

**Girl Scouts of Connecticut
Regional Delegate Meeting Minutes
April 2, 2008**

**Regions: New London, Tolland, and Windham Counties
North Windham Service Center**

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m. by Peggy Jarrell. Introductions were made.

There are three regions present tonight: New London with Diana Ingraham as Regional Chair, Windham with Caroline Sloat as Regional Chair, and Tolland with no Regional Chair at this time. Delegates will be elected for all three regions and a Regional Chair needs to be elected tonight.

Chief Executive Officer Jennifer Smith Turner gave a short welcome.

Jackie Bennett, 2nd Vice President, the Board of Directors/Governance, gave a brief synopsis of her background and an overview of the structure and flow of governance for Girl Scouts of Connecticut.

The Service Unit Representative brings issues to the Delegates, who in turn bring them to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors gives policy to the Delegates, who pass it on to the Representatives to share with their Service Units.

The website has an overview of the Delegate job description and structure. The By-Laws state that all members aged 14 years and older are permitted to vote for the Delegates. The term for a Delegate is three years. This first year there will be terms ranging from one to three years so that the terms will be staggered. After this first year, as terms expire, the subsequent term will be three years. This will maintain continuity with the Delegates as some leave and new ones are elected.

The Delegates will vote for Members of the Board of Directors and also vote on changes to the By-Laws. The Regional Chair will be the Delegates' link to the Board of Directors. The location of the meetings will be determined by the Regional Chair in each area. There will be two meetings annually as well as the Annual Meeting that the Delegates will be required to attend. The Service Unit Representatives should plan on attending these meetings, but could receive the information from the meetings directly from the Delegate.

A question was raised as to the procedure for nominations from the floor, as there were not enough candidates to fill all Delegate positions. Jackie explained that a vote should be taken on those candidates currently on the ballot. After the initial vote, nominations could be taken for any openings still remaining. Then a vote would be taken on those candidates.

It was noted that the Board of Directors will set the agenda for the Delegate meetings but would not themselves be attending. The Regional Chair for each area would be charged with running the area meeting with the Delegates.

It was also noted that non-troop affiliated adults were not receiving information from the Council. This is being dealt with.

The date for the meeting to elect the National Delegates will be on Wednesday, April 30 at a place to be announced at a later date. It will be in the Cromwell area.

The meeting broke for elections of Delegates by region.

The meeting reconvened at 7:50 pm with the following results.

New London – Regional Chair: Diana Ingraham

Delegates: Carol Day, Judy Gaetano, Dawn Hooper, Julie Evans (one year term) and Sue Wilbur

Windham – Regional Chair: Caroline Sloat

Delegates: Merilis Huff, Tracy Lambert and Caroline Sloat

Tolland – Regional Chair: Sherri French

Delegates: Kathleen Hartwell, Tina Pierce and Sherri French

It was noted that we are currently the fifth largest council and, at the conclusion of the mergers, we will be the 12th out of 100 councils nationwide.

There was a question about the forms online. The Council is currently working on getting the forms into a format that may be filled out online and submitted without first printing them.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:06 pm

**Girl Scouts of Connecticut
Regional Delegate Meeting Minutes
April 1, 2008**

**Region: Litchfield County
Torrington Service Center**

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. Peggy Jerrell introduced Board of Directors members Jackie Bennett, Anne Hayes, Karen Hoffman and Nancy Strini and Regional Chair Loretta Mele.

Jennifer Smith Turner, Chief Executive Officer, was introduced and spoke on the merger and realignment process. She stressed how much we have accomplished in such a short period of time.

We are at the end of a successful cookie sale. The results of the favorite cookie vote will be announced on April 17th at the Capitol.

Jennifer then thanked all the volunteers for their continued support. She is very pleased that the girls are continuing to receive the quality programming Girl Scouting provides.

Jackie Bennett spoke on governance. She shared her personal story about starting as a Girl Scout leader, moving on to Service Unit Manager, then to the Board of Directors and the CRC By-Laws Committee. She is still learning about the structure of the regions and districts in Girl Scouts of Connecticut.

