

**Nebraska 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter District Conference  
Executive Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, February 23, 2021  
7:00 p.m. – 8:35 p.m.**

**Call to Order:**

The Nebraska District Optimist 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Executive Committee Meeting was called to order on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 via Zoom at 7:07 p.m. by Governor Sandra Allen.

**Roll Call:**

The following members of the Executive Committee were present:

**Governor:** Sandra Allen  
**Interim Secretary:** Carla Gries  
**Treasurer:** Curt Huston  
**Immediate Past Governor:** Linda Wheeler  
**Governor-Elect:** Cynthia Von Fange  
**Past Governor:** Beryle Lantz  
**JOI Governor:** Lucas Ransen

<b>Lieutenant Governors:</b>	<b>Zone 1</b>	Wendy Townley
	<b>Zone 2</b>	Carla Gries
	<b>Zone 3</b>	Robert Karcher
	<b>Zone 5</b>	Marvin Shimmel
	<b>Zone 6</b>	Peg Reynolds
	<b>Zone 7</b>	Judith Kluge
	<b>Zone 9</b>	David Thelen

**Welcome and Opening Remarks:**

**Approval of Agenda**

1. Governor Sandra proposed the following changes to the agenda
    - a. Delete Oratorical Contest Update; add Growth Committee and Club Fitness
    - b. Under Conference Updates, add background displays
- There being no further discussion, the meeting proceeded.

**Old Business**

- A. Minutes of the November 12 Executive Committee Meeting were presented.
- B. There were no corrections; Minutes were approved as read.
- C. The Financial Report was presented as follows:
  - 1) Total Income \$5,970.76; which included dues of \$5,765.80, essay contest \$200, and interest income of \$4.96
  - 2) Total Expenses \$2,441.77; which included directory supplies \$143.71, directory printing \$347.95, 2019-20 District Convention \$80, marketing and website expenses \$1,446.41 (ISODEX), misc. expenses \$423.90

- 3) Bank Accounts \$38,792.66, including General Checking Acct, General M&M Acct., Childhood Cancer, Scholarship, Checking, and Fundraising
  - 4) The IRS 990 has been submitted.
  - 5) All of last year's conference/convention expenses are paid
  - 6) OI Dues and Donation to the Foundation are coming up
- Governor Sandra declared the Financial Report accepted as read and to be filed for review.

**New Business:**

- A. Many students have entered the Essay Contest, some need clubs to sponsor them. Breakfast, Southwest, Miracle Hills and Blair offered; representatives from those clubs were asked to contact Essay Chair, Lana Urban [402-641-3099/famofurbs@gmail.com](mailto:402-641-3099/famofurbs@gmail.com) The deadline for submitting essays is February 28.
- B. Oratorical Information will be presented Saturday at the conference.
- C. Growth Committee. Sandra stated that Growth Committee members are partnering with Lieutenant Governors and their clubs to determine the clubs' needs.
  - 1) The next Growth Committee Meeting is scheduled for March 5, 6:30 pm by Zoom.
  - 2) Linda Wheeler is the Club Fitness Chair who works with Lieutenant Governors and clubs to determine strengths, weaknesses, and ways the clubs can improve.
  - 3) Diane Siefkes, a member of the Int'l Club Fitness Committee, stated that clubs should use the Club Fitness Form and the Honor Tracking Form. Sandra agreed that we should use what OI has provided.
- D. Zone Alignment
  - 1) Cindy Von Fange stated they are planning to foster unity of purpose and communication by putting clubs together from different parts of the state. Changes need to be made because what we are doing isn't working.
  - 2) Non-geographical zones and targeted partnerships could help foster future leaders.
  - 3) Beryle stated that zones are an administrative thing that need to be area oriented.
  - 4) Diane stated that the administrative piece should be kept geographical but, perhaps divide the state into four zones with people helping the Lieutenant Governors.
  - 5) JOI Governor Lucas shared that he supported Cindy's concept.
  - 6) Marvin Shimmel reminded everyone that club visitations are addressed in the District Policies.
  - 7) Some of the Lieutenant Governors stated that the position should be held for more than one year; we discussed line of succession with Lieutenant Governor-Elects. Governor Sandra encouraged committees to work together.
- E. Governor-Elect Cindy shared that many OI committees are being added, some are changing to different names with new components; we will be required to align with them. Cindy stated that policy changes could be done by just having Executive Committee approval, without approval from the Board of Directors
- F. Conference updates
  - 1) Club banners should be in your virtual background, if you cannot do that just prop it up behind you; Diane reiterated that virtual backgrounds do not work with everybody's system.

- 2) We may not be able to break down the zones for the afternoon meetings, based on current conference registration. Sandra may have Mary Hatfield, OI Club Fitness chair, speak with all of the zones. Lieutenant governors were asked for their opinions.
- 3) Sandra asked that each Lieutenant Governor be prepared to share a line of the Creed and what it means to them at the conference.
- 4) Everyone was asked to reach out to two people in their zones to register for the Conference to keep the registrant number over 50.
- 5) Conference participants will be asked to join a committee.

G. Third Quarter Conference, virtual or in person?

- 1) Considerations: Some have vaccines, some don't; zone 6 clubs feel it is too early to meet in person; people most likely to go are older people who have been vaccinated; young people are into computers, do not want to travel because of time and expense; let's do a combination (part live, part zoom) like some clubs are doing; Diane does not recommend hybrid, Sandra shared that some districts are doing hybrid; lots of young people do come to the live conferences to socialize/participate

Based on the discussion and a general consensus, Governor Sandra agreed, that the Third Quarter Conference will be virtual.

H. Convention will be live in Omaha; August 20-21, pulling out all the stops for a great convention.

I. International Day of Happiness is March 20. There will be an afternoon Zoom event. Jessica Von Fange and Wendy Townley will coordinate the event which will last 1 to 1 ½ hours.

J. Beryle and Carla shared a recent meeting with the North Bend Club. They met with the president and secretary before meeting with the rest of the club. Beryle presented the president a notebook explaining how OIF supports the district and local clubs through scholarship programs and grants. Carla provided information about Oratorical from the OI web page. Both were impressed and pumped up about it before meeting with the rest of the club. When the entire club met; they decided as a group that they will appoint a CFR and contribute to OIF. They are also contacting the high school speech teacher to find students for their club Oratorical event which will take place March 21.

K. Diane reported that the OIF auction is now on the district Facebook page.

Governor Sandra asked all Lieutenant Governors to identify 2 people from their respective zones for the Catch a Rising Star event and give their names to Mary Lou Andersen.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm

Submitted by District Interim Secretary, Carla Gries