

The Meeting was called to order by President Tevyan Sorensen at 1:23 pm.

The invocation was given by Priority Area SPM Deb Froemming.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by District 8 Director, Kenya Czerwinski.

The United States Women of today Creed was led by FVP Connie Fink.

Guests: Past Presidents Anna N, Laura G, Jody M, and Cat S.

Orders of the Day were given by Parliamentarian, Jeny Ohr. A quorum was established.

Minutes from the Mid-Year Exec Council meeting on Sept 28, 2024 were approved as written in the November Chapter Mailing.

Secretary, Liz Weigel (Secretary@mnwt.org), Stick To It

- Please put CMH & staff reports in copy & pasteable format (word/email body).
- Chapter Mailing Remaining due dates: Feb 10th (March edition), March 10th (April edition), and April 10th (May/June edition).
- Chapter Mailing Content: Upcoming due dates/items to remember....include things for the following month (ie-March issue should include April dates). Include ideas, helpful tips for your position or tips of things they can do to help you (see hand-out)

Administrative VP, Andrea Schue (AVP@mnwt.org), You are Solid Gold

- The District Directors were starting to find their groove in Trimester 2 and we had some wonderful District Meetings and other events. Thank you to all Exec Council members who attended one of these events in Tri 2. The DDs and I deeply appreciate your support as you visited their meetings and events. Tri 3 meetings will be held throughout the Trimester, and I know these will be a time to celebrate all your successes so far. If you are interested in visiting a meeting in an official capacity, please try to connect with the DDs this weekend, they are always looking for enrichment, support, or a little added something to their meetings.
- I took the time to review all the DDs goals from their POAs, it was epic to see how far they've come, and the goals completed in membership, district growth, and uniting the chapters in their districts. Some of these goals would not have been reached or have the progress they do without all of your support. This Trimester I asked the DDs to pick a goal they struggled with and state what they did or why they had issue with it to share with you today

District 2 Director, Tami Borgen is blooming and growing in district 2.

A goal she struggled with this year was membership, trying to set a goal when there are chapters that do not show up and participate was hard. After discussion I had to change what I thought my goal should be so it was comparable to other POAs I've seen to ensure they are attainable and realistic.

District 3 Contact JoJo Larsen "Together we Stand"

A goal the 3 reps set was to complete an extension and we did! Both the Extension Team and Duluth chapter rocked!

District 4 Director Tracy Neyens "Be the Reason someone Believes in Good People", at this time no update.

District 5 Director Anita Smoley "Everyday Heroes" & **District 8 Kenya Czerwinski** "Coming Together, One Stitch at a Time"

I created two goals: 88% retention and add 3 to May base. I now realize this is not possible. My retention would've had to be 100% retention and add 3 to the May base for this to be true. I didn't understand the relation between retention and new member adds. I would like to ask for assistance to review the form DDs use and find a way to make it clear that the growth and retention are tied together.

Maybe the form is correct but the discussion around it should be clearer.

District 6 Jessalyn Hegland "Grow Together." (Given by AVP Andrea S)

The District 6 goal was a retention rate of 85%. We ended trimester 1 with 83% retention and had 106 members to renew. To reach this goal we will need 100 of those 106 to renew to reach this goal. I think we struggled to meet the 85% retention goal as we were focused on attending district meetings, social events and convention. Advice, discussions, or suggestions anyone can offer on how to balance this for the next year would be greatly appreciated.

District 7 Laurie Lillie "Growing Together"

With the redistricting our district made movement last year to come into this year with, but there is still work to be done. Taking this roll I had a hard time with all of my goals as I put a POA together and I dug into developing them the more I found out was included in this job role. Finding ways to better prepare the district directors on all parts of their roles before they take them is an area I'd like to see more support in.

District 9 Director Allie Staley "Adventure is Out There"

My goal for the 2024-2025 year was to have 4 out of 7 chapters gain 2 new members. I have reached that goal and was super excited when we as a district reached that goal. My next goal that I would like to have would like help with is getting all district 9 chapters at 15. There is 5 chapters left in my district to get to that number. Please let me know if there is any good ideas to help me bring to the chapters.