Service Unit Representatives are key volunteers, the link between the Board and the Service Unit members. Members aged 14 years and older are eligible to vote for Delegates. The number of Delegates is based on the number of members in each area. Service Unit Representatives report to Delegates, then Regional Chairs, then the Board. Jackie said to feel free to share operational concerns as well as policy questions with the Board. They will direct the concerns to the correct departments. There is more information on governance on the gssoft.org website.

The responsibilities of Service Unit Representatives are outlined in the By-Laws. They are elected for a three-year term and the number of Representatives is based on membership numbers. Statewide, there will be approximately 100 Representatives. Representatives are the local voice of the membership. There will be four Delegates from Litchfield County. The Delegates stay in close contact with the Service Unit Representatives to bring questions to the Board.

Loretta Mele was selected by the Board of Directors to be the Regional Chair for Litchfield County. The membership will have more of a vote in the next term. The membership can recommend a Regional Chair in the future. The terms will vary for the Delegates and will be staggered so there is a new person coming in each year.

At 6:45 pm, Christine Thomas joined the meeting via telephone. A quorum was met. Loretta Mele relayed the information to Christine on the phone.

With no further nominations from the floor, a verbal vote was taken. **By unanimous decision, Nanette Brodeur, Aurora Daly, Loretta Mele and Christine Thomas were elected as Regional Delegates.**

Evaluations were distributed. The meeting adjourned at 7 p.m.

**Girl Scouts of Connecticut
Regional Delegate Meeting Minutes
April 8, 2008**

**Region: Hartford County
Hartford Service Center**

(Submitted by Loretta Lincoln, Membership and Marketing Manager)

Board Chair Peggy Jerrell called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m. and welcomed the attendees on behalf of the Board members. Jennifer Smith Turner, Chief Executive Office, greeted everyone. Each Girl Scout member, Service Unit Representative/Delegate nominee, staff and other Board members introduced herself/himself.

Jackie Bennett, Second Vice Chair on the Board responsible for Governance, provided an overview of the governance structure, roles of the Service Unit Representatives, Council Delegates and Regional Chairs.

- She indicated that prior to the merger in Connecticut, four of the five Councils used the Delegate system.
- The Service Unit members were advised to record questions on the post-its provided for the “parking lot” for further discussion.
- Attendees were asked to review the one page summary of the “Girl Scouts of Connecticut Governance System” which depicted the various levels set forth in the By-Laws (i.e., Voting Members, Regional Chairs, Council Delegates, Service Unit Representatives, all registered girls and adults.) She indicated the Hartford Region has 16 Delegates. She also explained that the number of Service Unit Representatives is based on the total number of registered girls in each Service Unit, and the process is in place to allow Representatives to vote and have an opportunity to share input from the Service Units. The communication flow will be as follows: Service Unit Representatives→Council Delegates→Regional Chair (Susan Barrett) →Jackie Bennett→Board.
- Susan Barrett is the Acting Regional Chair for the Hartford Region until Marianne Downie returns from maternity leave.

Questions from volunteers and answers by Jackie

1. *How can all towns be heard if they are not represented?*

Delegates will cover certain towns and will speak for them. Efforts were made to have all Service Units represented.

2. *How were volunteers notified about the process of selecting Delegates and how was it done?*

This was a self-nomination process and the information was provided to local Service Units through Membership and Marketing Managers. Also, there is governance information posted on the Girl Scouts of Connecticut website. The By-Laws allow for five Delegates-at-large to be appointed by the Board of Directors, which will help outreach groups and others not represented to participate. The broader perspective at heart is not an individual but Service Unit perspective.

The maximum term for Delegates will be three years on a staggered rotation and will be negotiated with the Regional Chair, which will allow people to build up knowledge and develop an information base. The staggered rotation will be as follows:

- 1/3 will serve one year
- 1/3 will serve two years
- 1/3 will serve three years

The Regional Chairs are appointed by the Board of Directors.

