

**2023 WISCONSIN STATE CHAPTER, P.E.O. SISTERHOOD  
June 3-4, 2023**

**PROCEEDINGS**

**PRIOR TO FORMAL OPENING OF CONVENTION**

**Events**

**Friday, June 2, 2023**

4 p.m. Daisy Boutique Opens – Expo 1  
4 p.m. Exhibits Open – North Concourse  
6 p.m. Hospitality Room Opens – Room 116  
6:30 p.m. and 7:25 p.m. – Buzz Sessions

**Holiday Inn Convention Center**

**MINUTES**

**OPENING MEETING**

**Saturday, June 3, 2023**

The 105th Annual Convention of Wisconsin State Chapter of the P.E.O. Sisterhood convened at 8:20 a.m. Saturday, June 3, at the Holiday Inn Convention Center in Stevens Point. Chapters N, AI, BT, CZ, DF, DQ, DY, EB, EE, EI and EJ served as hostesses.

“Sally’s Tune” was played by pianist Sue Raye Hughes, Chapter EJ, during the processional for the executive board and Representative of International Chapter. “Celebrating our PSPs” was sung by Mary Perdue, Chapter EJ, during the processional for the past state presidents.

The meeting was called to order by President Sally Jane Northrop at 8:24 a.m.

Vicki Frea, Chapter DI, PSP, delivered the invocation.

Megan Ramspott, Chapter DL, led the Pledge of Allegiance, after which Mary Perdue led the singing of “O Canada” and “The Star-Spangled Banner.”

The president welcomed all on behalf of the Executive Board of Wisconsin State Chapter.

The president introduced convention co-chairs Suzan Murray and Terese Lubner, both members of Chapter CZ; convention secretary Janet Roberts, Chapter N; and hostess chapters: N, AI, BT, CZ, DF, DQ, DY, EB, EE, EI and EJ.

The president introduced webmaster Denise MacLeod, Chapter DI, and convention registrar Elizabeth Sjoberg, Chapter T.

The president recognized Staci Keys, Chapter KK\MO, Director of Gratitude and Stewardship at Cottey College, who presented one of the Buzz Sessions.

The president introduced convention pianist Sue Raye Hughes, Chapter EJ.

The president introduced her personal assistants, biological sister, Linda Lightfoot, Chapter E\MN, and daughters Melissa Smits and Amy Roberts, both members of Chapter CZ.

The assistant guards took their places and Head Guard Kathy Rowe, Chapter DF, gave the report of the guards. The president thanked their adviser, Mary Lou Bradstreet, Chapter DT, PSP.

The first report of the Credentials Committee was given by the chair, Pattie Cook, Chapter N, PSP.

Pattie Cook reported 157 members of convention entitled to vote. On behalf of the committee, Pattie Cook moved the report be adopted. There being a majority in the affirmative the report was adopted. (Reports pg. 33)

Jodi Jacobson, Chapter EG, secretary, moved that the Rules of Convention, as printed in the program, be adopted. The motion was seconded and adopted.

Jodi Jacobson moved the adoption of the printed program with necessary changes. The motion was seconded and adopted.

A quorum being established, the president declared the 105th Convention of Wisconsin State Chapter opened in due form and ready for the transaction of business.

Linda Lightfoot led the singing of the Opening Ode, after which Melissa Smits and Amy Roberts led the reciting of the Objects and Aims.

Denean Smith, Chapter CM, gave the devotions.

President Sally Jane Northrop introduced and welcomed Nicole Berner as the Representative of International Chapter. Nicole Berner is a member of Chapter GX\NE, past president of Nebraska State Chapter and currently serves as chair of the P.E.O. Foundation of International Chapter.

President Sally Jane Northrop introduced the members of the executive board: Karin McDonald, Chapter ES, vice president; Ellie Orbison, Chapter EO, organizer; Rachel Haggarty, Chapter DZ, treasurer; and Jodi Jacobson, Chapter EG, secretary.

Patti Cook introduced the 15 past presidents in attendance. Sally Jane Northrop directed the secretary to send greetings to those past presidents who were unable to attend.

President Sally Jane Northrop introduced the two paid assistants: Kathy Jameson, Chapter BY, executive treasurer, and Chris Totzke, Chapter CU, executive assistant.