Membership VP, Shellie Lemmerman (MVP@mnwt.org), Make a Difference

- We again had a number of chapters and districts working hard at retention and recruiting this trimester. We will be recognizing those chapters who achieved retention goals and chapter growth tomorrow. For District retention achievement, I would like to recognize all of the Districts for achieving higher than 75% retention. Each district's results were: District 6-77%, District 8-78%, District 9-80%, District 5-82%, District 2-83%, District 7-91%, District 4-95% and the District with the highest retention for Tri 2 is District 3 with 96%. District 3 Tri 2 Contact JoJo Larson will be carrying the Minnesota flag in at the luncheon tomorrow. Every district signed new members in Tri 2 and we had five districts that achieved growth for the Tri. Lets congratulate District 5 for growth +1, District 9 for growth +3, District 4 for growth +5, District 7 for growth +7 and with the highest growth, District 3 with growth +11. We will have District 3 Tri 3 Contact Cindy Sanders carrying the American flag and representing District 3 at the luncheon.
- Membership Week is February 13-19. The theme is Random Acts of Kindness. This is a great opportunity to be visible with your district or with chapters around the state. And we recognize that this is split over two weeks so do what you can anytime around them.
- The Membership Challenges and Foundation Rebates are all designed to help encourage chapters with membership and becoming healthy chapters. The healthier we are the more appealing we will be to others. Please encourage chapters, especially if they are looking for help to try at least one of these and to participate in the zoom calls and webinars. We have a number of fun challenges this trimester and hope you will encourage chapters to participate.

Chapter Management VP, Shirley Viesselman (CMVP@mnwt.org), Success with Sparkle

- The Hawley Chapter signed two new members 2nd trimester and has come off the TLC list. Our other TLC chapter, Brooklyn Park signed two new members as well and is actively working to get off TLC. In the meantime, St. James and Blooming Prairie have slipped to TLC at the end of Trimester 2. We will be working with each of these chapters to get them off TLC in the 3rd Trimester. St. James as of this weekend has signed new members!
- My biggest goal this year is to get all our chapters to 15 or more members. I've been encouraging chapters along with Marketing VP Michelle and President Tevyan, to change things up at your monthly meetings. Add a random act of kindness project, a speaker or teach a new craft. Give your members something to take away at meetings, rather than just business. And at the same time, make use of social media by creating an event and then invite and share. Some chapters have tried different things and are finding it is working. I have one more trimester to reach my goal.
- Tuesday, March 11th President Tevyan and I will be teaming up with the Chapter Presidents on zoom. We've done this the past 2 trimesters and we've had really good discussions and I think we've all learned from each other.

Extensions Director, Kathy Hansen (Extensions@mnwt.org), Stand Together and Shine

- I am seeking communities within the triangle formed by Fargo, Walker, and St. Cloud in the central part of the state. Please let me know if you know anyone in this area we could contact. I will offer an incentive for any leads provided!
- I am seeking donations for my Extensions lucky buck baskets at the Annual Convention. One is the Cozy Comfort Basket, and the other is the A Taste of Italy Basket. Any kind of donation would be greatly appreciated!

Programming VP, Michelle Kocak-Jones (PVP@mnwt.org), Shaking it Up

- Still looking for a Youth of Today SPM if anyone knows of someone who may be interested.
- Please encourage members to participate in the day of service on April 12th and to send an email to me at pvp@mnwt.org to let me know what they did.
- The following SPM bids were unanimously accepted:
 - Priority Area – Anita Smoley
 - Women's Wellness – Sharon Scholl
 - Community Connections – Tami Borgen
 - Living and Learning – Carolyn Fortier

Community Connections, Sara Rocksted (CC@mnwt.org), Things Come Together One Stitch at a Time

- It's been a fun year so far! 2 nd Trimester has been a little slow for CC activities. However 3 rd trimester is going to be full of all kinds of great activities. And I will be trolling for district meetings to attend third trimester. I have been learning a lot this year and having a blast coming up with creative social media posts to get members more involved in their communities. I plan to utilize social media/district meetings and emails 3 rd Trimester to keep the ball rolling on CC events. Thank you!

