

TN Federation of Democratic Women
Annual Convention Minutes
April 12, 2019

The business meeting was called to order by President Glenda Carter at 8:03 am. Immediately after convening, Ms. Brenda Autry, Chair of the Jean Livingston Memorial Committee, presented a video showcase of members who had passed away during the previous year. Their service and contributions were noted along with several photos.

Wanda Bruce Graham led the Pledge of Allegiance and then offered an invocation. The Recording Secretary was not present and the Treasurer called the roll of chapters. Credentials were established and the meeting had 52 people in attendance.

President Carter Introduced candidates and elected officials who were present to the attendees.

President Carter asked for the Board members to note the Convention Rules which were printed in the program. Wanda Graham moved to adopt the Convention Rules and Cynthia Bennet seconded the motion. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Minutes from the previous TN convention had not been submitted and were not read.

President Carter asked Mary Linden Salter, Middle TN Vice President to unveil the new TFDW Logo. The logo on a banner was unrolled and displayed to the Board Members present.

Each of the officers on the Executive Committee, with the exception of the Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary who were not present, submitted and read their reports which are attached to these minutes. President Carter highlighted the accomplishments of her term including a robust treasury which had its balance restored. Ms. Carter also noted a number of new chapters that had been chartered.

Committee Reports were presented and are also attached to these minutes. Ways and Means reported a very successful year with over \$1000 in net funds. The Anna Belle Clement O'Brien Scholarship was not awarded in 2019. The Board members discussed the process to advertise the scholarship and manage it. The Democratic Women of Shelby County agreed to continue to administer the process. It was announced that the Newsletter and Scrapbook awards for 2020 will be folded into a combined award that also emphasizes social media exposure and presence. New criteria for this award will be distributed to clubs in May of 2019.

President Carter announced the process for awarding the Gwen McFarland Service Award and ballots were distributed. The election for this award took place over lunch. The Board meeting

They have been incredibly active in their community and have revitalized the women's group and its activities. The Anderson County Democratic Women who won the award for best newsletter and Jan Newsome accepted the award for them. The Franklin County Democratic Women won the scrapbook contest and Gina Mitchell Sims-Johnson accepted the award on their behalf. The prize for the best scrapbook and newsletter both include a \$25 award.

Gwen McFarland Service Award winner was announced. Glenda Carter of MAD Women was given the award for 2019. Glenda has served on the TFDW board for 4 years and worked tirelessly during the past year to unify the group and provide a settlement of the previous Treasurer's accounts.

At the conclusion of the banquet, Rep. Gloria Johnson Installed the new officers and an official 'Passing of the Gavel' from Glenda Carter to the new President, Mary Linden Salter. Glenda was presented a silver tray to commemorate her service to TFDW.

Respectfully Submitted,

Glenda Carter, Past President



June 14, 2020

Report to the TFDW Convention

Both former TFDW President, Glenda Carter, and current President, Mary Linden Salter, among other TFDW members, attended the NFDW Convention in Albany, NY in 2019. They returned to Tennessee to build on the financial and membership gains made by TFDW in the previous two years. The newly elected Executive Committee of the TFDW initiated plans to formalize the structure and to strengthen the financial policies of the organization.

TFDW held a Fall Board meeting in September of 2019 where a written policy and procedure manual was introduced. The Board also welcomed several speakers to the meeting, including Rep. Gloria Johnson who chairs the TFDW Legislative Committee and TN House Majority Leader, Rep. Karen Camper who presented proclamation in tribute to Virgie Banks, a member who had recently passed away. The Board adopted a budget and selected a finance committee to assist with fundraising and cost saving measures during the year.

TFDW's Winter Board Meeting was held February 2, 2020. The TN General Assembly session was convened on January 14th and this Board meeting featured several candidates for office and legislative partners who worked on progressive issues in the state legislature. The Board also voted to ratify the TFDW Policy and Procedure manual with two minor changes from the original draft.

At both the Fall and Winter board meetings, the Executive Committee presented several new mechanisms for board members to stay informed and to send coordinated messaging. The Chapters linked Facebook accounts and developed new twitter accounts Board members received training using Twitter and Facebook as platforms for getting out the vote and other campaign messages. The TNDP also worked with Chapter as part of their mechanism to develop a coordinated campaign to elect Democrats this year. TFDW now uses messaging software to get out TFDW notices and to serve as a repository of all membership information.

During the Fall of 2019, the TFDW Executive Committee had two resignations. The Executive Committee sought and received nominations. Pamela Weston was appointed the East TN Vice President and Laurie McNeece, were appointed Recording Secretary. They are both members of PROWD. In April of 2020, the West TN Vice President also resigned and the TFDW Executive Committee appointed Ginger House of Carroll County to the position.