The president thanked convention co-chairs Suzan Murray and Terese Lubner, and convention secretary Janet Roberts.

The members of the Committee to Approve Minutes were authorized by the Rules of Convention. The president introduced Kathy Richardson, Chapter R; Mary Lou Bradstreet, Chapter DT; Vicki Frea, Chapter DI; all PSPs, and thanked the committee for their service.

The president announced that Nicole Berner, Representative of International Chapter, would serve as parliamentarian.

Secretary Jodi Jacobson read a letter from Patricia Brolin-Ribi, president of International Chapter of the P.E.O. Sisterhood.

Following the introduction by President Sally Jane Northrop, the Representative of International Chapter, Nicole Berner, presented the keynote address titled "The Relevance of P.E.O." The president thanked her for her inspiring message.

Mary Perdue and Sue Raye Hughes led the singing of P.E.O. "Sisters."

The report of the Nominating Committee was given by the Nominating Committee member, Vicki Frea, who introduced the other members of the committee: chair Judith Bloom, Chapter EO, PSP, and Mary Lou Bradstreet, and gave the report. The president thanked the committee for its work.

The next order of business was the election of officers.

There being no further nominations from the floor, the nominations were declared closed. There being no objection, the written ballot was dispensed with and a voice vote taken. Election of officers was completed and the following members declared elected as officers of Wisconsin State Chapter for the ensuing year.

President: Karin McDonald  
Vice President: Ellie Orbison  
Organizer: Rachel Haggarty  
Treasurer: Jodi Jacobson  
Secretary: Denean Smith

The president announced the installation of new officers would take place Sunday, June 4.

President Sally Jane Northrop recognized those chapters that met the You Add 2 P.E.O. challenge by adding two or more members via initiation and/or reinstatement.

Announcements were made by convention co-chairs Suzan Murray and Terese Lubner.

Organizer Ellie Orbison presented the period of instruction video entitled "Just Ask!" The president thanked Ellie Orbison for a look at branching out and just asking potential sisters.

The president declared convention adjourned until 3 p.m. She announced that the prelude would begin at 2:50 p.m.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

### **10:30 a.m. Project Program – Convention Hall**

Secretary Jodi Jacobson recognized the following project chairs:

P.E.O. Educational Loan Fund chair, Diane Dressler, Chapter DI

Presented a video from Erin Pinnow

P.E.O. International Peace Scholarship chair, Juliann Jones, Chapter CS

Presented a video from Ngozi Nnamani

P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education chair, Nancy Wittrock, Chapter DY

Introduced speaker Alyssa Ordway

P.E.O. Scholar Awards chair, Susan Rowe, Chapter BE

Introduced speaker Kelly Jensen

P.E.O. STAR Scholarship chair, Marianne Klinkhammer, Chapter AP

Presented a video from Grace Multauf

### **11:40 a.m. Cottey Presentation – Convention Hall**

Cottey College chair, Jan Martin, Chapter BY

Introduced Committee members Liz Berlyn, Chapter DT; Mary Knight, Chapter ET

Introduced speaker Staci Keys, Chapter KKMO

Director of Gratitude and Stewardship of Cottey College

### **Noon Luncheon and Ceremony – Prairie Ballroom**

Honor Golden Girls and Recognize Diamond Daisies and Platinum P.E.O.s

Conducted by Bobbie Peterson and Esther Zimmerman, members of Chapter BT

### **2:15 p.m. Time of Remembrance – Convention Hall**

Conducted by Julie Taylor, Judy Hollingshead, Nancy Prange, members of Chapter EI

**SECOND MEETING**  
**Saturday, June 3, 2023**

President Sally Jane Northrop called the second meeting of the 105th Convention of Wisconsin State Chapter to order at 3:02 p.m.

The assistant guards took their places and the head guard, Kathy Rowe, gave the report of the guards.

The second report of the Credentials Committee was given by the chair, Pattie Cook. 159 members of convention were reported. On behalf of the committee, Pattie Cook moved the report be adopted. There being a majority in the affirmative the second report was adopted.

Pattie Cook corrected the second report of the Credentials Committee. 158 members of convention were reported. On behalf of the committee, Pattie Cook moved the corrected report be adopted. There being a majority in the affirmative the corrected report was adopted. (Reports pg. 33)

The next order of business was election of delegates to Convention of International Chapter. Secretary Jodi Jacobson moved the list of nominees and alternates as listed in the program be elected.