Please refer to page 17 (Article VII, Number 9) of the Girl Scouts of Connecticut By-Laws for an explanation of the term, election of Service Unit Representatives and their responsibilities. An explanation of the Delegates is on pages 1 through 4 of the By-Laws and the Regional Chair responsibility is outlined on pages 16 and 17. Also, there is a description of the Regions on pages 14 and 16.

Jennifer Smith Turner talked about the Girl Scouts of Connecticut operational challenges and successes. The organization became operational effective October 1, 2007. She shared her perspective that the Girl Scouts of Connecticut is as though it is under construction and the organization is "turning the corner." She shared some of the successes.

- Camp brochures: 13 of the 19 properties will be operational this summer. We are in the process of hiring 400 staff for the summer camps.
- QSP: After receiving feedback, the process was changed for depositing gross receipts in one bank and issuing the troop checks from the Council.
- Cookie Sales: 2.8 million boxes were sold including the Election Day sales. On March 1, 2008 there were 2.6 million boxes of cookies delivered from the Amodio site in New Britain. There was television coverage of this event featuring Jennifer, who talked about the cookie sales.

Questions from volunteers and answers by Jennifer

1. *Can there be another cookie booth?*

Yes, we can have another cookie booth.

2. *Can cookie sales be staggered at different times of the year?*

A full analysis will begin in May 2008.

3. *Can an ad be placed to thank businesses (e.g., Stop and Shop) for supporting Girl Scouts doing cookie booths?*

The idea sounds good and will be considered as an option.

One of the volunteers indicated that after seeing the cookie ads on television some Boy Scouts asked her what is the Girl Scouts doing in Hartford? Jennifer reported that Adams-Knight approached her to offer pro-bono ads for Girl Scouts of Connecticut this year. Each year an organization is selected for this opportunity and Girl Scouts was fortunate to receive about \$200,000 of in-kind services.

Jennifer mentioned that Eastern Mountain Sports gave a \$10,000 contribution to Girl Scouts of Connecticut.

The State of Connecticut's Department of Children and Family Services approached Girl Scouts of Connecticut and asked Jennifer about their girls participating in our organization. A plan is being discussed to evaluate how to implement this.

Jackie Bennett indicated there is a quorum at the meeting and asked Margaret Tantillo to verify whether Sue Ahrens is "on as a Delegate." Margaret confirmed that Sue was listed on the Ballot to Elect Regional Delegates (yellow document.) Prior to the election, Jackie asked each Delegate nominee to stand and introduce herself to the group.

Susan Barrett monitored the voting and counting of the ballots. She announced the results of the tally, indicating the following nominees will be Delegates for Girl Scouts of Connecticut. There were 17 names and only 16 Delegates were elected for the Hartford Region. Jackie Mandyck was on the ballot, but was not elected as a Delegate in the voting process.

1. Sue Ahrens
2. Jeanne Ambrosio
3. Doreen Bonner

4. Debra Borrero
5. Rene Daguerre-Bradford
6. Tina Greaves
7. Bridget Healy
8. Ann Jurkiewicz
9. Lisa Kall
10. Cheryl Masi
11. Cheryl McGuff
12. Nancy Olson
13. Joan Piercey
14. Cathy Schneider
15. Ann Smith
16. Linda Zimmer

Questions from volunteers and answers by Jackie after the election process

1. Does each Service Unit need a Representative to attend the meetings?

Service Unit Representatives can come to the meeting, but it is intended for the Delegates.

2. After Jackie's response, Susan Barrett asked volunteers what will make this work for leaders?

Leaders' feedback to Susan's question:

- Don't schedule too many meetings because leaders are very busy. Consider meeting on a quarterly basis.
- Email is good. Try to find a way to handle decisions at meetings even if there isn't a quorum in attendance.
- Not everyone uses a computer to access information. It will be nice to provide an option for adults to decide. Maybe there can be an additional \$10.00 fee to cover postage for Council mailings.
- Send agendas before the meeting dates for those who want to address issues in advance.
- Some leaders don't care about governance, but want to hear discussions about what is good for the girls at the Delegate meetings.
- Governance issues should be discussed at the Delegate meetings, not operational topics.