The TFDW Convention for April of 2020 was to have been held near Niota, TN, the home and resting place of Fern and Harry Burn, who were instrumental in ratification of the 19th amendment and giving women the right to vote. The convention is being held virtually but it is our hope that the program and wreath laying to honor both of these individuals can be held in the Fall of 2020. The Executive Committee planned the virtual convention to be in compliance with the TFW By-Laws to the extent possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Linden Salter, TFDW President

TFDW Convention 2020

West TN VP Report

I have been attending the Carroll County Meetings regularly with exception of January of this year as I had a medical procedure that particular day which had been scheduled for 5 years.

I currently serve as Secretary of the Carroll County Democratic Executive Committee, also Carroll County Democratic Women.

Just a bit of information about my working's and how I became involved. As a retiree of Bellsouth of 30 years and a Strong Union member of (CWA) Communications Workers of America, I served in many capacities during that time.

Legislative Committee 3808 Nashville TN, VP TN Central Labor Council. Served of Buddies of Nashville, also CWA Apartments.

Served on Public Broadcasting of Nashville, Community Service Committee, By-laws Committee (NOW) National Organization of Women, A. Philip Randolph, as well as others.

Only held this position for about three weeks and looking forward to visiting all Clubs and be involved with all in West TN. Our goal is simple, we MUST turn over the White House, Senate, House in all Federal State and local races.

Respectfully,

Virginia J "Ginger" House

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Huntingdon TN 38344

Huntingdon Home of President Jim Neely TN AFL-CLO

TFDW Convention 2020

Middle TN VP Report

Although we have thrust into unprecedented times it has been somewhat of a task to travel to clubs. I did happen to make it to 3 Delegate selections meetings. Humphreys County, Cheatham County and Davidson County. Right now times have called us to think more outside the box. I've been on Zoom and Maestro calls set up across the NATION. Being a part of ALL Democratic organizations. One of the things I took upon myself is to contact ALL the Democratic candidates that are running for OFFICE! I personally sent out hand written postcards to the Democratic candidates. This is something that I've NEVER DONE before but I'M SAH AM GLAD I DID!!! It's caused us as a Democratic ENTITY to become more FORWARD MINDED participants in the ELECTION PROCESS! The most surprised thing that I've been involved with is the DNC Delegates selections. I was notified by the Biden Campaign a few weeks ago that I had been selected as an At-Large Delegate Alternate to the DNC. My Mom would be ecstatic for ME! During this whole quarantine I've come to realize that it's just not enough to visit the clubs of this great organization but to THINK OUTSIDE THE 📦 and do the unconventional THINGS that WE WOULDN'T normally do. We have to make our presence known in places that would sometimes make us uncomfortable. NO I'm not talking about putting ourselves in danger but yet meeting folks where they are in order to expand our organization! And this is something that I plan to do going forward.

Humbly submitted,

Kim Walker, Middle Tennessee VP

TFDW

TFDW East TN VP Report to the Convention

In November, I visited with the Monroe County Democratic Women and talked with Marion County about reconstituting their club. I also attended county party meetings in Bradley, Polk, and McMinn. In December, I attended the Greater Chattanooga Women's Club's holiday dinner, the holiday dinner held by the Anderson County Democratic Women where I installed their newly elected officers, and participated in the elections in my home club, PROWD. Working with Indivisible and PROWD, a successful 'Impeach and Remove' rally was organized in McMinn County that brought together people from numerous counties and which made it into the DemCast nationwide rallies video.

In January, planning for the live convention in Athens continued with many of the East TN Clubs engaged in the event. I also collaborated with the local Indivisible group to host a Debate Watch Party and I conducted a training on technological tools for direct voter contact and voter registration in McMinn County.

In February, I communicated with all the E TN Clubs regarding their rosters and dues, by email and/or phone, to make sure they would get their documents and dues in by the deadline, and most of them did. That same month, I conducted a phone bank training for women in McMinn County and attended a Voter Protection training followed by serving as a poll-watcher in Monroe County. I also had the opportunity to attend the Hamblen County Democratic Women's March meeting and swear in their newly elected officers.

Much of February, March, and April was devoted to chasing rosters and checks, service on the EC, making arrangements with vendors for the convention and rearranging then canceling, and answering questions posed by club presidents by email and phone amid the Covid-19 shut down. May consisted of more chasing and provided a time for confirming delegate selections. I'm pleased to say that while not all E TN clubs chose to send delegates to the 2020 virtual convention, eleven of the thirteen* clubs in the eastern grand division sent delegates.

In June, I attended Unity in the Community, a rally to call for justice and end police brutality in response to the George Floyd murder where more than one hundred voter registration forms were distributed.

