



DES MOINES
WOMEN'S CLUB

AMENDED MINUTES
Des Moines Women's Club Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, August 13, 2025
10:00 – 11:30 A.M.
Hoyt Sherman Place – Byers Room

- I. Welcome and [Roll Call Summary](#): Introduction of Club Coordinator (Karen Sievers)
 - a. Present: Karen Sievers, Oxana Bedore, Mary Ellen Imlau, Lou Howell, Sheila Bingaman, Janet Mootz, Kathy Elliott, Alicia Amberg, Esther Burgett, Rose Marie Webb, Mary Sheldahl (guest)
 - b. President Karen Sievers welcomed and introduced to the board the new club coordinator, Kim Hansen; she also welcomed guest Mary Sheldahl.
- II. Approval of Minutes
 - a. The [Minutes of June 11, 2025, Board Meeting](#) were approved.
 - b. The [Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting - July 2, 2025](#) were approved.
- III. Unfinished Business: There was no unfinished business.
- IV. New Business:
 - a. Kitchen Restoration (Mary Ellen Imlau and Mary Sheldahl)
 - i. Mary Ellen Imlau and Mary Sheldahl, both members of the Hoyt Sherman Foundation Board, shared information regarding the fully-functional kitchen remodel, noting that the completion date is expected September 1, 2025. The board approved a \$10,000 donation from the general unrestricted fund to this project, with \$9500 being transferred to the charitable donations line item, which already included a budget of \$500 for charitable donations. A formal presentation will be made in September at a club luncheon.
 - b. Des Moines Women's Club's New Logo (Janet Mootz)
 - i. Janet Mootz, representing the marketing committee, presented a draft of the new logo, which includes a silhouette of a woman in a teacup and the tag "Empowering Our Community Since 1885." It was recognized that there is \$500 in the marketing/advertising budget, which should cover rebranding costs. The logo design was adopted by the board with the color palette to be determined.
 - c. Scholarship Luncheon (Oxana Bedore)
 - i. The board approved an increase in the scholarship luncheon budget from \$400 to \$1300 for 2025-2026 as recommended by the Finance Committee, to cover the costs of a scholarship luncheon in the spring of 2026.
 - d. Treasurer's Report, including Investments Recommendation (Sheila Bingaman)
 - i. The Holiday Fund of \$1473 at the Iowa State Bank will be used for payment of holiday purchases until the fund is completely depleted. Esther Burgett will inform the decorating committee of the available funds.
 - ii. [Investments](#)
 1. The CDs with a low interest will be sold off as they mature. The ladder of investments will be restored.
 - iii. [June 30, 2025 - Financial Report](#)
 - iv. [Accountants' Compilation Report - July 31, 2025 and 2024](#)

V. Reports/Updates

- a. Club Coordinator
 - i. Kim Hansen reported that all but two of the scholarship checks have been cashed.
 - ii. She also commented that she likes her new job and thanks everyone for their support.
- b. Liaisons' Reports (as needed and appropriate)
 - i. President (Human Resources)
 - 1. Lorna Truck is chair of the Human Resources Committee.
 - 2. A reception on September 25, 2025, will be held from 4:00 - 7:00 P.M. to celebrate the tenth anniversary of Robert Warren as CEO of Hoyt Sherman Place. (HSPF explained on August 14, 2025, that this event is by invitation only.)
 - 3. Opening Day is September 3 at 1:00 P.M. The president has asked all board members to help with set-up, mingling, and clean-up of the event.
 - ii. Past President (Past-Presidents' Group)
 - 1. The past-presidents' group held a pot luck this summer. Dues will remain at \$5 for the year. The group donated \$50 to the kitchen remodeling project. They also provide a monetary prize for the People's Choice Art Award at the art exhibition.
 - iii. President-Elect (Scholarship, Art Exhibition)
 - 1. Scholarship: No report.
 - 2. Art Exhibition: The committee is working on selecting both a theme and judge for the exhibition in 2026.
 - iv. Secretary (Archive, Greeting Card)
 - 1. Archive: Their next meeting is in September.
 - 2. Greeting Cards
 - a. Five cards were sent in May; cards have been recently sent to Marilyn Kramme (health and 50th wedding anniversary) and Carol Corrigan (broken bone).
 - b. Guests and new members will receive postcards; the chair is in need of names and addresses for additional cards and communications.
 - c. There is encouragement of members to let Rosemary Hillman know if members are in need of cards and/or phone calls.
 - d. The chair recommends the recommitment of all members to seek new members.
 - v. Treasurer (Finance, Annual Appeal)
 - 1. Finance: There was no additional report.
 - 2. Annual Appeal: Approximately \$3000 has been garnered thus far. There is also a match provided by a member for up to \$2000.
 - vi. Membership Director (Membership, Marketing, Social)
 - 1. Membership
 - a. There are presently 135 members, of which 127 are paying members. There were 158 members last year.
 - b. The committee is seeking support from large businesses and considering other avenues to increase membership.
 - 2. Marketing: There was no additional report.
 - 3. Social: A tentative list of activities appears in the e-blast. It was also noted by a board member that their visits can impact future programs and membership.
 - vii. Program Director (Club Programs, Departments, Events, Club Chorus)
 - 1. The director noted that the public affairs committee is in need of programs. Water issues was suggested as a possible program.
 - 2. Please see attached list of programs for 2025-2026.
 - a. [Fall Programs](#)
 - b. [Winter-Spring Programs](#)

- viii. Governance Director (Internal Audit, Bylaws, Nominations): There were no reports at this time.
- ix. Hospitality Director (Decorating, Catering, Cashiers, Hospitality/Greeters, Invocations)
 - 1. Decorating: Holiday plans are underway.
 - 2. Catering: The three main caterers in 2025-2026 are Sunflower Chef, Great Catering of Iowa, and Baretta's Italian Restaurant. In the Bag will cater the August 20 box luncheon.
 - 3. Cashiers: There are presently three committee chairs who oversee the luncheons. There is a list of committee members available for needed substitutes or support.
 - 4. Hospitality/Greeters: The committee has met and determined greeters for each luncheon.
 - 5. Invocations: The invocations have been completed/assigned up until Christmas.

VI. Announcements/Reminders (e.g., next meeting, agenda items, events): The next meeting is September 10, 2025, at 10:00 A.M in the Byers Room.

VII. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:38 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lou Howell, Secretary