

The National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes #6 (Online) 2022-2024
January 30, 2024, at 5 PM Pacific, 6 PM Mountain (Arizona), 7 PM Central, 8 PM Eastern

Attendance

Executive Committee

President, Megan Shellman-Rickard, CO
VP Membership, Kathy Kelly, CO
VP Advocacy, Daneene Monroe Rusnak, Virtual
Secretary, Sondra Nunez, CA
Treasurer, Open
Young BPW Chair, Emily VanVleck, NYC
Immediate Past President, Sandra Thompson, CA

Past National Presidents

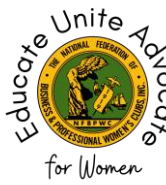
Elizabeth Benham, FL-Absent
Bessie Hironimus, CA - Excused
Sandra Thompson, CA
Dr. Trish Knight, Virtual, Excused

Committee Chairs

Bylaws and Resolutions, Trudy Waldroop, CA
Environmental and Sustainable Development, Marikay Shellman, CO
Finance-**Open**
Health, Keri Hess Laursen, CA-Excused
International Liaison, Sandra Thompson, CA
Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, Sher Singh, CA
Lifelong Leadership & Learning, Jane Taff, CA-Absent
Legacy Fund, Deborah Fischer, - CO-Excused
Mentoring, Valentina Solarin, Virtual
Public Relations, Suzette Cotto, Virtual
Rapid Response, Susan Oser, MI-Excused
Small Business, Marsha Riibner-Cady, NC
Women on the Move, Nermin Ahmad, NYC-Absent

State and Federation Affiliate Presidents

Arizona, Theresa Dolan-Absent
California, Maria DeSousa
Colorado, Evie Hudak
Michigan, Shirley Zeller
North Carolina, Marsha Riibner-Cady
New York City, Nermin Ahmad-Absent



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Pennsylvania, Catherine Collins
Texas, Pasó del Norte, Lourdes Reyna
Virtual, Barbara Bozeman

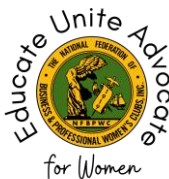
Special Committees/Task Force/Projects

2024 NFBPWC Conference and General Assembly Chair-Nancy Werner, PA
Committee to End Gender Based Violence-Veera Mahajan-Excused
Commission on the Status of Women-CSW68-**Open**
Digital Training-Teresa Gehrke
E-Magazine/Newsletter, Michele Guarino CO
Legacy Fund, Deborah Fischer, Excused
Member Outreach-**Open**
Military Affiliated Women, Alice Gallop West, NC
Nominating Committee, Manjul Batra, CA
United Nations-Susan O'Malley-Excused
Website-Kemi Oyebade

Guests

Djenabou Bah, NYC
Dr. Yasmin Darwick, PIP
Dina Fesler, CO
Lilly Gioia, PA
Ella McElwee, PA
Jo Anne Mitchell, CA
LaDorian Morris, NYC
Pattie Rayl, MI
Barbara Schouder, PA
Liz Stern, NYC
Angie Jackson Wilson, Virtual
Linda Wilson, CA
Dr. Twila Lee Wynn, PA
[Marjory Hopper](#), CA

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by President Megan Shellman-Rickard at 6:03 pm MST.



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Minutes: The minutes of the October 17, 2023 board meeting were approved as presented.

Recognition and Moment of Silence: A moment of silence was called for in recognition of our BPW sisters who had recently passed; Marie Clifton, Jackie Melvin and Twila Stout of California BPW and Gail Bradshaw Harper, NFBPWC North Carolina.

Resignation: The EC accepted the resignation of Treasurer Kalee Carmel in November 2023. The position of Treasurer is vacant.

Roll Call: Roll call was taken by Secretary Sondra Nunez.

Quorum: Parliamentarian, Immediate Past President, Sandra Thompson confirmed the quorum.

President's Report

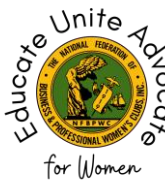
Due to the vacancy of the Treasurer position, both Deborah Fischer, Legacy Committee Chair, and NFBPWC's contract Bookkeeper Michele Guarino have been working with the Executive Committee to ensure fiduciary responsibilities are being met. Please reach out to the Executive Committee if you have any interest in serving in this position for the remainder of the term.

Open Leadership Positions

- Commission on the Status of Women – 68 Special Task Force – Open
- Finance Chair – Open
- Historian Special Chair – Open
- Executive Committee Treasurer - Open

2024 NFBPWC Biennial Conference and General Assembly, July 19-21, 2024, King of Prussia, PA

- Registration open now: <https://www.nfbpwc.org/event-5451639>
- Sponsorships available now: <https://www.nfbpwc.org/event-5577085>
- Sheraton Valley Forge, King of Prussia, PA (<https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/phlfo-sheraton-valley-forge-king-of-prussia/overview/>)
- Travel help is available through Getaway Xpeditions
- Email Address: info@getawayxpeditions.com
- Phone Number: +1 718 - 753 -9774
- Websites:
- <https://mygetawayxpeditions.booking.xeni.com/>
- <https://getawayxpeditions.com/>



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31st BPW International Congress, November 17-21, 2024, St. Kitts, <https://www.bpw-international.org/congress2024-stkitts/> (USA Delegates needed.)

NFBPWC's Period Poverty Initiative is an Official BPW International Project - <https://www.bpw-projects.org/period-poverty-initiative-usa> . Congratulations to Emily VanVleck and the Period Poverty team!