Living and Learning, Sharon Scholl (LL@mnwt.org), Taking a Journey Down Life Street (Given by PVP Michelle K-J)

- Tri 3 book reading selection is Dear Jacob by Patty Wetterling & Joy Baker who will be the featured speakers at the Annual Luncheon Banquet and available to autograph book copies prior to the luncheon. Please share with chapters & members.

Priority Area – REACH, Deb Froemming (Priority@mnwt.org), REACHing Out Hand to Hand

- Please encourage members to email photos when doing projects or volunteering for REACH. I like to share those on our FB programming page and with members to share the ideas and encourage involvement. This also gives me the chance to find out more about what is happening to share with other members and REACH teachers.

Women's Wellness, Sue Sangren (WW@mnwt.org), Wiggle to Wellness

- I have enclosed an image in my CIP that states I SPY. . . and I ask members to snap me a photo of the image so I know they are reading my CIP. First CIP had 15 readers. This last one had 9 readers. How can we get the CIP's into more members hands?
- I offered a challenge to staff to make a cash donation to the Women Who Impact award for Trimester 2. Thank you staff for the many donations. I am awarding 2 sets of cupcakes in a random drawing since so many staff members made a donation.

Youth of Today, Cheryl Watson (YT@mnwt.org), Connecting with Children

- I will have fun baked items for sale in my room at annual convention. All money raised will go to the MNWT OYA scholarship fund.
- **Marketing VP, Michelle Cloutier (MKVP@mnwt.org), Recipe for Success**
- I shared our hashtag for this weekend #MNWTWinterState2025. When you are posting photos this weekend, please include this. I would encourage posts to share the excitement of convention. If someone is here and they get an award, awesome post away. ♦♦ It is however fun to build some excitement to entice members for meetings that take place after convention. Let there be some surprises. ♦♦ We have so many amazing things happening with lots of members attending! There will undoubtedly be lots of photos taken. Please either text to me or send to MKVP email. I will be making posts through out the weekend too.

Financial VP, Connie Fink (FVP@mnwt.org), Wheel of Treasure

- I had a drawing for anyone who found the Icons in my Fall CIP. President Tevyan, pick a number between 1 and _____.
- Please encourage your chapters and districts to increase their Ways and Means donations to \$50 and to contact me for a spot on the wheel for a \$150 Amazon gift card.
- Join me tonight to solve puzzles and win prizes

Parliamentarian, Jeny Ohr (Parli@mnwt.org), Tips with Bob & Me

- The challenge for District Directors is the following; for every chapter that submits their bylaws and policies or hosts a bylaw review and sends me an email letting me know will get you entered into a gift card drawing at Annual.
- Three chapters sent in their bylaws and policies this trimester which means three DDs were entered into the gift card drawing. The winner is District 2 Director Tami

