

MINUTES
Eastern Michigan Council
June 13, 2009
Hosted by NuLite Chapter, Flint, Michigan

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chair Lisa Beedon. Thank you to NuLite for hosting today's meeting. Lisa led the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance. All attendees introduced themselves followed by the breakfast buffet.

Chapters in attendance: Achates, Cass River, Cross Road Connection, Greater Oakland, Maia, Nu-Lite, Suburban Connection, Te-Wan-A-Going, Virgo, Vivon

District V Spring Conference Reports:

a. Kim Hamilton, Cass River -- sharing from perspective as past national officer and having hosted spring conferences -- she's attended 30 spring conferences since joining ABWA in 1984. It's always wonderful to network with attendees and the learning received. Really liked the ABWA Track and WIN. We're definitely moving in the right direction - reinventing ourselves. Could feel the staff's excitement. Lots of resources available to us now -- have a question, call HQ, ask your past national officers and current board.

b. Beverly Woods, NuLite - Lisa had remembered her from last year's spring conference when they visited at the newsletter submission in Frankenmuth and they made a connection again in Midland. A member for two years she's attended both Frankenmuth and Midland conferences. Her chapter is getting her motivated. She liked seeing the other newsletters and getting ideas. She wants to participate as a best practices group!

c. Cathy Alderman, Vivon - really enjoyed this spring conference as it was close to home. Really excited because of WIN! Her dues renewal was in January and didn't include WIN - she signed up for WIN that weekend. Cathy was the first person to make a post on Vivon's wall! Cathy agreed ABWA is headed in the right direction. WIN is a phenomenal tool. She encouraged everyone to spend the \$15 to have access to this tool. It's like a secure mini-Facebook.

Program -

A. Sandy Sidaway did a presentation on WIN Navigation. She walked through each of the screens via PowerPoint, fielded questions and encouraged everyone to sign up now for WIN.

a. If your national dues renewal date is in 30 days, you can pay for WIN now and will not be charged again next month when you renew your national dues.

b. You can upgrade your traditional chapter national membership (\$75) to an Express Network (\$100) version and get access to 5 more on-line courses. That's a Buy 1, Get 4 free option!

c. Can I present the WIN Course videos in my workplace? Yes and No - Diane clarified with Rene Street after the meeting you can take the training yourself and do your presentation. You can download the worksheets and YES you can use these. You CANNOT show the videos to non-ABWA members.

d. New information -- 6/26/09 was the District V Webinair for WIN -- there's a new Library tab - the Management Resource Package items are starting to be posted here! Take A Look!!!

B. Diane Nixon made a presentation on the various sections of the Best Practices Business Plan. She walked through each section, fielded questions, and provided clarification so everyone understood what was expected. A very interesting discussion on how to reduce your meeting time to 1 1/2 hours from Call to Order to Adjournment which includes dinner and a 45-minute business and market-relevant program. Suburban Connection and Crossroad Connection are already doing this!

Copies of the Charisma Chapter and LaLuz Chapter's 2007-2008 Business Plans were distributed. These will be emailed to delegates and alternates with the minutes.

Business Meeting:

4/11/09 minutes were accepted as published and the Treasurer's report was received for audit.

DVP Luncheon Update - Sandy Sidaway, Co-Chair of the 2009 DVP Luncheon, shared we really needed registrations. To date we only have 7 attendees. Crossroad Connection and Cass River are paying the difference between their regular dinner fee and the early registration of \$50. Lisa added it is a great opportunity to meet Barbara Young and the two District V VP candidates in a smaller, more intimate venue.

Nominating Committee - Lisa noted the EMC calendar calls for officer elections for 2010 at our October meeting with a slate of officers presented at our August meeting.

Moved by Mary Mills, seconded by Nancy Provost to elect Kim Hamilton, Cathy Alderman and Linda Hamilton as the EMC Nominating Committee. Motion carried.

EMC Donation to District V VP Candidates - Donna Lee shared the EMC has a line item for donations to national officer candidates. At present we have \$300 in our budget for campaign donations. We have supported past officers in their run through the Top 3 offices. Barbara Young has decided not to run for a higher officer. Tracey Sweet and Judy Torrey are the approved candidates for District V VP

Moved by Donna Lee, seconded by Marion Smith to donate \$100 each To Tracey Sweet and Judy Torrey to support their campaigns and present The donation at the July DVP Luncheon. Motion carried.

60th Anniversary National Women's Leadership Conference - Diane Nixon presented two opportunities for consideration -- an EMC program ad for the NWLC souvenir program and/or participating in the Purse-onality Auction where groups are submitting

purses with item up to \$100 in value within. National is hoping for 60 entries per day = 180! After discussion it was agreed the EMC would submit an entry into the Purse-ality buying the purse/tote and the contents on behalf of the EMC chapters. It's up to each chapter if they'd like to additionally like to participate. Each group needs to submit by 8/11/09 the Auction Commitment Form.

August 8 meeting - Mary Mills noted flyers are on the table. The August meeting will be held at the Crown Plaza in Auburn Hills. The program will be presented by Kim Hamilton and Diane Nixon on Program Planning, Speakers, Funding.

Chapter sharing:

a. Crossroad Connection - Nancy Provost shared examples of their new tri-fold brochure. Their group has joined the Grand Blanc Chamber of Commerce. They are doing more promoting of their group and are working on a business plan.

b. Greater Oakland - Jo Ann Huebner shared they held their second charity poker event at the Five Star Bowling Alley in Troy with Novi Oaks. Each chapter earned \$1,100 with the only commitment is time!

c. Maia - Diane Nixon shared Maia's first Women Making Connections event with Tammy Burgess on 5/5/09 was a great success. The event was in its fourth year but this was the first time Maia and ABWA were the sponsoring organization. We netted \$2,100 and are going to do it again in 2010.

d. Nu Lite - Their 16th annual Prayer Breakfast is 9/19/09 at 8:30 a.m. at Weekdays - \$15.00 adults, \$8 children 8 and under. Theme: Christian Women Reaping Success by Meditating on God's Word" Guest speaker: NuLite member Sis. Effie Johnson-Whitmore, Living Word Ministry. Contact Nadie Holmes at 810-524-4542 for more information.

e. Suburban Connection - Pam Gerlach shared their Spaghetti Dinner with Hypnotist on 4/29/09 was a big success. They earned \$1,500.

f. Te Wan A Going - Debbie Freeman shared they are still selling Walker Farms gift certificates at \$25 each. Save the date of 9/20/09 for their chicken dinner at the Masonic Temple in downtown Flint.

g. Vivon - The 2009 Make, Bake and Buy is 12/5/09. Mark your calendars.

50/50 raffle - Edith Decker was the winner of \$42! Congratulations.

Door prizes were shared by members of the NuLite chapter.

Lisa Beedon led the membership in the benediction. The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane L. Nixon

Diane Nixon
Communications Officer