

Minnesota LDEI Chapter Annual Meeting 2019
September 10, 2019 7:30
Kim Ode's Home

Scholarship – Present the winners before the meeting. Then, they will be excused before the meeting.

In Attendance: Mary Bartz, Audrey Nelson, Ingrid Gangestad, Kristen Olson, Joan Donatelle, Cindy Jurgensen, Janice Cole, Merrilyn Tauscher, Susan Peters, Diane Jackson, Joan Semmer, Patsy Noble, Barb Strand, Betsy Nelson, Joan Donatelle, Andi Bidwell, Paula Zuhlsdorf, Debra Zwiefelhofer, Cynthia Lin, Pam Powell, Kim Ode, BJ Carpenter, Arlene Coco, Mary Ellen Evans, Julie Jones, Laura Miller, Liz Nerud, , Emily Paul, Marge Porter, Beth Rosendal, Genie Zarling

Call to Order: by President Audrey Nelson at 7:50

Secretary's Report: Secretary's Report and Approval of the 9/28/17 Annual Board Meeting Minutes— Motion to accept minutes. Approved.

Presidents Report: Audrey Nelson

A great variety of fun and interesting meetings in some great places across the cities! We had a great turn out with good turn out. We are excited for Deb but sad to say goodbye. We are going to actively be looking to find a good candidate to replace her in October.

Old Business:

Treasurer's Report: Merrilyn Tauscher

Membership dues are coming along very well. Deb has been essential in making sure this happens. Our total revenue is around \$43,128 as of August 31st, 2019 - our expenses have been \$43,997. The money we get in is going out, a philanthropic community, that's great! The fundraiser was very successful this year, \$26,719... WOW! Our donations were almost \$19,000 to scholarships, micro-grants, and urban roots. We are in good shape with our checkbook! Merrilyn is wrapping her two year role as the Treasurer so a big thanks to her hard work! The treasure

Membership Committee: Emily Paul and Cindy Jurgensen

There were changes made to the Bylaws to make our group seem more appealing to welcome new members. The form is now an application form verses an invitation. Emily and Cindy have checked in with International, and they approve that we can make these changes. In terms of the changes to the bylaws, membership responsibilities, will be onboarding new members and update the directory. In terms of the process for application, the potential member applies through the form, the membership committee brings them to the board, then the board votes. The committee is now going to be vetting to confirm that the potential new member meets all the qualifications. The most significant content change to the bylaws is offering a financial aid program for potential new members. To encourage more folks to apply for financial aid with two options. One option is a payment plan for the chapter dues (\$90) or appealing for full financial aid to cover both international and chapter dues (\$90 + \$85). There will be a pool of funds set aside to help provide financial aid. Note from Deb to make a change in the bylaws to edit the title

‘administrative assistant’ to be ‘executive assistant’ to match the other sections of the bylaws. The bylaw changes have been approved by the chapter.

New Business: No New Business

Committee Reports:

Membership: Cindy Jurgensen

Cindy will be transitioning off of Membership, Lachelle will be taking over with Emily Paul. Lachelle has great ideas and is excited to get started. We have some great new members who were introduced to the group and shared a little bit about themselves: Lachelle Cunningham, Laura Miller, Kim Bartman, Arlene Coco, and Amalia Moreno-Domgaard, Marge Porter, Ilene Mead, Beth Rosendahl, Pachelle Wilson, Genie Zarling. We have 52 members this year. The membership committee has written a full report that will be sent out after the meeting.

Fundraiser - DAME IT!: Ingrid Gangestad and Janice Cole

Ingrid reviewed Dame it 2019 was another raising success, and we are so happy to see that we have almost 100% of the members helping out in one way or another. We need everyone to chip in to help grow it and make it run, so thank you! Mary Jane and Meredith were a huge help last year, but this year Mary Jane will be moving to Iowa to run a bed and breakfast so we will be missing her but ready to welcome others to help out.

