

The meeting was called to order by President Shirley Viesselman at 9:46 am.

The invocation was given by Living and Learning SPM Carolyn Fortier.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chapter Management Vice President Connie Fink.

The United States of Today Creed was led by Programming Vice President Sue Sangren.

Orders of the Day were given by Parliamentarian Liz Weigel & quorum was established.

The Executive Council Meeting Minutes have not been published with sufficient review, so there will not be an acceptance of minutes at this time.

- **Secretary, Jeny Ohr [secretary@mnwt.org]**

- MNWT Publication Template- I have handed out the MNWT Publication Template to use whenever you are creating an official MNWT form (example CIP). This is the MNWT official header and footer. I will also email the form out. If you need any help using it, please reach out to Shirley or me, and we can walk you through.
- Please mark your calendar—Chapter Mailing Reports for the July/August issue are due by **June 15th**. I'll be sending reminders as the deadline approaches. Each reminder will also include suggested topics or highlights to consider including in that issue. In addition to those suggestions, please think about sharing information that would be truly helpful to our members, things you wish someone had told you when you started. As an added incentive, Executive Council members who submit both their **Meeting Report** and **Chapter Mailing** on time will be entered into a **gift card drawing** each trimester. The more you submit on time, the more chances you'll have—each timely submission earns you one entry.
- Meeting Reports- I would like to try something new this year. If you get your report in, I will be adding it to the script. Hopefully, this will be helpful in case someone forgets or misplaces theirs.
- The Exec Council calendar has the rest of the year's due dates for both Meeting Reports and Chapter Mailing due dates. Let's keep the communication strong and meaningful. Thank you for all you do!
- Raising money for the State Plan of Action. Any member, chapter, or district that donates will be entered into a gift basket at Fall State.

- **Administrative Vice President, Michelle Cloutier [avp@mnwt.org]**

- President/State Delegate Retreat is Aug 2nd at Albertville City Hall. Watch for registration information coming soon. Please encourage chapter presidents and state delegates to attend this opportunity for position-specific training as well as opportunities to connect with other members in the same position.
- I will be doing 2 State Delegate Zoom Spark Sessions. The first one is July 2nd at 7 pm. This will allow us to connect before their Fast Starts are due. And to share with the other State Delegates ideas and questions. We will have a second session on August 29th before their first trimester report is due.
- Your District Directors are here to share an update as well as let you know how you can support them & their chapters.
 - **District 2:** Anna Severson, "Teams Build Dreams"
 - Event Idea: Golfing social event in August.
 - Goals: Create a district newsletter to be sent in June (prior to Tri 1 meeting), reach out to each chapter in D2 via email, and attend events or meetings for at least 2 chapters in D2.
 - Assistance: I may reach out to one of the SPMs to speak at our district meeting.
 - **District 3:** Karen Peterson, "LEAP and Succeed"
 - July 19, 2025, Whipple Beach, Baxter, MN- Family Fun Day.
 - See the District Facebook Page for the flyer.
 - I would like to attend 4 Events, Socials or chapter meetings.
 - Went to attend Atkins social (Burgers and Bingo) this week and plan on attending Longville's Turtle Days in June.
 - I am not sure yet about Executive Council assistance.
 - **District 4:** Shellie Lemmerman, "We Can"
 - As of now, I don't have a social lined up. I will get that done.
 - I will start attending chapter meetings this summer.
 - I would like to attend socials from other chapters.
 - I will let the Exec council know if I need help.
 - **District 5:** Sandy Trossen, "Everybody is A Star"
 - District 5 Mtg is on June 22, 2025. The Avon Chapter is hosting the first Meeting at the Avon City Hall. Meal at 4:00 pm, followed by the meeting at 5:00. Flier on District Facebook.
 - I plan to attend 3 of the 5-chapter meetings and 1 chapter event in the first trimester.
 - Plan to hold a District social in August, TBD.
 - **District 6:** Jessalyn Hegland, "Drive for Success"
 - Ideas: Ice cream social or picnic in the park.
 - I want to attend 3 of the 7 chapter meetings in my district.