Chairman of the Board, Amy Pumper (COB@mnwt.org), Keeping the Vision Alive

- The 3rd Trimester Statewide Committee Meetings will be Sunday, March 2nd. March Planning will be Saturday, March 1st. Regional Meetings will be Saturday March 22nd and March 29th.
- The ONTO Committee is busy this weekend with shirts, flowers and the quilt ticket sales.
- The 75th Anniversary celebration is this weekend
- We're in need to SUCCESS Coordinator, NEWSLET editor, PR assistant and MMC Committee chair.
- Motions:
 - M/S/P (COB/DD9) I move we appoint Amy Pumper as the 2025-202 Future Direction Chair
 - M/S/P (COB/DD9) I move starting May 17, 2025, we redistrict the MNWT district boundaries as presented at MNWT Fall State 2024. By doing so, District 2 will contain the Greenbush, Hawley, Lake of the Woods, Red Lake Falls, Roseau and Warroad Area chapters. District 3 will contain the Aitkin, Brainerd Lakes Area, Duluth, Iron Range, Longville, and Staples-Motley Area chapters. District 4 will contain the Benson, Melrose Area, Montevideo, and Morris Area chapters. District 5 will contain the Albany, Avon, Rice, Sauk Rapids, St. Cloud and St. Joseph chapters. District 6 will contain Big Lake, Elk River Area, Hutchinson, Monticello, Rogers Otsego Dayton, and St. Michael-Albertville chapters. District 7 will contain the Anoka, Brooklyn Park, Champlin, Coon Rapids, Maple Grove, and White Bear Lake chapters. District 8 will contain the Blooming Prairie, Burnsville, Byron, Eastern Carver County, Glenville, and New Hope chapters. District 9 will contain the Fairmont, Hanska, Madelia, New Ulm, Slayton, St. James, and Windom chapters.

Executive Director, Tanya Rothstein (CSC@mnwt.org), You are the Magic

- I have new office hours they are Monday 2-6 Wednesday 3-7 Friday 8-Noon. The best way to reach me is to send an email to csc@mnwt.org or you can call the chapter service center and leave a message.
- Annual 2025 will be at Arrowwood in Alexandria. We will be hearing a bid for hosting from the Avon and Albany chapters tomorrow at the business meeting. As a reminder, if you are attending, you need to register for yourself and pay your \$25 to the host. If you are not attending, you need to let me and your supervisor know that as well. You have a tentative schedule provided today. For anyone planning to continue on to Exec Council next year, MNJOTS will be May 30- June 1 at the Lodge in Baxter. Registration for that happens at Special Exec at Annual.
- I am still seeking bids for hosting Annual 2026, Fall State 2026 and Annual 2027. We have developed some support materials that can help you when hosting and with the financial changes that have been made, this can be a good fundraiser. Please contact me for more information.
- Please be sure to post on your Facebook pages regularly to keep your page current. Reminder to clean up your official email box so that you do not run out of storage space. Also, as we are getting closer to the end of the year, please place all materials that

need to be retained or passed on to your successor in your Google drive. This is our official repository for all documents. If you need help accessing any of these, please contact me.

Presidential Assistant, Mary Sobczak (PA@mnwt.org), Live and Learn

- Scrapbook pages due April 1st
- Annual Gift Exchange

MNWT Foundation Chair, Laura Gaylord (Foundation@mnwt.org)

- The Foundation jewelry drawing will take place at the banquet. I am asking for your help exec council members. Can you please share with your roommates, friends, chapter members to be sure to stop by the MNWT Foundation table to grab their chance to win the beautiful Ruby bracelet and necklace set.

Future Directions Committee Chair, Cat Shuman (FDC@mnwt.org)

- The third trimester state committee meetings will be held Sunday, March 2, 2025 at the Hampton Inn North, Rochester. Registration starts at 9:30 am followed by Membership Management Committee at 10 am, Marketing Committee at 11:30 am, and Future Directions Committee at 1 pm. There will be a short break for lunch around 12:30 pm. Light breakfast and lunch are provided by the state committee chairs. Anyone can attend these meetings, so please join us in person or by zoom.

Membership Management Committee Chair, Anna Nichols (MMC@mnwt.org) (presented by Amy Pumper)

- All are encouraged to attend and participate in MMC. Executive Council members attending 3rd trimester will be entered into a drawing for an Amazon gift card

MNWT President, Tevyan Sorensen (President@mnwt.org), We Go Together

Ongoing Business-None

New Business-None

Announcements- District Socials: D3-Fri evening, D5-Fri evening, D7-after banquet, D8-Fri evening

Benediction was said by Priority Area SPM Deb Froemming

Minnesota Women of Today Creed Was Led by AVP Andrea Schue

The meeting was adjourned at 3:49 pm by MNWT President, Tevyan Sorensen