Susan indicated that meetings can be painful, but everyone can decide what would be most helpful. It shouldn't be all top-down, and input from the leaders is vital. Mailings can be sent to Delegates who indicate this as the preference; otherwise, the default is to send information via email. A merger is equivalent to getting a new troop in September where no one is sure they like or can trust each other, but by June they are all tight. It may take time and working together to see that everyone wants the same thing even though they use different ways to get it. Leaders should share their feelings with the Delegates to be sure their concerns make it through the process.

Jackie indicated that every month or bi-monthly, there will be memos from the Regional Chair to communicate Board updates to the Delegates, but it is still important for people to come together as a group. There may be the option of Delegates doing a conference call for the meetings if they can't attend on a specific date. The Regional Chair can table operational topics for discussion after governance issues are completed at the meetings. Also, there will be a set agenda that will be flexible based on regional concerns. She indicated that in two weeks the Delegates would vote for National Delegates to represent Girl Scouts of Connecticut at the National Convention.

Peggy advised that maybe someone from the Service Unit who thinks it is fun could serve as a Service Unit Representative. Also, the agenda will be the same for the entire state and Delegates can select a meeting date and time that is convenient to their schedule.

Additional questions and issues by volunteers

- Whether it works best or not, communication has suffered because many messages are coming from the legacy CT Trails Council. People don't feel their views are being heard at CT Valley.
- Focus is needed on healing raw feelings, perceptions or misconceptions about programming and operation. If we don't have volunteers, we don't need Delegates and Regional Chairs.
- Where is the information on Delegates? Can it be shared? It seems that the voting process was rushed by asking volunteers to review information in two minutes before they voted for the Delegates instead of providing the information in advance of the Regional meeting.

Jackie advised that Margaret Tantillo would share the biographies of Delegates. The process at tonight's meeting was a starting point and will not be the absolute way to do it in the future. Delegates will receive a profile of all Delegates, towns, a packet of information they will need for the next meeting and a request to select their preference as to how to receive future communications. The future meeting dates are as follows.

- April 30, 2008 (6:00 pm) at the Crowne Plaza in Cromwell to vote for the National Delegates who will attend the National Convention. Information will be sent to Delegates ten days before the meeting date.
- October 1, 2008 will be the Corporation's First Annual meeting. The time and location will be announced at a later date.

Peggy Jerrell indicated that the Girl Scout membership fee would be one of topics discussed at the National Convention.

Evaluations for tonight's meeting were completed and collected.

The meeting was adjourned by Susan Barrett at 7:40 pm. She indicated that the questions posted on the "parking lot" could be discussed after the meeting with anyone who wants to do so.

**Girl Scouts of Connecticut
Regional Delegate Meeting Minutes
March 31, 2008**

**Region: Middlesex and New Haven County
North Haven Service Center**

Peggy Jerrell called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

Special introductions:

- Denise Carter: Chair, Middlesex County Delegates
- Karen Hoffman: Chair, New Haven County Delegates
- Carrie Witt: Board Member
- Barbara Fernandez: Board Member
- Audrey Harrell: Past Board Member & President, Legacy Council, Connecticut Trails
- Jackie Bennett: Chair, By-Laws Committee

Jennifer Smith Turner, Chief Executive Officer, welcomed everyone.

Jennifer noted that this meeting is yet another historic event for Girl Scouts of Connecticut as we advance toward putting in place a volunteer governance structure that will define who we are and who we will be.

The meeting's focus was governance with an opportunity for questions regarding operations.

Overview of the Governance Structure – Jackie Bennett

Jackie reviewed the importance of the governance process and highlighted the following:

- The election of Delegates is the next step in the governance process.
- This process is ongoing.
- We will be working toward finding the answers together.
- Volunteers will retain their voice in the operational process on the governance side and actively participate in the decision making process.
- It will be a nimble process.
- The local voice will not be lost.

The election of the Delegates is open to all present at the meeting who are registered volunteers and girls aged 14 years or older.

Everyone's attention was called to a copy of the Girl Scout of Connecticut Governance System handout in their meeting packet. (See attachment.)