- Would like encouragement and ideas for enrichment for Exec. Council.
 - **District 7:** Jean Wayne, District 7 “T.E.A.M.” (Together Everyone Achieves More)
 - At the District Meeting on June 19th, we’re assembling laundry packs for college students, and we’re also planning a District Picnic in August in Maple Grove.
 - I plan to attend a meeting of each of my 6 chapters in Tri 1.
 - I’m not sure about any assistance needed.
 - **District 8:** Brandy Mausbach, Take A Walk On The Wild Side
 - District Meeting June 28th New Hope Meal @930 Meeting 10:00 see flier on Facebook.
 - District Social on July 19th. See the flyer on Facebook.
 - I will attend 5 out of 6 chapter meetings in my district in Tri 1.
 - **District 9:** Lisa Sackreiter, “Cultivating a better tomorrow”
 - June 9, 6 pm at Trinity Lutheran Church in Madelia
 - A goal I have for this first trimester is to attend 3 of the 6 chapter meetings in my district.
 - Looking at doing a social at a winery.
 - I would love well wishes, support, ideas, speakers, and encouragement.
- **Membership Vice President, Andrea Schue** [mvp@mnwt.org]
 - This year, I am promoting focus on **membership socials and events** for members. I am willing to provide examples, materials, and help coordinate these events for chapters and districts. I really want to help **Rose ROAR** this year within the chapters, and these events will support that. You all helping connect members to me will be key.
 - In Tri 1, President Shirley’s birthday is June 17th. I am challenging the membership to sign 17 new members by that date. The winning chapter will receive a social in a box.
 - Asking chapters to post about their membership events and socials on Facebook with the hashtag **#MNWTMEMBERSHIP**, I will be spotlighting chapters on the membership page who use the hashtag and each chapter will be put in a drawing for an incentive.
 - Every chapter that achieves Early Bird will be put into a drawing for an incentive; if a District has all their chapters achieve Early Bird, they will each be provided with an incentive.
 - Lastly, I will be posting on the MNWT Membership Facebook page. I know there are multiple pages, but asking for any shares, likes, or comments to try to spread the membership net.
 - I have set some lofty goals with **+26 for growth** and **82% retention** for the year. These are absolutely attainable with all your help! To support this, I am also offering an incentive for any district that can achieve growth +17 by the end of the year.
 - I will be sending out postcards to members who are up for renewals each trimester as another way to connect personally, and encourage your members to respond.
- **Chapter Management Vice President, Connie Fink** [cmvp@mnwt.org]
 - The President Zoom Meeting will be on June 26th at 7 pm. We will be helping them with their Fast Starts.
 - The President/State Delegate Retreat will be on August 2nd at Albertville City Hall. Registration begins at 9:15. We will be having position training and team building. Working to build a healthy chapter.
 - There are currently 20 chapters under 15. None are on TLC. My Goal is to keep them all off TLC and get 6 above 15. Sparkle boxes will still be available, and I will contact these chapters. I am willing to visit or help these chapters in any way I can. DDs, please let me know how I can help with the under-15 chapters in your district.
- **Extensions Director, Glorie Balfanz** [extensions@mnwt.org]
 - The Extensions Director cannot do this job alone. She does not have knowledge of communities in all parts of the state. She does not have details on where to hold events in a new community, or the way members that live and work in the same area do. For these reasons it is so important for members in each Region of the State of MN to volunteer to be on an Extensions Team. The Teams have 2 different jobs.
 1. To look for communities that might be able to support a new chapter. The team would hold meet and greets and help new prospective members to get at least 10 interested people to join.
 2. After there are at least 10 interested members, a team would support the new chapter as they sign more members and make a difference in their community. They would help the chapter get started. There is a manual for this process with step-by-step instructions. As Exec Council members I hope you will spread the word and educate members about this when you can. We are specifically looking for members in the Bemidji Area right now. There is interest there already. They just need help!
 - Please spread the word about the 2 challenges I have in my CIP.
 - New Chapters like the Iron Range and Litchfield Chapters or their Extension Teams can email me with questions. I would like to use those questions in a special communication for the new or prospective chapters.
 - Any member can participate in my second challenge. Email me with an idea for a new community to explore and hold events to attract potential members. Ask me for help. I have a great tool to use. You will not be alone. Ask others in your chapter or district or both to help!
 - If you are helping the new chapters Litchfield or Iron Range, please let them know that I have instructions in my CIP on filing the 990-N and MN State Annual Renewal.