Respectfully Submitted 6.14.20
Pam Weston, TFDW E TN VP

*The TFDW Division roster includes Marion and Morgan which would make fifteen clubs in the eastern division, but those clubs disbanded roughly a year ago and are not currently in existence.

Tn Federation of Democratic Women				
Budget for 2019-20				
	Projected Income:	Budget	YTD	Budget Explanation
	Dues	\$2,000.00	\$4,200.00	400 members @ \$5 each
	Ways and means	\$2,100.00	\$630.00	
	Jean Livingston	\$1,600.00	\$105.00	
	ABC O'Brien	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	
	Parade of Stars	\$150.00	\$0.00	
	Meeting Registrations	\$3,000.00	\$4,251.00	Fall and Winter Board Meetings
	Sales of remaining meeting giveaways	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	
	RECEIVABLES	\$0.00	\$0.00	past due income
	Total Projected Income	\$11,350.00	\$9,186.00	
	Projected Expenses:	Budget	YTD	Budget Explanation
	NFDW dues	\$1,200.00	\$265.00	\$250 flat state fee + \$15 transaction fee
	meeting Venues	\$1,200.00	\$4,676.91	Inclusive of Meeting meals (Winter Board Mtg)
	Meeting meals	\$6,300.00	\$500.00	(avg 60 attendees x \$35 x 3) deposit for the spring board mtg
	Meeting give aways	\$3,000.00	\$6,229.14	TFDW pins, t-shirts, etc. \$1204 for pins
	website	\$25.00	\$215.64	Go Daddy
	printing and postage	\$300.00	\$0.00	
	Ways and means	\$900.00	\$0.00	Seed \$ / supplies
	Jean Livingston	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	(multi candidate limit of \$5000 per year per election)
	ABC O'Brien	\$1,500.00	\$1,000.00	
	Parade of Stars	\$100.00	\$0.00	
	Convention expenses	\$1,000.00	\$395.00	Sashes, event space deposit for Spring Meeting,
	Awards - gifts for speakers	\$300.00	\$0.00	
	Day on the Hill (NWPC)	\$100.00	\$0.00	
	NFDW Ad	\$200.00	\$0.00	
	3 star dinner ad	\$300.00	\$0.00	
	NFDW Travel	\$3,000.00	\$1,371.08	2019 NFDW Travel Reimbursements
	President Expenses	\$1,000.00	\$153.47	
	West VP Expenses	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	
	Middle VP Expenses	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	
	East VP Expenses	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	
	Corr. Secretary Expenses	\$300.00	\$0.00	
	Treasurer Expenses	\$450.00	\$0.00	Includes bonding expenses
	Rec. Secretary Expenses	\$200.00	\$0.00	
	Supplies	\$300.00	\$84.90	
	Banking Fees	\$0.00	\$159.62	ActBlue Processing Fees (3.95% of every dollar)
	Auditor honorarium	\$200.00	\$0.00	
	Total Projected Expenses	\$24,475.00	\$15,050.76	
	NET	(\$13,125.00)	(-2789.76)	

Accounts Payable	\$1,204.19	TFDW Pins
Accounts Receivable	\$3,075	TFDW T-Shirts

Tennessee Federation of Democratic Women – Bylaws Committee Report

June 14, 2020

The Bylaws Committee gathered by conference call on March 1 at 3:00 cst/4:00 est in response to a call issued on Feb 29 to review Bylaws amendments submitted late in 2019 and to examine the Policy and Procedure document's alignment with the current bylaws. Members present were Chair Pam Weston, Marissa Richmond, and Jan Newsome. After identifying multiple areas of the policy document that were in conflict with the current bylaws and determining that other areas were irrelevant to the structure and processes of the TFDW, the consensus was that a rewrite of the Policies and Procedures document should begin following the convention.

On April 26 and April 28, numerous revision suggestions were submitted for both the Bylaws and Policy and Procedure document.

On April 30, the Bylaws Committee was called to gather on May 3 at 3:00 cst/4:00 est in response to a call on April 30 to review Bylaws revisions and the amendments submitted late in 2019 by Barbara Brown Beaman that primarily dealt with incorporating a year as president elect to the office of the president. None of the members were able to join at that time. Yolander Hardaway and Jan Newsome responded later by phone and concurred that the TFDW was not stable enough to benefit from such a change and that the offices of Vice President served somewhat as a pool of presidents elect.

The nature of the requested Bylaw revisions to be considered were to reduce the authority assumed by the executive committee and confirm the authority of the Board over the TFDW which is in harmony with the intentions of the founders. Those revisions submissions are available to all members upon request, but delivering a recommendation to the Board and offering a properly prepared presentation of the many revisions to the board in keeping with the timeline established by the convention date was rendered impossible due to the shifting and uncertainty of the convention date, commitments of members related to DNC delegate selection conventions, and engagement in the presidential primaries.