<b><u>Chapter</u></b>	<b><u>Delegate</u></b>	<b><u>Alternate</u></b>
AD-BG	Deb Krieg	Julie Ohman
AS	Sally LaPorte	Rebecca Simoni
BF	Karen Hebert	
BR	Sue White	Judy Ellington
BV	Cherry Watts	Mary Newell
CD	Amy Kvidera	Claremarie Gillis
CN	Erin Parsons	Linnae Brooke
CO	Betty Jo Klingberg	Gail Smith
CS	Juliann Jones	
CT	Terri Ellis	
CU	Nancy Kies	Rhoda Miller
CZ	Betsy Johnson	
DD	Esther Fahm	Mary Blakeley
DO	Mary Austin	Cathy Wolfe
DQ	Mary Leary-Billing	
DW	Gloria Wahren Brock	Darlene MacBride
DY	Catherine Etheridge	Jean Freiermuth
EK	Ann Helwig	Anne Tennies
EM	Kathy Mancl	Teresa Stoltenberg

The delegates and alternates listed were elected.

The president announced that four past presidents are entitled, according to the Constitution, to attend Convention of International Chapter. The secretary read the names of past state presidents entitled to meals and housing at Convention of International Chapter: Jeanne Herder, Chapter ES; Cindy Solberg, Chapter P; Vicki Hugill, Chapter FI\FL; and Mary Schoenknecht, Chapter BE.

President Sally Jane Northrop announced that the annual reports of the state officers were in Section A of the printed program. She encouraged members to read the important information about what the officers accomplished over the last year and to incorporate the information in reports to chapters. She announced that the officers' written reports were filed with the secretary to be included in the proceedings of convention.

The president announced that state committee reports were in Section B of the printed program and were filed with the secretary to be included in the proceedings of convention. She encouraged members to read the important information about what the committees accomplished over the last year and to incorporate the information in reports to chapters. She announced that the committees' written reports were filed with the secretary to be included in the proceedings of convention.

The Wisconsin P.E.O. Sisterhood H.E.L.P. Fund Inc. report could be found in Section C of the printed program.

By general consent, the Annual Report of Membership of Disbanded Chapters was not read but could be found on page A-20 of the printed program and would be included in the proceedings of convention.

In preparation for the presentation of amendments to the Bylaws and Standing Rules of Wisconsin State Chapter, the president requested all members of convention to be in their assigned seats. She instructed the convention in the procedure for presentation of amendments and voting. In accordance with the Rules of Convention, amendments adopted took effect at the close of convention and as specified in the Bylaws and Standing Rules of Wisconsin State Chapter.

The report of the Amendments and Recommendations (A&R) Committee was given by the chair, Denean Smith, Chapter CM, who first introduced the other members of the committee: Amy Kalmon, Chapter DU, and Nancy Buck, Chapter AR, PSP.

The chair presented the 2023 proposed amendments to the Bylaws of Wisconsin State Chapter. Page numbers refer to the 2022 Bylaws and Standing Rules of Wisconsin State Chapter.

The following four amendments were considered as a whole with a single vote.

## **1. Submitted by the Executive Board of Wisconsin State Chapter**

(page BL-5) Amend ARTICLE IV, Section 4, by adding a new subsection D as follows:

D. To oversee investment funds.

### **1.A. Conforming Amendment**

(page BL-6) Amend the Bylaws by striking out ARTICLE VII.

**NOTE:** If this amendment is adopted, the subsequent articles will be renumbered to conform.

### **1.B. Conforming Amendment**

(page BL-4) Amend ARTICLE IV, Section 1, subsection A, by striking out item 2 so that if adopted it will read:

A. To appoint at the beginning of her term, and approved by the executive board the following:

1. One or more members to each of the following committees:
  - a. Amendments and Recommendations
  - b. Budget and Finance
  - c. Cottey College
  - d. Membership
  - e. Nominating
  - f. Technology
2. Nominating Committee chair ...