NFBPWC's co-application (with BPW Canada) for **CSW68 Parallel Event** was accepted! It is March 13, 2024, at 2:30 PM, Hybrid (In-Person at the Salvation Army Auditorium in NYC) **Global Collaboration to Tackle Period Poverty**, co-chaired by Emily VanVleck, Young BPW and NYC member, and Karin Gorgerat, PNP BPW Canada. Congratulations to Young BPW Emily VanVleck on these incredible achievements!

Congratulations to Washington State and President Rosalind Scott for becoming an official affiliate chapter of NFBPWC! Huge thanks to our Vice President of Membership, Kathy Kelly, who worked tirelessly to reconnect these women.

Executive Committee Officer Reports

VP Membership-Kathy Kelly, CO-See written report

VP Advocacy-Daneene Monroe Rusnak, Virtual See written report

Secretary-Sondra Nunez, CA-See written report

Sondra is serving as the 2024 NFBPWC Sponsorship Chair. An email will be sent to all members with the sponsorship opportunity information.

Young BPW Chair-Emily VanVleck, NYC-See written report

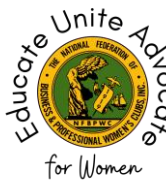
Please encourage all Young BPW members to update their profiles so they may be identified. The next Period Poverty meeting is Thursday, Mar 1, 2024, 7PM ET, all are welcome to attend.

Immediate Past President-Sandra Thompson, CA-See written report

Due to multiple challenges the 2024 International Congress will be held in St. Kitts rather than Argentina. Everyone is encouraged to take advantage of the location of this event. It will not be geographically this close to the US for several years.

Business

2024 Annual Budget-Secretary Sondra Nunez read the recommendation from the Executive Committee to approve the 2024 NFBPWC Budget.



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Michele Guarino presented the 2024 NFBPWC budget to the board.

Based on a recommendation from Barbara Bozeman, Virtual, an editorial change was made to item 203 from board of directors to executive committee.

Motion: It is the recommendation of the Executive Committee to approve the 2024 NFBPWC budget. The motion was adopted.

Standing Committee Chair Reports

Bylaws and Resolutions, Trudy Waldrop, CA-Requests for amendments to the bylaws are due to the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee by May 20, 2024. See written report

Entrepreneur and Small Business, Marsha Riibner-Cady, NC-See written report

Environment and Sustainable Development, Marikay Shellman, CO-See written report.

Barbara Bozeman presented a verbal report. The committee has hosted monthly challenges for members to update their website profiles, which have been very successful! The committee hosted a very successful event about using AI/ChatGPT. Feb 15, 2024, Neurographic Art Session will be available to all to attend. Registration available on the national website calendar.

International Liaison, Sandra Thompson, CA-See written report

Justice Diversity Equity and Inclusion, Sher Singh, CA-Webinar on Grief will be held Feb. 20, 2024. The committee has hosted webinars on Justice, Diversity and Equity. The final webinar will look at the topic of Inclusion sometime in April or May.

Mentoring, Valentina Solarin, Virtual-The committee is looking for committee members and would like to host a webinar with an external expert to speak on the topic of mentoring before the end of July.

Public Relations, Suzette Cotto, Virtual-See written report

Rapid Response, Susan E. Oser, MI-See written report

Special Committee Chair Reports



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2024 NFBPWC Conference and General Assembly, Nancy Werner, PA-Planning for the Conference and GA is in full swing. A Sunday networking event is being planned to visit Independence Mall. All members are encouraged to register as soon as possible. More information to come at the next meeting.

E-Magazine/Newsletter, Michele Guarino, Virtual-January 2024 was the 77th issue of the national magazine! Article submissions are due one week before the end of the month. Two reminders are sent during the month. See written report

Military Affiliated Women, Alice Gallup [Gallop](#) West, NC-The committee is actively looking for committee members. Six webinars have been scheduled throughout this term on the last Thursday of the month at 8 pm ET. All are welcome to attend. "Let's Continue to Serve" will be hosted Feb. 22, 2024, 8 pm ET.

Nominations, Manjul Batra, CA-Saturday, Feb, 17, 2024 Leadership Gap-Way to Go will be hosted to provide members with information on leadership opportunities and why they could be the right fit for you. Registration is available on the national website calendar.

Website, Kemi Oyebade

Chapter Affiliate and State Federation Presidents

California, Maria DeSousa: Feb. 23 and 24, 2024 CA Winter Board meeting and Public Policy Conference. Multiple members of the San Gabriel club are rejoining. Encourage all student members to attend the Leadership Gap session.

Colorado, Evie Hudak-Multiple members of the Colorado chapter have joined national committees. The chapter continues to work on advocacy and legislative bills. Mid-year convention is Feb. 10, 2024, all are invited to attend. Registration is available on the BPW Colorado website.

Michigan, Shirley Zeller-See written report

North Carolina, Marsha Riibner-Cady-See written report

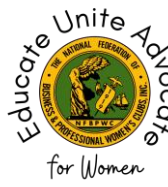
Pennsylvania, Catherine Collins-See written report

Virtual, Barbara Bozeman-See written report

International Federation of Business and Professional Women Standing Committee Chairs

Arts and Culture Chair, Sher Singh, California-January 29, 2024 is the launch of the 2024 Arts page link.

Announcements



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The next NFBPWC Board of Directors meeting will be held, Tuesday, April 30, 2024, 5PM PT, 6PM MT, 7PM Central, 8PM ET

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:36 PM MT

Filed by
Sondra Nunez, Secretary
Feb.29, 2024