

Baylor Round Table Executive Board Meeting

Thursday, September 23, 2010

12:00 noon

Robinson Tower, Room 451

Members present:

Amber Adamson
Julie Covington
Cindy Dougherty
Paulette Edwards
Marilyn Eichelberger
Lois Ferguson
Angela Funai
Jane Gunn
Kathy Hillman

Madelyn Jones
Carolyn Keathley
Sandra Lené
Lorin Matthews
Martha Lou Scott
Anita Rolf
Denyse Rodgers
Judy Schmeltekopf
Chris Wilkins

President Marilyn Eichelberger called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. and opened with a word of prayer.

Sandra Lené moved to accept the minutes from the last meeting; Carolyn Keathley seconded; and the minutes were approved.

Old Business

Julie Covington and Sandra Lené shared the proposed changes to membership qualifications based on classification as “SM” – staff monthly, which is designated a “professional” position for the EEOC. Changes/additions shown in red:

Article III. MEMBERS

Section 2: Eligibility for Membership

- a. Wives or widows of full-time faculty including full-time lecturers and contract faculty.
- b. Female, full-time faculty including full-time lecturers and contract faculty.
- c. Wives or widows of staff with executive benefits **and wives or widows of staff who hold an executive/management or a professional position as defined by Baylor’s Office of Human Resources.**
- d. Female staff with executive benefits **and female staff who hold an executive/management or a professional position as defined by Baylor’s Office of Human Resources.**
- e. Wives of visiting faculty with executive benefits.
- f. Visiting female faculty with executive benefits.
- g. Retired eligible members.

Justification: In the Bylaws, Article II. OBJECT it states “The object of this organization shall be to assist

in the development of the social and cultural life of Baylor University.” Round Table is about friendships and service. Our numbers, in recent years have shown a decline and in order for this organization to continue to provide opportunities for service and friendship, the eligibility requirements need to expand to include those who hold a professional position, categorized as such by Baylor’s Office of Human Resources. This is a group comprised of approximately 170 ladies who represent all areas of the university. They could bring a variety of skills to Round Table; interests and expertise that would benefit the organization. We are currently excluding a group of potential leaders who could strengthen our organization tremendously. We, Sandra Lené and Julie Covington, move that the member eligibility requirements for Round Table be changed to include wives or widows of staff who hold an executive/management or a professional position; and female staff who hold an executive/management or a professional position as defined by Baylor’s Office of Human Resources.

There are approximately 170 women at Baylor with this job type classification. Discussion raised several challenges, such as the potential need for larger meeting space and possible discrepancies between divisions with similar job descriptions (some bi-weekly, some monthly). The purpose in recommending the changes was to provide the opportunity for more women to join Round Table and to increase our numbers, which have declined over the years. It was recommended that we consider using job codes instead. Another point was made that existing Round Table members (i.e., current dues-paying members) have, historically, been grandfathered even if their position changes. Kathy Hillman moved to table the item; Lois Ferguson seconded; item tabled for further review.

New Business

Marilyn mentioned the *Waco Today* magazine featuring Alice Starr on the cover. She then asked everyone to review the membership list that was provided and update their personal contact information, if necessary. A second e-invite will be sent out before the tea; Marilyn asked everyone to remind friends/colleagues to join or renew membership in Round Table.

The October 12 program is titled “Women and the Baylor/Waco Connection,” and it will be held at noon at Truett Seminary Great Hall and will feature Alice Starr and Virginia DuPuy, as well as other key ladies who are community leaders. There will be a slight charge for the lunch but the aim is to keep the cost low. Hostesses will be assigned to meet & greet at all luncheons.

Marilyn encouraged everyone’s support of the President’s Scholarship Initiative via memorials or honorary gifts to the Baylor Round Table endowed fund or another endowed scholarship of choice. The Baylor Round Table fund has grown such that we will receive a bronze plaque in the spring that will be displayed on campus.

Courtesy/Correspondence (Angela will send cards): Condolences to the families of Kathleen Underwood and Norma Moore, both of whom recently passed away. Congrats to Diana Davis on the birth of her daughter.

Committee Reports

- Julie Covington gave a report on the Membership Tea, scheduled for 3-5 p.m., Friday, Oct. 1, at the Allbritton House. She is sending a reminder email, and thanked everyone for volunteering to bring food and/or serve.
- Denyse Rodgers reported for Sandy Bennett, Treasurer, that we currently have 162 paying members with dues income of \$4,050. Several newcomers have joined as well, but their first year dues are waived. There is actually over \$15,000 in the round table account, but the dues income is used entirely to cover budgetary items.
- Paulette Edwards, Publicity Chair, stated that a picture of Alice Starr and others would run in the Friends and Neighbors section of the *Waco Tribune-Herald* on Sunday, Sept. 26, to promote the Membership Tea. She is working with Paul Carr, who oversees *The Lariat*, to ensure coverage of the event in that publication. In addition, a photo will run in the winter edition of *Baylor News*. Bruce Kabat has assured her he will have a photographer available at the Tea to take photos to appear in the *Waco Tribune-Herald* and the *Waco Today*.
- Chris Wilkins reported on the budget and said the goal is to reach 200 paying members and it is hoped that we reach that number from additional members joining at the Membership Tea. She went over the budget with the group. Marilyn then called for a motion to approve the budget. Jane Gunn made the motion, and Denyse Rodgers seconded.
- Anita Rolf reported that the December 2 Christmas program is on schedule and her committee is working diligently to plan it. Co-chair, Pat Busby was unable to attend.
- Jane Gunn reported on her progress thus far with the Nov. 16 International Student Thanksgiving Dinner. She is working on how to make the event different and special, and she said she welcomes ideas from the group.
- Lorin Matthews reported that the Sunday, Oct. 10 Ice Cream Social to be held at her home is for Newcomers with round table officers also invited.
- Marilyn reported for Jennifer Borderud that she will be sending regular requests for newsletter items. Jennifer will email the newsletter the 1st week of every month.
- Madelyn Jones reported for the Scholarship Silent Auction committee. They are still in need of committees to volunteer to put together themed baskets, and they still welcome donations of empty baskets which their committee will fill to sell.
- Marilyn reported for Laura Sumrall that the yearbook is at printing procurement and will be available for distribution at the Membership Tea.

- Carolyn Keathley brought forth the idea of doing a Round Table Cookbook, and said she had done some research into creating a hardcover, spiral-bound book. She will present this information to the group at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Eichelberger, President

Amber Adamson, Recording Secretary

Angela Funai, Corresponding Secretary