**NOTE:** If this amendment is adopted, the subsequent items will be renumbered to conform.

### **1.C. Conforming Amendment**

(page BL-7) Amend ARTICLE VIII, Section 5, subsection B, paragraph 1, sentence 2, by striking out the words “and investment liaison” and paragraph 2, duty a, by striking out the words “and to consult with the investment liaison”, so that if adopted it will read:

B. Budget and Finance

1. Membership. The committee shall consist of three members. The president and treasurer of the state chapter and the executive treasurer shall serve as ex-officio members, without vote.
2. Duties:
  - a. To become familiar with the finances of state chapter and advise the executive board on financial matters.
  - b. To work with the executive board to ...

The amendments were adopted by a two-thirds vote.

## **2. Submitted by the Executive Board of Wisconsin State Chapter**

(page BL-8) Amend ARTICLE VIII, Section 5, subsection G, paragraph 1, subparagraph a and subparagraph b, by striking out the word “webmaster” and inserting the words “technology coordinator” so that if adopted it will read:

### **G. Technology Committee**

#### **1. Membership**

- a. The committee shall consist of three members; the technology coordinator shall serve ex-officio.
- b. The technology coordinator shall be an active member of the state chapter and shall be appointed annually by the president and approved by the executive board following convention of state chapter.

**NOTE:** If this amendment is adopted, ARTICLE IV, Section 1, subsection A, item 10 and Standing Rule 3, Section B, subsection 4, item o will be rewritten to conform from “webmaster” to “technology coordinator”.

The amendment was adopted by a two-thirds vote.

## **3. Submitted by the Executive Board of Wisconsin State Chapter**

(page BL-9) Amend ARTICLE X, Section 3, subsection A, item 4, sentence 1, by striking out the word “itemized” and inserting the word “reviewed”; by striking out the words “is due within three” and inserting the words “done by an appointee of the president, is to be completed within four”; and by adding the words “and approved by the executive board” so that if adopted it will read:

4. Final reviewed financial report of state convention, done by an appointee of the president, is to be completed within four months after convention and approved by the executive board. Copies of the report shall be included in the proceedings.

The amendment was adopted by a two-thirds vote.

The following two proposed amendments were considered seriatim.

## **4. Submitted by the Executive Board of Wisconsin State Chapter**

(page BL-10) Amend ARTICLE XI, Section 2, by striking out the words “transfers from the Reserve State Convention Fund for seed money as approved by the executive board, or by” so that if adopted it will read:

### **Section 2. FUNDING.**



The fund shall consist of an annual allocation from state chapter dues as outlined in Article X, Section 1, fees as outlined in Article X, Section 3, and by other transfers from the General Fund or Reserve State Convention Fund as recommended by the Budget and Finance Committee with the approval of the executive board and the convention of the state chapter.

#### **5. Submitted by the Executive Board of Wisconsin State Chapter**

(page BL-10) Amend ARTICLE XII, Section 1, by striking out the words “shall provide seed money to the State Convention Fund for initial funding of state convention, the amount to be approved by the executive board, which must be paid back to the fund at the end of said convention. The fund” so that if adopted it will read:

##### **Section 1. PURPOSE.**

The Wisconsin State Chapter shall maintain a Reserve State Convention Fund which may be used to cover the deficits in the State Convention Fund as approved by the executive board and the convention of the state chapter.

The amendments were adopted by a two-thirds vote.

#### **6. Submitted by the Executive Board of Wisconsin State Chapter**

(page BL-11) Amend ARTICLE XII, Section 2, by striking out sentence 1 and inserting a new sentence 1 so that if adopted it will read:

##### **Section 2. FUNDING.**

The Reserve State Convention Fund shall consist of any portion of surplus from state conventions as recommended by the Budget and Finance Committee and approved by the executive board and the convention of the state chapter.

**NOTE:** If this amendment is adopted, ARTICLE X, Section 3, subsection A, item 1, sentence 2 will be rewritten to conform from “Any surplus or deficit from convention shall be returned to or paid from the Reserve State Convention Fund” to “Any portion of surplus or deficit from convention, approved by the executive board and the convention of the state chapter, shall be returned to or paid from the Reserve State Convention Fund”.

The amendment was adopted by a two-thirds vote.

#### **7. Submitted by the Executive Board of Wisconsin State Chapter**

(page BL-12) Amend ARTICLE XVI, Section 2, by striking out subsection B.

The amendment was adopted by a two-thirds vote.