Throughout the process the channels of communication need to be strong and supported at all levels of governance.

The By-Laws of Girl Scouts of Connecticut were reviewed with the following being highlighted:

Service Unit Representatives (page 17)

- Path of communication will be from volunteers to Service Unit Representatives to the Delegates to the Delegate Chair and back through those channels.
- Regular meetings will be held to form a strategic plan to meet the needs and serve girls at the local level.
- The more people are involved and the greater the input, the better the organization.

Delegates (pages 1-4)

- Delegates are 2/3 of the voting members.
- Delegates elect the Board Members and Board Nominating Committee, and amend By-Laws.
- Meetings will be held three times annually, with one of the meetings being the Annual Meeting.

Clarification of terms of Delegates: Delegates will be assigned alternating terms of service at this time. Because all Delegates are being elected at the same time, alternating terms of one, two and three years will ensure that the Delegate body remains intact with a mixture of new and seasoned Delegates. After the initial election process, Delegates will be elected for three year terms.

The Governance Structure design is a two tier system to ensure open communication between the Council and volunteers and girls, and from volunteers and girls to the Council.

Service Unit Representatives will attend meetings, share knowledge and bring input, questions and concerns from volunteers and girls to their Delegates. Service Unit Representatives are the link between the volunteers and girls in the Service Units to the Delegate level.

Delegates will be serving on a regional level within assigned counties.

Middlesex County: three Delegates

New Haven County: 12 Delegates

Elections of Delegates

A clarification in the election process was noted by Jackie. Board Members are not eligible to be Delegates.

New Haven County Delegate Election

As a result of the above clarification, the New Haven County list of Delegates was amended removing the following people: Karen Hoffman, Peggy Jerrell and Rama Sudhakar.

The correction of an incorrect name was also made: Diane Siena was corrected to Debbie Siena.

With the removal of the Board Members on the New Haven County slate of Delegates the total number of nominees was 12. There were no additional nominations from the floor. The amended slate of nominees were: Katherine Carroll, Brenda Cayer-McCarthy, Jessica Chernak, Shermaine Edmonds, Diane Foell, Anne Godsey, Patricia Plankey, Carole Roy, Saba Shahid, Debbie Siena, Ann Straut-Esdson, Mary Tesla.

An open vote was conducted and the slate was elected as presented.

Middlesex County Election

There were four nominees for Middlesex County: Denise Carter, Laura Linder, Maria Northrip, Linda Savitsky.

A ballot vote was conducted to elect the three Delegates for Middlesex County. The elected Delegates were Maria Northrip, Laura Linder, and Denise Carter

Each group of Regional Delegates met to schedule their meeting dates with the Regional Chairs (meeting info needed)

Updates

Jennifer thanked those in attendance for their support and the work that takes place on a daily basis on behalf of Girl Scouts of Connecticut.

The reality of operations for Girl Scouts of Connecticut began on October 1, 2007 with systems having been implemented to move us forward to where we are today.

Accomplishments noted:

- Cookie Program: the activities that have taken place to organize and carry out the Cookie Program with amazing results. To date, 2.8 million boxes of cookies have been sold!

- Summer Camp Program and Book: recognizing the effort that it has taken to bring together the programs being offered at each location, staffing and all the camps now available and completion of the Girl Scouts of Connecticut Summer Camp 2008 book.
- Girl Scout Days at local malls: the commitment of volunteers to conduct and participate in these events and as positive role models to girls.

Upcoming Information:

- Council Kick-Off: August 12, 2008 at the Aqua Turf. Highlights will include information on the new Pathways and Leadership Programs
- GSUSA Leadership Study Results: How leadership is defined by society, how girls and boys view themselves in leadership roles, and how Girl Scouts can use the findings to support and retain girls through targeted leadership opportunities.
- Strategic Plan for 2009

Evaluations were distributed for completion by participants and collected.

Middlesex and New Haven Delegates met briefly to set their meeting schedule.

