption of previous minutes - Minutes were reviewed via email following last meeting. Minutes from previous meeting on September 12, 2024 were adopted by consensus.

Review Agenda Laura has additions for Other Business Arising – seasonal celebration, PHR clothing drive, update from Edmonton Women's Retreat/Training – Women's Voices for Health Choices

Financial update - Laura - As of August 2024 there was $633.14 in the bank. There is a cheque that has been written but needs a second signature for approx $132 to cover expenses related to the Egadz's school supply project and meeting food expenses. The committee has also been approved to write a $100 cheque to Prairie Harm Reduction for the donation that was voted on at the meeting in November, 2023. Additional upcoming expenses that the committee anticipates is $100 for Stepping Stones Shelter in Prince Albert (last month's speaker), $200 for Moon Time Connections for mailing expenses for their annual sending of menstrual products to the north, $100 for gift baskets for the PSAC seasonal celebration/open house on December 3, 2024, $100 for Prairie Harm reduction for a 2024 donation related to the clothing drive in November and additional funds for meeting food for the current meeting. A request was made to Marianne's office for an additional $200 to cover the year's expenses as well as approval for the above expenses as only the food, gift baskets and 2023 PHR expenses were previously approved. Dawn would like to request additional funds for Stepping Stones Shelter and will make a motion during Other Business Arising.

Elections
Treasurer: No nominations made, Laura Westman will remain as interim Treasurer.

Other Business Arising

Jaqueline has spoken to Marianne, and Marianne has said that although this committee is officially the “Saskatoon Regional Women’s Committee” anyone who identifies as a woman who belongs to PSAC who resides/works in northern Saskatchewan is able to participate as full members of the committee. Michelle and Angie spoke about how the Regina Regional Women’s Committee works in the same way (involving members from anywhere in southern Saskatchewan) and how sometimes participants do activities in their own communities but all related to something the committee has discussed e.g. hanging red dresses in trees on May 5.

Sisters in Spirit Walk Oct 4 – Laura participated in the walk this year in Saskatoon. Participants gathered at city hall for a flag raising and then walked to the Saskatoon Police Station for refreshments and to hear families of MMIWG tell their stories. Afterwards Laura reached out to one of the organizers, Darlene Rose Okemaysim, to see if the SRWC could assist with refreshments or in any other way in the future. Darlene said that any assistance would be welcome as the organization that coordinates the walk, Iskwewuk Ewichiwitochik (Women Walking Together), didn’t have enough funds for soup and bannock this year so had to offer lighter snacks. Laura would like to see the SRWC assist this group in the future. They also organize an event around May 5 for Red Dress Day.

Moon Time Connections – Jodie, Laura, Chelsea and possibly others will participate in the Moon Time Connections packing party on October 26. Jodie created a poster that was distributed by the PSAC office and donations of menstrual products were collected to donate.

Seasonal Celebration/Open House – the SRWC is going to host a seasonal celebration/open house in partnership with the SDAC and the SYWC on December 3, 2024. Previously the SRWC has donated 2x$50 Coop gift cards for the celebration that are raffled off to attendees. There is money in the budget to do the same for this year

Prairie Harm Reduction winter clothing (and more) drive – the SDAC will be sending out a poster for us to pass to members to ask for donations of winter clothing or other items that PHR needs. They have an Amazon wish list for ideas of what to donate. Things like honey, peanut butter, coffee, diapers, baby formula, bottled water, throw blankets, socks, gloves, toques etc. The poster will ask members to bring donations to the Seasonal Celebration and then they will be taken to PHR.

Stepping Stones Shelter - Dawn asked that we increase our request from Marianne from $100 for Stepping Stones Shelter to $500 to help the cover the things they need. This would be in conjunction with a clothing/items drive for the shelter but would give the committee members the opportunity to perhaps buy some more expensive items like winter coats and boots. Dawn has also proposed a letter writing

campaign to different levels of government to ask for increased funding for the shelter. Dawn will do up any paperwork required for the request for increased funds.

Motion by Dawn, seconded by Marissa: To increase the line item for the Stepping Stones Shelter from $100 to $500 and the request be submitted forthwith to the REVP for approval. **Unanimously passed**.

Edmonton Women's Conference - Laura attended the Women's Voices for Health Choices conference October 16-19 in Edmonton. There was a session on writing bargaining demands related to women's health. The Lethbridge RWC has already written some bargaining demands that they will share so that multiple people can submit them if they so choose.

UNE Women's Conference - Dawn and Marissa attended the UNE Women's Conference in Gatineau. Dawn will submit a report on the topics covered.

SRWC 2025 - As it is close to year end, Laura, as the treasurer, encouraged all members to think about what projects they would like to do next year and what a budget would look like for those projects so that they can be incorporated into next year's financial planning.

The REVP's office is asking that for 2025, financial packages be submitted by March 1. As such the SRWC will need to hold its AGM prior to this date and vote on last year's financials and a budget for 2025. It was decided that **January 30, 2025** will be the tentative date for the 2025 SRWC AGM.

Next meeting – AGM on January 30th **at 5pm.**

Meeting Adjourned at 6:09 pm (moved by Laura, seconded by Lisa)