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# Southwest Conservative Republican Women Meeting Minutes

Minutes submitted by:  **Sharon Sykora**

1. Call to Order:

The monthly SWCRW meeting was called to order at **9:05AM** on **6/15/2019** at Prior Lake City Hall, Parkview Room.

1. Open Ceremonies:

Invocation and pledge of allegiance, introduction of new members and guests were completed. Volunteer hours binder was NOT routed as June hours were estimated.

Observed a moment of silence for a newer member who had joined in October, Alice Storlie, as she had passed recently and signed a sympathy card.

1. Guest Speaker:

**Who:** Kelly Gunderson, Americans for Prosperity (AFP)

**What:**

Shared her journey on party activism that lead her to her current position with AFP which is an issue advocacy organization across 36 states and also provides a variety of activist training opportunities. They helped with grassroots efforts to defeat the proposed MN Gas Tax with a calling campaign where they could transfer those they called directly to MN elected officials so they could leave voicemails in opposition to the bill. Another effort was to support a conservative WI Supreme court conservative judge with an April election. (There are 12 bills staged to be challenged in the WI courts from former Governor Walker’s era.) They offer two 6-week courses Grassroots Activist Certification and Mobilization Series along with a Bootcamp campaign on an issue.

**Action Request(s):**

Participate in their Weekend Warrior Bootcamp activist training: **2 Day Training 6/28,** 6PM-9PM and **6/29**, 9AM-4:30PM. Contact Kelly Gunderson to signup: 612-716-6115 or [kgunderson@AFPHQ.org](mailto:kgunderson@AFPHQ.org). This is a new version of their normal 6 week Grassroots Activist Certification course. Look for the Mobilization Sereis (6 week) being offered this Fall.

1. Club Business

Former founding member and VP, Vicki Ernst, presented our newly elected officers and shared some interesting history of the National Federation of Republican Women (NFRW) and the MN Federation of Republican Women (MNFRW).

Sharon Sykora, as Membership Committee Chair, provided a Membership presentation recognizing existing members by the year they joined, explained the new process to onboard new members and advised that we have 10 new voting members for 2019 with a total of 30 voting members and 6 Associate members which has surpassed the average club membership size for Region 4 of the NFRW. All aligned that our club strive to reach the Federation’s average club membership size of 41 voting members by the end of 2020. This means we need to retain most all our members and add 11 more new members by the September 2020! Reviewed volunteer opportunities to help promote the club and led an exercise to take a pic of the club business card which could be text’d to people we speak to about the club. Requested that the name and phone number be sent to [Info@SWCRW.org](mailto:Info@SWCRW.org) so they could be contacted to see if they want to be added to our club distribution list for meeting invites and action alerts.

The motion to approve the MAY **Meeting Minutes** was made by Annette Thompson and seconded by Mary Venckus. The motion passed.

The motion to approve today’s **Treasurer’s Report** was made by Pat Hartell and seconded by Annette Thompson. The motion passed.

**Next Executive Board Meeting:** Thursday, **6/27, 7-PM-9PM** at Alexandra’s home.

**Next Club Meeting/Topic:** July 20th, SWCRW we will host the MNFRW Board Meeting and accept “Bags of Hope” donations.

**Volunteers for AUGUST 17th club meeting: Invocation,** **Annette Thompson** and **Pledge**, **Pat Hartell.**

**Action Opportunities and Other Topics Discussed:**

1. Rindy Koukal presented a give back opportunity for our club with Union Gospel Mission Center. This group offers a program where they have places to stay along where they are required to take education and Bible study to help change the course of their lives out of homelessness. **ACTION** - Contact Rindy at 952-808-8676 to advise what hygiene product you can provide 25 units of to be dropped off at the July 20th or August 17th meeting so that we can stuff bags with them as they are handed out to homeless.
2. Connect with Alexandra if you want to be start going to Angie Craig town halls. She will alert you with when and where information and even offer questions that you may try to ask at the town hall.
3. **RNC Training** Monday, **June 17th, at 6:30 pm** in Bloomington
4. **Brad Tabke** town hall Thursday, **6/20, at 6:00 pm** at Shakopee Public Library
5. **MN GOP** town hall call with Chair Jennifer Carnahan, **Tues, 6/25, at 6:00 pm: Call 888-652-5403**
6. **F1rst Tuesday -** NFRW sponsored free national tele-meeting from 8-9PM
7. **NFRW Convention** on 9/26-9/29 in Indianapolis [1 Delegate (Rindy Koukal), 1 Alternate]
8. **Speaking Proudly contest** on 10/26/19 at MN State Capitol sponsored by Metro Republican Women Club –promote this event to young women
9. **MNFRW Convention** in Hastings on 11/2/2019 [8 Delegates, 7 Alternates] Filled final slots (Mary Venckus-Delegate and Cathy Joubert-Alternate).
10. Popcorn Minute: Mary Venckus requested everyone continue to contact their US Senators and Representative to oppose HR 5, the ‘Equality Act’. Rita and Sharon presented Alexandra with a gift in recognition for her leadership in founding our club and guiding our club since 2015.
11. Adjournment

Motion was made by **Sharon Sykora** to adjourn the meeting and seconded by **Alexandra Matyja**. The motion passed, and the meeting adjourned at **11:03AM.**