At the direction of the A&R Committee, the A&R chair moved the adoption of the following editorial resolution:

### **EDITORIAL RESOLUTION**

*Resolved*, That the 2023 - 2024 Executive Board of Wisconsin State Chapter be authorized to correct article and section designations, punctuation and cross-references and to make such other technical and conforming changes as may be necessary to reflect the intent of Wisconsin State Chapter.

The editorial resolution was adopted.

A&R Chair Denean Smith presented the amendment to the proposed amendment to the Constitution, Part III, Article VI-Members by Initiation, approved at the 2022 Convention of Wisconsin State Chapter to be considered at the 2023 Convention of International Chapter. New wording is proposed in consultation with the Study & Research Chair and Parliamentarian of International Chapter to clearly define the intent of the amendment. The words “prospective member” as approved have been changed to “woman” and wording is inserted to differentiate from a name that has been balloted upon favorably.

#### **B-12. Submitted by Wisconsin State Chapter**

(page 44) Amend Constitution, Part III, ARTICLE VI, MEMBERS BY INITIATION, by inserting a new Sec. 3—INVITATION TO CHAPTER MEETING so that if adopted it will read:

Sec. 3—INVITATION TO CHAPTER MEETING. A ~~prospective member~~ woman may be invited by the chapter president to attend at least one regular meeting of the chapter prior to her name being presented for membership. This meeting would exclude the business of membership, presenting, sponsoring, proposing and balloting on a name, as well as the Ceremony of Initiation.

**NOTE:** If this amendment is adopted, the subsequent sections will be renumbered to conform and the Executive Board of International Chapter will edit the Procedure for P.E.O. Chapter Meeting to conform.

A written ballot was taken with the following results: 156 votes cast, 104 votes necessary for adoption by two-thirds, 59 affirmative, 96 negative, and one illegal. The vote was not favorable. It will be determined by the president of International Chapter whether the amendment as originally submitted is in order to go forward for consideration at the 2023 Convention of International Chapter.

The president thanked the members of the committee for their work.

Announcements were made by convention co-chairs Suzan Murray and Terese Lubner.

Organizer Ellie Orbison announced the location in convention hall where each board contact and her chapters scheduled for an official visit during the coming year would meet.

Vice president Karin McDonald announced that those attending Convention of International Chapter had the option of meeting at 5 p.m. in the back of convention hall or at 7:30 a.m. Sunday, June 4, in the Prairie Ballroom.

The president declared convention adjourned until 9:50 a.m. Sunday, June 4, with the prelude beginning at 9:40 a.m.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

### **5:45 to 7 p.m. Social Hour – Commons, Expo 2**

Greet State Executive Board, International Representative, Secretary-Elect

### **7 p.m. Banquet – Prairie Ballroom**

Speaker: Nicole Berner, International Representative, Chair P.E.O. Foundation Board of Trustees

BIL Response: Rick Northrop

Program: Randi Faye

## **THIRD MEETING**

**Sunday, June 4, 2023**

President Sally Jane Northrop called the third meeting of Wisconsin State Chapter to order at 9:58 a.m.

The assistant guards took their places and the head guard, Kathy Rowe, gave the report of the guards.

The final report of the Credentials Committee was given by the chair, Pattie Cook. There was no change in the report; 158 members of convention were reported. (Reports, pg. 33) The president thanked Pattie Cook and her committee for their work during convention.

President Sally Jane Northrop called attention to the copy of the budget provided to each member of convention. (Section B, Committee/Project Reports, pg. B-3 to B-4). She introduced the Budget and Finance Committee chair, Shirley Hoener, Chapter AN, who introduced the other members of her committee: Peg Pesicka, Chapter AF, and Emily Lyon-Hansen, Chapter T. The chair presented the committee's report (Section B, Committee/Project Reports, pg. B-2) including information regarding review of accounts, study of audit, preparation of budget and recommendation for surplus funds.

The chair moved the adoption of the report. By general consent, the vote was divided into four parts and a majority voted in favor of each of the following:

- (1) Adoption of the budget.
- (2) Transfer of funds – Transfer of \$379.28 from the Reserve State Convention Fund to the State Convention Fund.
- (3) Allocation of funds – state chapter dues of \$8 per member allocated as follows: \$6.50 per member to the General Fund and \$1.50 per member to the International Chapter Convention Travel and Expense Fund.
- (4) The remainder of the report.