- **Programming Vice President, Sue Sangren [pvp@mnwt.org]**
 - The Project Fair in September will be a casino-themed event. Please plan on having an activity at your table that will support this theme. I have 20 decks of cards donated from a casino to use for the event. Each table deals a card to each person who stops by. Every person will be attempting to get a good poker hand for a final prize. If you want a game, Cheryl Watson from Burnsville has offered the use of several games that she owns. My table will be a human slot machine.
 - I am inquiring what areas of MNWT will want a table at the Fall Project Fair. This is what I have to date: 6 tables for Programming, Membership, Finance, Foundation, ONTO, Marketing, Staff, District Directors (1 or 2 tables needed?)
 - The project fair is an important event for all areas of MNWT. This gives us a chance to talk with chapter members in small groups/individuals. Be prepared to help members with information regarding your specific area this year. While each of us will provide valuable information, we also get the chance to reward them with a fun, interactive game all in the same visit. Let's make each member a WINNER in our organization.
 - The Programming team will be trying something new for the fall and winter CIPs that are distributed. We will put out one larger CIP for all areas of programming. It is our attempt to see if more people read them if they don't have to print off 6 total CIPs to get all the details. This is a trial, and if we find this was not a good idea, next year it can return to individual CIPs.
 - For Tri 1, I am offering a gift basket in a random drawing for individuals who complete their programming fast start.
 - Everyone needs to stress the importance of reporting each trimester. I am going to encourage chapters to use their meeting minutes to have a platform to record volunteer hours and donations to help their local programming manager tally the reportable numbers. At any time, you are meeting with a chapter, please help encourage reporting each trimester. It benefits the entire organization.
 - **SPMs**
 - **Community Connections SPM, Tami Borgen (cc@mnwt.org),**
 - My Tri 1 Challenge is to LPMs, and any Fast Start received by the July 15th deadline will receive a gift from me.
 - I would like to try to raise up to \$300 for the Person with Determination Award at Fall State. I would sell tickets for the chance to win a game night basket.
 - Kayla Olson from True Friends has reached out seeking help with housekeeping volunteers on the following days in August: 21st, 22nd (daytime only), 25th, 26th, and 27th. It is my understanding that there has been positive feedback from the renewed relationship between True Friends and MN WOT. I would promote the Service Project through my CIP, Facebook and chapter mailing highlights. However, due to the travel involved and the number of days, I am unsure if I can attend and am seeking assistance from someone on the EC who would be willing to help me coordinate and possibly be present on those days
 - **Living & Learning SPM, Carolyn Fortier (ll@mnwt.org)**
 - My first trimester challenges are for LPMs to complete their Fast starts, members to nominate an Outstanding PM, and to participate in my theme's project where they fill out guided journal entries that are focused on LL topics
 - I am planning to do an impromptu speaking competition at Fall State and gather email addresses for sending journal pages to.
 - I would like to reach out to the correct people to see if I can contact people interested in becoming LPMs.
 - **Priority Area SPM, Anita Smoley (priority-area@mnwt.org)**
 - For Fall State, I am encouraging members or chapters to bring gift cards in the amounts of \$5-\$10 to be used for awards to be given to students. Suggestions for gift cards that are preferred are fast food restaurants, Target, and Walmart. Members or chapters that participate will have their name entered into a drawing for a gift basket that will be given away at the business meeting on Saturday.
 - I will be defining the REACH acronym in publications and giving ideas on how we can accomplish all 5 areas. Relationships, Education, Accountability, Character, Hard Work.
 - **Women's Wellness SPM, Virginia Haberman (ww@mnwt.org) (presented by PVP Sue)**
 - Nominations for the Lois M. Christensen Women Who Impact Award are due November 1st. District Directors, please share with chapters, attached is the link for the nomination form: https://mnwt.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/mnwt_wwinomination-2019.pdf.
 - Funds will be raised for the Lois M. Christensen at Fall State through a drawing for a gift basket.
 - Women's Wellness focus for Trimester 1 will be 'Movement'. The goal is to find joy in moving, the challenge is to find creative ways to move. Those who participate will be entered into a drawing. District Directors, please share with Chapters.
 - June 21st will be 'Get out and Walk' day, District Directors, please share with Chapter.
 - Fall State Women's Wellness forum will focus on movement and the health and well-being benefits.

- **Youth of Today SPM, Sarah Midas (yt@mnwt.org)**
 - My 1st Tri Challenge, Incentive, Focus is connecting with children. I will have a drawing for a Gift Basket at Fall State. Each chapter that submits an activity that the chapter did to “connect with children” during 1st trimester will receive an entry into a drawing. District Directors, can you help promote it? Please send a picture of yourself volunteering with a local youth to yt@mnwt.org to receive a gift at Fall Convention Focus: Encourage youth to volunteer in their community to help them be more confident adults.
 - Now’s the time to start promoting the Outstanding Young Adult Award—nominations are due by November 1. District Directors, can you help spread the word and encourage chapters in your district to submit a nomination? You can find the nomination form on the Programming Resource Page under the Outstanding Award section on mnwt.org. Let’s work together to recognize the incredible young adults making a difference!
 - For the Fall forum, I will be having a scavenger hunt to be completed at the hotel during the breakout session. The first 3 to complete it will receive a gift. Everyone who completes the scavenger hunt will receive a small thank you!

