

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN of DIOCESE OF ALABAMA
MINUTES of BOARD MEETING* - FALL CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 7, 2010
ST. MICHAEL'S and ALL ANGELS
ANNISTON, ALABAMA

Members Present: Gethryn Giles, Fiona Watts, Jill Whitten, Marsha Hurt, Nancy Thompson, Sallie Lowe, Paula Bird, Jane Wood, Jolai Jenkins, Joanna Brooks, Judith Comer, Linda George, Fran Lowe, Marilyn Atkins, Lynn Edge Reeves, Paula Bird, Mitzi Waldo, Brenda Mayhall, Sally Sinclair, Joan East, Beth Ensey, Alyce Daniel, Dee Buzby and Barbara Carpenter.

Members Absent: Valerie Burnes and Yolanda Seawright

Guests: Alleen Cater, Zona Tounsley, Jackie Robe, and Barbara Owens

ECW President, Gethryn Giles called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. President Giles welcomed guests, Zona Tounsley, Jackie Robe, Barbara Owens and Alleen Cater. She then turned the meeting over to Devotional Chairman, Marsha Hurt. Marsha gave a prayer of thanksgiving for the conference and all its participants.

MINUTES: The minutes of the September 10, 2010 Board Meeting were approved as amended on a motion by President – Elect Fiona Watts. Minutes are posted on the ECW website www.alabamaecw.org.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Jill Whitten, Treasurer, presented a proposed budget for 2011. Since the 2010 September ECW Board meeting, the budget for Miscellaneous Gifts increased from \$400.00 to \$1,100.00 due to Bishop Parsley's gift and the approximate cost of the ECW Presidential pin. Jill reported a cost of \$1562.00 for the 2011 Calendar Handbook, an increase from last year's handbook of \$30.00. Jill stated that as October 7, 2010, the ECW has received \$12,185.00 in contributions.

President Giles called for a vote to approve 2011 budget. The 2011 budget was approved and will be presented at the business meeting of the 121st Annual Fall Conference.

PRESIDENT ELECT: Fiona handed out the 2011 Calendar Handbooks to board members. The theme for 2011, “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands: Our Mission and Ministry in the World” is taken from the ECW prayer. Fiona thanked everyone who helped her with the calendar and all the parishes who sent stories about their mission trips. Bishop Sloan also shared his mission experiences in the calendar.

SPECIAL REPORT BY ALLEEN CATER: Alleen Cater read a letter she wrote in October 2008 to all ECW Past Presidents asking them to prayerfully consider bequeathing their ECW Presidential pins to the ECW Board at Carpenter House. Since the Presidential pins are gold and are expensive to make, it was Alleen’s idea that handing pins down to each ECW President would allow our funds to go to other ECW outreach projects. She also stated that the sharing of pins would give additional meaning to the honor of wearing the ECW Presidential pin. Sally Sinclair mentioned the need for institutional knowledge regarding the pins, their history, tradition and their future safekeeping. President Giles suggested that we continue this discussion at the January 8, 2011 ECW Board Retreat.

Presentations by Guests

Jackie Robe, ECW Province IV President, stated that Province IV was the strongest, most giving and most active Province of the Episcopal Church. The Province IV ECW had 84 voting delegates at Triennial last year. Jackie spoke of the “yoking” of churches. Yoking is when priests, parishes and their Episcopal Church Women pull together in hard economic times. Amidst the changing times, she encouraged us to speak to parishes of the rich traditions of the UTO and CPC. She invited all to attend the Province IV ECW Conference at Kanuga this June 6, 7 and 8. She will be there to present her continuing program, “Believe in America.”

Barbara Owens, ECW Province IV, Representative to ECW National Board, was elected at Kanuga in 2008 and installed at Triennial in 2009. The National Board consists of 17 board members and 7 officers elected at Triennial. They meet in the different provinces 9 times annually for a

week to plan the upcoming Triennial. In addition to planning Triennial, they focus on the involvement and activity of the Diocesan ECW's. They want this involvement to "trickle down to the women in the pews." Barbara mentioned that all information on the National ECW can be found on the website www.nationalecw.org. Their publication "The Communique," may also be found on their website as "eCommunique." Barbara discussed the "unified gift" as the project that every Diocese in the U.S. commits to work on. In 2009, the Triennial chose "Jericho Road" as their unified gift. Jericho Road was born in the aftermath of Katrina and is a housing development in New Orleans of 25 -30 houses. The project is in Phase I and has become very successful in forming a community of first time homeowners. Barbara brought a CD, "Trouble on the River" produced by the House of Bishops, with all proceeds going to the Jericho Road Project. Beginning in December, The National ECW' begins a new project called "Nets for Life", mosquito nets for families in malaria prone countries.

Zona Tounsley, At-Large Member and Secretary of the National UTO Committee, gave an update on the National UTO. This Fall the UTO Communications Committee will send out a Thanksgiving ecard to Diocesan Coordinators. Paul Thorson, UTO Grants Associate, has been hired to help build new technology systems and to provide support for missions and ministries of grantees and staff. The 2011 grant application will be available online by October 15, 2010. The National UTO website is undergoing many changes, but all grants should be able to be downloaded soon.

Comments by Convocation Chairs:

Montgomery: Mitzi Waldo announced the Montgomery Convocation meeting for Thursday, November 11th. President -Elect, Fiona Watts will be attending.

Tennessee Valley: Joan East announced the Tennessee Valley Convocation will be meeting on Saturday, November 13th and Fiona will be attending.

Comments by Committee Chairs:

Webmaster, Sally Sinclair, was pleased to announced that Black Belt Convocation Coordinator, Paul Bird, used Constant Contact to notify the 35 women of her convocation of their upcoming meeting.

President Gethryn Giles thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m. She led the ECW Closing Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy S. Thompson
Secretary

*This is a preliminary copy of the minutes