It is the recommendation of the Bylaws committee that the committee that follows consider the historical intent in their review of the Bylaws and that the Policy and Procedure document be revisited for relevant content that is in harmony with the long term needs and activities of the TFDW and the recommendations that result from the Bylaws review. The committee further suggests that such efforts begin no later than January 2021 to provide ample time for review and discussion with full disclosure to the Board as progress is made.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of committee members Myra Stiles, Yolander Hardaway, Cynthia Bennett, Judy Whitehill, Marissa Richmond, and Jan Newsome.

Pamela Weston, TFDW Bylaws Committee Chair

TFDW Convention 2020

Ways and Means Committee Report

June 12, 2020

The Ways and Means Committee works to generate funds for the organization. We have done so with the help and participation from all clubs with the dollar table sales, ways and means gift items and Silent auction. Each club is asked to contribute 10 wrapped items valued at a minimum of \$1. Participants then have the opportunity to select any items of their choice for \$1. With the ways and means items, we ask that these items have a minimum value of \$10. Participants will purchase tickets for a chance to win these items; the more tickets you purchase, the higher the probability that you will win a prize. For the Silent Auction items, we ask that these items have a minimum value of \$40. Participants will have the opportunity to silently bid on these items. The person with the highest bid takes home the prize.

We had a successful year with fundraising and contributions from each club. The Fall Board Meeting held on September 7, 2019 raised \$305 and the Winter Board Meeting held on February 1, 2020 raised \$393. We had donations of blue heart-shaped pins as well as Federation pins that also helped raise funds during board meetings. We would like to encourage participants to continue to support Ways and Means and help us continue to engage and involve our members. We want this process to be a fun and competitive as we strive to raise funds that will support the efforts that we pursue as an organization.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Bond

PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR HAYWOOD COUNTY DEMOCRATIC WOMEN

TFDW Convention 2020

The Haywood County Democratic Women have been diligently working to bring information to our communities and get more people involved. We are working to make sure people are informed and engaged regarding the issues impacting those in the community collectively as well as individually. We continue to seek opportunities to engage and onboard new members as well as encourage everyone to engage in the process. We realize now more than ever, we must work to make our voices heard.

Our focus is to establish a strong presence in the community. Several of our members support A Rise to Read Program with the elementary schools. Members volunteer to go to elementary schools and spend time reading with students. We realize that children need a strong foundation and we are encouraging more members to get involved. The Haywood County Democratic Women have begun joining with the Democratic Party and bringing in speakers to share data and explain what the numbers mean and the work ahead in getting more people to the polls. To support this effort, we had TNDP Political Director, Evan Latt share with us the numbers from previous elections and what it will take for us to be successful in future bids.

We had another successful annual brunch. This is a community event and fundraiser where everyone comes out for brunch and we have a guest speaker. The speaker for the brunch was Regina Nash who serves as the Chair of the 8th Congressional District as well as the Chair of the Lauderdale Democratic Party. Ms. Nash shared with those in attendance what it means to get involved and make a difference and why this is so important as we prepare for this next election cycle. She also stressed the importance of doing it together; no one has to do it alone. We need this enthusiasm and motivation as we continue to engage and build our local parties.

During the holiday season, we partner with one of the local grocers to provide hot meals to those in need. Our plan is to continue to expand and reach more people in need. We also host an annual Christmas Fellowship dinner. In doing so, we come together to reflect on the year and celebrate our accomplishments and reflect on where we are and the work ahead of us. This gives us an opportunity to reflect and enjoy food and fellowship with one another.

In the midst of Covid-19, we have adjusted in how we are reaching out and sharing information with our team. In order to remain compliant with the guideline specified by the governor, we have begun hosting meetings via Zoom. We have had a great response and we were able to present candidates for our Municipal election and have a question and answer session with those candidates. We will also work to support local candidates such as Andrea Bond Johnson who is a candidate for State Representative, House District 82 (Crockett, Haywood and Lauderdale Counties). We will continue to engage our constituents and look for creative ideas to continue moving forward as we continue amid Covid-19 and the social/racial injustice that we are faced with. Our goal is to work so that our voices are heard; we must get out and vote!

We have been working to generate ideas to engage the young Democrats so that they can become involved in the process. Collectively, we know that we must meet them where they are and in doing so, we are working to spread our message on Social Media. We would love to learn how other areas are engaging this demographic and hope that we can share and brainstorm together. We recognize that we cannot continue with business as usual; extraordinary times call for extraordinary measure. We must be active, visible and constructively making changes that will benefit our communities.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leslie Bond, Haywood County Democratic Women Chair