- **Marketing Vice President, Maggie Holmberg [mkvp@mnwt.org] (Marketing Committee Chair [marketing@mnwt.org])**
 - My trimester 1 challenge is for all chapters to share their Facebook group or an event in a local community Facebook page. Most communities have some type of Facebook group for different events or meeting new people. My challenge is for the chapters to start exploring these Facebook groups and think about ways to utilize them to meet more and new people in their communities. Also, could be a way to work with other organizations depending on what type of Facebook groups are in their area.
 - Just a reminder, I am here to help with any and all marketing whether its with Exec Council positions or with different chapters and districts. I am hoping to continue to be approachable to provide support and assistance wherever I can.
 - Lastly, if you haven't heard about Canva, I would highly suggest it! This could be used for creating flyers for your events, social media posts, and many more. They have templates that are able to be edited and designed to fit your needs and helps make our marketing stand out and continue to increase participation. If you need any assistance with using the website, I would be happy to work with anyone that is interested.

- **Financial Vice President, Sharon Scholl [fvp@mnwt.org]**
 - During the 2025-26 chapter year, I will be conducting a “**Ticket to Ride**” Ways & Means fundraising campaign. Chapters and members will be encouraged to purchase a “Ticket to Ride” the Moolah Train for \$50 with a chance to be one of 2 lucky winners to be upgraded to first class car to ride with President Shirley and receive a \$150 Amazon Gift Card.
 - Tri 1 Fundraiser, we will be partnering with Ember Coffee. Sales are scheduled to start accepting online orders from July 28th through September 8th for delivery to Fall Convention. It was approved by the Finance Committee to offer a “LIMITED EDITION BREWED with KINDNESS” gift set with President Shirley Mug filled with an assortment of single-serve coffees and teas. Embers Coffee Sales will also be attending the Convention Project Fair, selling coffee/tea items.
 - Survey chapters & members for state store item additions, followed by research and analysis of cost of goods vs. gross profit margins before presenting items for Finance Committee Approval.
 - Remind chapters in your districts of the upcoming due dates:
 - IRS 990-N – Due September 1
 - State of Minnesota Non-profit Annual Registration – Due September 1
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- **Parliamentarian, Liz Weigel [parli@mnwt.org]**
 - My Tri 1 challenge:
 - Email me your bylaws/policies for review at parli@mnwt.org
 - Host & invite me to your bylaw/policy review
 - Submit your bylaws/policies to the repository
 - Motions:
 - I move to remove Policy O.3.b.4 iv “The Go-Green subcommittee shall be comprised of a chair and persons assigned to assist in developing ways to assist the organization to implement ways to improve our environmental footprint.”
 - m/s/p (Parliamentarian, COB)
 - I move to add “and Membership Orientation/Training” to policy O.3.d.5
 - m/s/p (Parliamentarian, Marketing)
 - I move to update policy O.3.d.5 ii. To “Additional subcommittees may be formed at the discretion of the (update) Marketing Vice President, Membership Management Chair, and approval of the Marketing and Membership Management committees.
 - m/s/p (Parliamentarian, Priority Area SPM)

- **Future Directions Committee Chair: Amy Pumper [fdc@mnwt.org]**
 - Have you attended a Future Directions Committee meeting? If not, please consider doing so. There is so much activity happening right now that you won't want to miss our next meeting. The subcommittees and task forces are hard at work with the March Planning recommendations.
 - The subcommittees are Manual Review, Forms Management, Strategic Plan, Outstanding Awards, Online Training, and Programming. Task Forces include Restructuring, Convention Review, Elections Promotions, PALS and Success System.
 - They are working on how nominees are recognized, a Chapter Information Packet template, reviewing/defining the state program manager roles, redefining the state delegate role and reintroducing the PALS program to name a few. Every member can attend meetings and join subcommittees and task forces.
 - There will be a gift card drawing for all who attend the Future Directions meetings this year.
 - We will have Oceans of Possibilities abound with Future Directions this year.
- **Membership Management Committee Chair, Allie Staley [mmc@mnwt.org]** (Presented by Tevyan Sorensen)
 - Letters for last year's new member adds have been sent out in early May. If a new member has not received anything, please reach out to either the CSC or mmc@mnwt.org. If your new members need help with any information received, please have them reach out. Any new members that are added in May through August will be sent out early September.
- **President, Shirley Viesselman [president@mnwt.org]**
 - Remarks and encouragement

The benediction was led by Living and Learning SPM, Carolyn Fortier.

The Minnesota Women of Today Creed was led by Membership Vice President Andrea Schue.

The 2025 MNJOTS Executive Council Meeting of the Minnesota Women of Today was adjourned at 12:27 pm by President Shirley Viesselman.

**Respectfully Submitted 6/2/2025,
Jeny Ohr, Secretary MNWT**