Future Meeting: Wednesday, April 30th, 6-8 p.m.
 Council Delegates to elect the National Delegates
 Location to be posted April 7th on our website at www.gsofct.org

**Wilton Service Center
Governance Meeting
April 10, 2008**

Board President Peggy Jarrell welcomed and thanked everyone for coming, and asked for all present to introduce themselves along with where they are located. Jennifer introduced Ellen Davis, the new CFO.

Jackie Bennett began by thanking everyone again for coming to the meeting. She explained her role on the Board and gave an overview of the governance structure. Jackie asked that all operating questions be written and that an effort would be made this evening to answer as many of them as possible. Those who send questions after the meeting will receive a written response.

The purpose of tonight's meeting is to vote for Regional Delegates, who will represent their respective regions. An explanation was given of the role of the SU Representative as a voice of the SU. Delegates are the next component of the governance structure.

The Corporation is comprised of the Board, the Nominating Committee and the Delegates. They, in turn, will be voting and making decisions on behalf of the Corporation. The Regional Chair for Fairfield Region/County is Teresa Younger, who was present.

Reference was made to the By-Laws regarding the responsibilities of the SU Representative (page 17, By-Laws.) which indicated the primary function of the role is to communicate with the SU and the delegates.

Responsibilities of those serving as Delegate are found on page 1 of the By-Laws. Delegates may serve one, two or three-year terms, the intent being the replacement of one-third of the delegates annually. When appropriate, it is hoped that much of the communication with the delegates will be done electronically.

Question: What are the delegate responsibilities for this year?

The National Delegates needed to be elected for the upcoming National Convention in October. Delegates will need to get information from the SU based on questions that will be on the table for discussion at the National Convention.

Question: How will it be determined as to who will serve one, two or three years?

A discussion between Regional Chair and delegates will decide who will serve which length of term.

Question: How did we arrive at the Regional Chair?

The Regional Chair is appointed by the Board (By-Laws, page 16.) Acknowledgement was made that the governance process has been a bit slow. For the sake of expediency, the selections were made and approved by the Board.

Question: How long is the Regional Chair term?

The term is for three years per the By-Laws. It is very possible that some of the eight Regional chairs will remain for the entire three year term.

Peggy pointed out that SU representative and delegate recruitment was very slow because the Regional Chairs had to be appointed by the Board first.

Teresa Younger introduced herself and shared her background. She was born and raised in South Dakota and moved to Stamford about 10 years ago. Teresa received her Gold Award as an older girl. She worked running a camp for children. Teresa attended the 75th Convention as a Girl Scout. She was nominated as the Executive Director of the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women. She has also been the Executive Director of the ACLU for the State was then sent to the National Office. She has an office in Hartford but travels around the state so she is available to meet with Delegates.

Question: Will the Regional Chair be the venue to which SUs can bring their questions and concerns?

The hope is that once the delegates are elected, they will work with the Regional Chair and will break up the responsibilities of the delegates for each of the SUs.

Question: Will there be a listing of the regional chairs and will delegate information be available?

Yes, it will soon be coming for all delegates and regional chairs as this is the final governance meeting for the state and the final group of delegates is elected.

Question: What is the difference between the SU Manager and the SU Representative?

The difference is based on policy vs. operations. An example from Southwestern used. Explained was the process of making an operational change as a result of a policy change. A policy change, as requested by the CEO, now requires background checks on all volunteers; this, in turn, has necessitated an operational change.

Question: What is the relationship between the SU Manager and the SU Representative?

A discussion ensued regarding what is required of a SU Representative relationship. Is it appropriate for someone no longer a leader to serve as a SU Representative? The goal is for communication to be on an ongoing basis so that the rep can have an ongoing dialogue with the Service Unit and the leaders. A discussion took place regarding who is the appropriate SU Representative. The Membership & Marketing Managers need to take the information regarding the role of the SU Representative back to the SU Managers and the SU.

Question: Is the Regional Chair a paid position?

No, it is a volunteer position

Question: How many delegates are there for Fairfield County?

There are 15.

Those in attendance were asked if there were any questions regarding the number of delegates and the list of delegate nominees. Lorraine Westervelt from Fairfield asked to be added to the

list. She indicated that she had mailed in her application for delegate. Her name was added to the ballot. All of the delegate nominees introduced themselves.