Janice Cole is leading the force for Dame It 2020 and is excited to get started and have all of us pitch in to help make it another success. Janice has a sign-up sheet to get people to volunteer. Thursday, October 10th is the first meeting to get started with the planning for Dame It 2020. If anyone knows that they will be out of town for a bit, there are still a lot of jobs that can be done online without having to be here on hand. The Dame It event this year will be on Sunday, April 26th at Chow Girls Solar Arts Building.

Program: Liz Nerud and Betsy Nelson

Liz and Betsy had a tough job this year, but they are excited to launch the planning for next year. Betsy will be stopping down, and Amalia Moreno-Damgaard will be taking her place. A recap of the meetings this year: Betty Dangers, Annual Meeting, Orchard visit, Elderberry Syrup making, Keg and Case with a meal at In Bloom, Henry and Sons Wine Shop, Dame It, Pizza Toss at kitchen in the market, Fig and Farro, Picnic and plant walk at the park, pizza party at Urban Roots, Peeps Hotbox at Lake Monster Brewing, Annual Meeting Pizza Party,

Service:

The service committee was unable to attend, but Patsy Noble, the director of Urban Roots, was in attendance. Urban Roots will be celebrating their 50th Anniversary near Pika (close to Lake Monster), Yia Vang will be the head chef, and sweet science will be making ice cream with Urban Roots carrots. They are expecting a great turn out! This year Urban Roots was able to hire another employee to help support the Fresh Start program. She led the chef-led lunches and learned a lot of skills in cooking and entrepreneurship. UR will soon be opening a year-round program with the University of Minnesota to sell items all year round.

Scholarship: Andi Bidwell

We have three new scholarship recipients; they each received \$3,000 towards their studies. A full report will be sent out after the meeting. The recipients were fun to meet at the dinner this evening, and they were all very thankful for the funds.

Advisory: Janice Cole

Nothing to report

Micro-Grants: Janice Cole:

We gave away three micro-grants of \$500 each already this year. We currently have another round open which is now rolling enrollment this year. They are also open to Les Dames members - if you are interested in signing up for a new course, getting more training or new equipment, the application is online, and the committee will be reviewing. Barb Stand and Joan Semmer are on the committee as well. It's great to see that the applicants are in all stages of their careers and we have the ability to help.

Administrative Assistant: Deb Zwiefelhofer

The administrative assistant is the communication hub for the group. Deb thanked the group for putting up with her and the woes of Gmail but would love to figure out how to be an honorary board member for Dame It because she loves the event and loves helping out. Deb said our group. The website is getting easier to work with, and Richard is the web support and is great to work with.

Newsletter: Kim Ode

No newsletter report. Kim gave a huge thank you to Deb. Nikki will be taking over the newsletter role for the next year.

Vice President: Joan Donatelle

It has been a fantastic year, and every month was a fun one. Being the VP was very easy; Audrey made it look effortless! Joan gave Audrey a gift basket as a thank you from the board. Joan is excited to work with the board next year and welcome members to the 2019-2020 year! The new board is:

- Advisor & Micro-Grants: Audrey Nelson
- President: Joan Donatelle
- President-Elect: Cindy Jurgensen
- Secretary: Pam Powell
- Treasurer: Lois Tlusty
- Programs: Liz Nerud and Amalia Moreno-Damgaard
- Newsletter: Nikki Erpelding
- Membership: Emily Paul and Lachelle Cunningham
- Service: B.J. Carpenter and Sarah Johannes
- Scholarship: Susan Peters and Paula Zuhlsdorf
- Fundraiser: Janice Cole

Announcements:

Open Arms will have a cook-off challenge to prepare a weeks worth of meals in 24 hours. You can sign up on their website and raise \$900 then go to work with the Open Arms staff to prepare meals. Betsy will be posting it on the Facebook Page.

Nikki and Pam are attending the LDEI International conference as recipients of the grant to help provide funds for members to attend. Joan, Cindy, Merrilyn and Ingrid (on the International board) are also attending.

Loppet Organization will be welcoming chefs at their location (the Trail Head) - learn more information about the opportunity on their website (theloppet.org)

Call to adjourn the meeting 8:50, second and approved!

Meeting minutes were taken by Kristen Olson, secretary