



**Illinois Agri Women Annual Meeting 2020
February 12, 2020
Illini FS Facility
Champaign, IL**

Officers in attendance: Deb Schultz President, Kelsey Vance VP of Education, Kelli Martin VP of Advocacy, Jessica incoming Secretary, Sheila Hunt outgoing secretary, Anjie Erbsen Treasurer, Diana Ropp Past President.

Deb called the meeting to order at 10:10 am

Everyone was asked to introduce themselves and state where they were from and what they do.

Facilities and Lunch are provided by Illini FS - Sarah Mussman

Speaker - Illinois State Trooper Bridget Howard with Crime Scene based out of Effingham, lives in Vandalia

There are 6 Crime scene investigators in Illinois. 8th year of service, 4 years in Crime Scene Investigation. Her best advice received was "Work for the victim".

Shared self defense tips with the group.

website: warriorpoetsociety.us/selfdefense-tips-women/

President's Report

- Exec Board retreat last summer
- Cleaned up membership lists
- Emails and Newsletters delivered via mail chimp
- Google Docs is the format used IAW Exec committee for document sharing
- New membership brochure
- Memberships can be paid via paypal, online, and paper forms
- Membership includes AAW membership
- Survey results - low response and needs to be discussed with the board
- Gracie W - started a new FB IAW group
- IAW Website has been updated.
- IAW Logo wear is available, info in on the website or ask Deb S for info.
- Cards with schedule of 2020 events to be handed out by Kelsey.

Secretary Report:

- approval of last years minutes
- Newsletter coming about Feb 20th, send info out to Sheila ASAP
- Penny votes to approve the minutes as provided electronically, Jill second, motion passed.

Vice President Report:

- 2019 Events Review
- 2020 Calendar of Events on a card to pass out. Some events are AAW events
- Professional Development Day - March 5th



- Working on Regional Events for the future. If you have ideas share them with your regional director.
- 945 dollars in the memorial fund to help attend AAW events
- There is other grant money available to offset expenses for AAW events.

Vice President of Advocacy

- Legislative update
- Ag Legislative Day March 3, 2020, sign up by Feb 15 with Kelli
- New market for Canada Dairy
- China Trade Phase I deal signed - import almost 12 mil more than 2019
- USMCA
- Corona virus is causing concern of actual future trading
- Beef industry new trade deals with South Korea and Japan
- Trump may start trade with the EU
- African Swine fever - bill to congress to protect Food and Agriculture project to hire more specialists to keep disease out of US
- Infrastructure will increase this year
- Internet broadband increase 80 mil dollars to give better internet access.
- 2020 Presidential elections
- Heather HK had a thank you for the participation with the USMCA talks and those who took the day to be at the interview and share their concerns

Treasurer

- Presented 2020 budget for approval
- Presented list of expenses and explained changes that happened due to the change of Treasurer duties from Mary to Anjie which includes a transfer of money from the Dietrich Bank that Mary used.
- Waiting till the end of March to send AAW our membership dues.
- 69 + 7 membership dues currently due to be paid to AAW as of today.
- Moved funds all to US bank for hopeful easier transition to the next Treasurer
- Karen S - suggested passing on the Paypal fee to the user to offset our Paypal expense.
- Members stated that passing on the Paypal expense is becoming customary in other businesses.
- Suggested we start this \$2 convenience fee on April 1st for next years membership dues.
- Penny made motion we accept the addition of Adding \$2 fee to Paypal "convenience fee" to offset Paypal charges, Kristin L 2, motion passed.
- motion to approve 2020 budget and treasurers report - Diana approved the minutes and Vikki B second, motion passed

Immediate Past President - Diana Ropp

- IAW Awards and Recognitions
- State Fair Awards Winners
- Hall of Fame Winner - Mary Meinhart
- Outstanding Illinois Farmer - Kelsey Vance
- Outstanding Illinois Business Person - Karen Westbrook
- Shirley Bartelt - Retiring IARC Treasurer
- Elanor Zimmerlein - Retiring VP of Advocacy



- Sheila Hunt - Retiring Secretary

Membership

- New Membership Brochures
- 2020 Membership renewal deadline
- Enrollment available on line
- there will be new logo item available for a drawing for those who recruit new members.
- Jessica Schneider won the IAW logo mug