Question: Why is Teresa on the ballot if she is the Regional Chair?

The Regional Chair is not a voting position. The Regional Chair could be elected by the delegates and may or may not have a vote.

Question: Must we vote for 15 delegates?

You may vote for less than 15, but if you vote for more than 15 delegates then your ballot will be thrown out.

Question: Can Teresa serve as a Delegate at Large?

Board appointed positions to take care of the areas that are not represented by the delegates and/or are underserved areas.

Question: Are there any alternate delegate positions?

There are no provisions for alternate delegate positions in the By-Laws. All elected delegates are expected to work to make the meetings. In the past there were concerns that the alternate delegates were not able to come with an informed voice.

Question: When will the regional meetings be?

The actual dates are to be determined, but the plan is to hold them according to the same timeline across the state for meetings. The plan is for there to be regional meetings.

Question: Can a person that works in one place and live in another and serve as a "double delegate"? No. Each person must choose one location to represent, either where they live or where they work.

A vote was taken and ballots collected by the tellers to be counted.

Jennifer Smith Turner thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Jennifer shared that this has been an "interesting six months" and touched on some of the challenges moving forward.

There was an update re: cookies: 2.8 million boxes were sold. Jennifer shared how amazing it was to have a delivery of 2.6 million boxes. QSP brought in about \$1.2 million. GSUSA conducted a research study re: what interests girls about leadership. Boys and girls are different as they age with boys growing to desire to become the boss in command and control. In contrast, girls see leadership as service to community. According to a GSUSA study, girls aren't as interested in command and control forms of leadership, preferring community service, travel etc.

Questions for Jennifer:

Question: How did cookies and QSP look compared to the previous five individual Councils?

It was about the same; the expected drop turned out to be insignificant. Registrations are off slightly as compared to the total of the five Councils with about 1,000 fewer girls and adults.

Question: What other policy influences do you see and how will you get their opinions?
Organizations such as the Dept. of Children and Families can change legislation.

Question: Will elected delegates have any input on operational issues such as the cookie program, camp operations, etc?

There will be input and they will be sought after to ask the questions about operational issues.

Question: Committee? How will they be found? How can the voice of the leaders be heard by the Committee?

J: Product sale put together plans by three day conference at Macy. Plans are in the works for meeting with the baker, key volunteers and staff and is being coordinated by Margaret Hansen-Kaplan. The meeting will be publicized through E-blast.

Concern was expressed about people not having their voices heard because the meetings are too far away. Example: concerns for Spring Sensations being too expensive, concern that some expenditures are not appropriate, concern re: training supplies, etc.

Question: Can meetings be held via conference calls?

Webinaires and conference calls can be done from home to cut down on travel.

Those in attendance were asked if they had any more questions. They were then asked to complete the evaluation forms while ballots were still tabulated.

Slate of delegates was announced: Teresa read the names of the delegates elected

Doon, Alyssa, Karen, Linda, Diane, Judy, Ginger, Sarah, Barbara, Cindy, Marty, Barbara, Karen, Teresa, Lorraine

Delegates were asked to stay a few minutes.

Final Announcements-

- Meeting on April 30th and October 1st ...everyone is invited but only delegates will vote. Materials will be sent to the delegates ten days prior.
- April 30th meeting will be in Cromwell at 7pm
- Corporate meeting: the only business will be to elect the National Delegates but there may be more information to follow.
- The October 1st meeting will be the Annual Meeting where Board is elected. Another two to three meetings will be scheduled to talk about issues before the October 1st.
- Plan is for another SU Rep and delegate meeting to share ideas and ask opinions about National agenda.
- SU Reps can come to all regional meetings.
- Regional meeting will be held to discuss the items on the National agenda.

Concerns shared about the National Convention site, hotel accommodations, etc.

A question was raised re: a plan for two regional meetings prior to October 1st -- one before school is out and one in early fall. Delegates were asked to stay to tentatively plan the two meetings.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.