The president stated that the adoption of the report approved the report of the treasurer.

The president stated the report of the Investment Liaison could be found on pg. B-5.

The president thanked the members of the Budget and Finance Committee for their careful attention to the financial details of Wisconsin State Chapter this past year. She announced the audit report was on display at Registration in the Commons and posted on the state website.

Mary Perdue and Sue Raye Hughes led the singing of P.E.O. "Sisters."

By general consent, guests were admitted into convention hall and the president suspended convention rule #5 to allow photographs during remarks by the outgoing president, the installation ceremony, the presentation of the past president's credentials and pin, remarks by the incoming president and the invitation to convention.

President Sally Jane Northrop recognized the hostess chapters and thanked them for the outstanding planning, organization and work for this convention. The president also thanked convention registrar, Elizabeth Sjoberg, and family members, BIL Rick Northrop, daughters Melissa Smits and Amy Roberts, and biological sister Linda Lightfoot.

President Sally Jane Northrop made her closing remarks to convention. The president thanked everyone for the opportunity to lead our Sisterhood and the ways in which we were able to Sally Forth Together on a positive forward-thinking course.

The next order of business was the installation of officers.

Jodi Jacobson, called the roll of the newly elected officers of Wisconsin State Chapter. Nicole Berner, Representative of International Chapter, installed the officers.

President: Karin McDonald  
Vice President: Ellie Orbison  
Organizer: Rachel Haggarty  
2023 WI State Convention

Treasurer: Jodi Jacobson  
Secretary: Denean Smith

Karin McDonald, newly elected Wisconsin State Chapter president, accepted the gavel and asked the Representative of International Chapter to present the past president credentials to Sally Jane Northrop. Mary Lou Rashke, Chapter BC, PSP, presented the past president's pin to Sally Jane Northrop and escorted her to her seat with the other past presidents.

Wisconsin State Chapter President Karin McDonald gave her incoming remarks and announced her theme: Radiate All Light Possible.

The guests of convention who were present for the Ceremony of Installation were introduced.

An invitation to the 2024 Convention of Wisconsin State Chapter to be held in Stevens Point, Wisconsin on May 31-June 1, 2024, was extended by hostess chapters AA, AU, AV, CB, CM, DE, DK, EM and ES.

President Karin McDonald accepted the invitation to the 2024 state convention on behalf of the Wisconsin State Chapter.

The president announced that rule #5 was back in effect and photographs were not permitted.

Guests were escorted out of convention hall by the guards.

Representative of International Chapter Nicole Berner gave a few closing remarks.

Convention registrar Elizabeth Sjoberg, Chapter T, gave the following report:

Number of P.E.O. visitors to convention: 292

Number of non-member guests in attendance: 47

The president thanked the registration committee for their assistance throughout convention.

President Karin McDonald announced the 2023-2024 Appointment Sheet would be posted on the state website.

There was no unfinished business.

The president announced the convention proceedings would be posted on the state website by the end of June.

Convention co-chairs Suzan Murray and Terese Lubner reminded convention participants to complete their evaluation forms so future hostess chapters could use them in planning conventions.

Following the singing of "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" by Mary Perdue, the president gave the benediction and the 105th Annual Convention of Wisconsin State Chapter of the P.E.O. Sisterhood was closed at 11:02 a.m.

Jodi Jacobson  
Secretary

Convention delegates and visitors were dismissed following the recessional of the executive board, Representative of International Chapter and past presidents.

### **CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES AND APPROVAL OF PROCEEDINGS**

I, Jodi Jacobson, secretary of Wisconsin State Chapter of the P.E.O. Sisterhood, do hereby certify that the foregoing record is a correct copy of Proceedings of Wisconsin State Chapter assembled in Stevens Point, WI, June 3-4, 2023.

Witness my hand and seal of Wisconsin State Chapter, P.E.O. Sisterhood, this 4<sup>th</sup> day of June 2023.



Secretary  
Wisconsin State Chapter, P.E.O. Sisterhood

President  
Wisconsin State Chapter, P.E.O. Sisterhood

The minutes of convention were read and approved by the Committee to Approve Minutes on June 4, 2023.