Regional Directors

- Jill Biehl - with Southern Illinois Director
- made contacts with SIU carbondale to find more women in Ag
- has 30 counties to cover in souther in illinois
- Penny suggested we get her in contact with Sigma Alpha

Policy and Procedures

- vote on updates

IARC Liaison - Penny L

- next Business meeting Thursday March 5th
- \$79,100 in the IARC account for 8 projects
- the money includes money to offset training events like AAW.
- Kristin L, Katie Betz, and ____ are new members
- Election officers will be on the 5th

Social Media Admin/Marketing - Gracie W

- Illinois AgriWomen Community on FB
- Exploring the ability to have an IAW FB group
- The page would be public facing but the group would be members only
- There is a screening process
- Answer the questions to get included on the FB page
- Earlier survey had only 6 responses
- Will need to re-do survey later

Additional Reports

- Scholarships - Lynn Curry
- 5 scholarships were awarded for the year --- Get Names from Lynn
- Next year scholarships will be for - High School Student, Grad Student, Agent of Change and
- 18 companies have agreed to match the WCFA funds so we will have 18 \$1000 scholarships available.
- Deadline for scholarship applications will be March 31
- Volunteers needed to help judge scholarships - Vikki Becker, Martha Blum volunteered

WCFA - March 6th 2020 Decatur, IL

- at Richland Community College this year
- \$14,193 money that went directly to students, scholarships, FFA science fair winners, and communications/media support



- \$11,000 of carryover with over \$80,000 total to date
- could be a carryover this year also so talks will need to be held to discuss who to disperse carryover dollars
- Homewood Suites is the base hotel
- Thursday night - Michelle Miller keynote 4 pm

NEW Roots Festival

- NEW = Nurturing Entrepreneurial Women
- New Roots Festival - It's not only music
- Penny L
- Grant Recipient Info
- Jenny Larkin is working on the Artist committee
 - looking for local talent to add to the entertainment
 - Two stages - main stage amphitheater and side stage
 - Erik Burget - signed for main stage
- Entrepreneur Classes will be available - these will be at no charge and will be outside the Amphitheater area
- Deb / Kelsey are chairing the Vendors - looking for small ag businesses, especially for women that are creating a business that would be potentially hiring others.
- Sarah F - Kelsey L public relations
- Arwen is working on the website
- Katie Betz - grant application committee
- Ultimate goal is \$100,000 plus to do low interest loans to help women start their own ag businesses.
- a sample schedule has been provided from what the Red Ants Pants Festival did
- Park will hold about 3,300 people - Red Ants Pants hosted 18,000
- Vendors the first 10 will be paid \$500 second ten receive 250 with a request to share back 10% income from sales at the event. Next year we will be charging for vendors to attend.
- Women owned business only.
- Some businesses may be only promoting their business and not selling
- Vendor ability can hold 20, can rent a tent if we need to expand.
- Deb S has a vendor packet info
- Music people can contact Penny and she will re-route
- Also received a Grant from Compeer for \$5000.00 towards the Festival
- \$500 grant from AAW will be used to obtain speakers
- Sheila - Ambrosia Goods food truck for Festival
- Creek Stone kettle works

Old Business

New Business

- By-Law Updates-Vote
 - submitted a month ago via email to review
 - changing officers term from 2 years to 3 years



- Need to vote on the changes to the By-Laws
- Karen W reported there were no comments, questions or concern about the By-Laws change.
- Karen W voted to accept the changes, Shelley W second, motion passed.
- Policy and Procedures language was also changed but will not be voted on.

Nominating Committee - Karen W.

- 2020 Nominations
 - Officers slated for election are:
 - VP of Advocacy - Kelli Martin
 - Secretary - Jessica Schneider

Karen motioned for us to accept these new officers - Vikki B second - motion passed

Million Women Mentors - Nathalie Schmidt

- no updates

Logo Wear

- available by IAW website or Deb Schultz

Illinois College - March 26th opportunity for IAW to have a table at a Peterson Brothers event.

Vikki - Shelley - Sheila attending

Pat motioned to adjourn Krista Lottinville second.

Meeting concluded at 1:20 pm

Respectively Submitted:

Sheila Hunt

Outgoing IAW Secretary