

SAUGATUCK WOMEN'S CLUB EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES – AUG 12, 2026

Quorum and Call to Order – Cathy Brockington called the meeting to order at the Saugatuck First Congregational Church on August 12, 2026, at 10:08 AM.

Attendance: Cathy Brockington, Susan Pastor, Lora Keller, Merijean Webb, Linda Sandberg, Becky Siewert, Karen Wessel, Cindy Raue, Nyla Hensley, Gail Zandstra, Bonnie Lowe, and Tanya Sheridan. Absentees included Stephanie Burt, Karen Killackey, Michele Mabele, and Leah Root.

Consent Agenda:

1. Minutes from June Meeting
2. Storm Window Replacement—est cost \$300

Lora moved to approve the minutes with corrections and the consent agenda, second by Susan. Motion approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Lora Keller

Beginning Balance	\$33,475.99
Credits	\$7,230.92
Debits	\$1,104.53
Ending Balance	\$39,602.38

Lora reported that she created a five-year budget plan for building repairs and the annual 2027 budget plan. Susan Pastor, Cathy Brockington, and Bonnie Lowe assigned to review the plans created.

Lora discussed insurance for the SWC with Mark Bekken. He updated the policy details based on an updated sketch provided him. The replacement estimation was \$995,813. Mark recommended the building limit be raised from \$598,200 to \$1,000,000. The premium will increase approximately \$1,000 from \$2451 to \$3451. The SWC will need to pay around \$450 now to finish out this year until we renew the current policy. At the suggestion of Bonnie Lowe, Lora will investigate insurance rebates for the significant improvements currently being made to the building.

President's Report: Cathy Brockington

Cathy reannounced that SWC was recipient of ACCF \$10,000 award for our building projects.

Per Cathy, the Annual Meeting will be on October 8, 2026, and the annual reports are due no later than September 20 to include what the committees have done over this past year.

Determined today that nominating committee is not necessary as all elected positions are filled and current people holding the positions will be staying for 2027.

Vice President's Report: Susan Pastor

Susan reported that the roofing of the SWC would be completed by Sharp Roofers. Work begins September 14 and most likely be completed in 2 to 3 days. The necessary tree trimming and a tree removal will be completed by Amaddo.

Lora Keller moved to spend up to \$32,500 on building repairs, roofs, gutters and tree trimming with the help of Friends for installation of Roofing. (\$23,000 roof, \$1,000 for tree trimming, \$8,500 for lining of gutters and installing facing and downspouts) Seconded by Lynda Sandberg. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion prior to voting by the board included the following: The gutters will be lined and painted a copper tone, aluminum material. An example of such work is located at Kate Quick's home on the corner of Griffith and Hoffman.

A different path of taking care of the gutters had been examined from the recommendation of Micheal Rodriguez of Restore. Discovered the final cost was more than estimated. Additionally, Micheal Rodriguez updated Susan the following:

1. The structural bracing design was completed, though there are cost concerns.
2. Design team is currently working on some details to find potential cost savings.
3. Plan is going to be shared with Susan this week.
4. Two contractors, RAM and EV Construction, are on notice to bid.

Karen Wessel commented that an email will be going out for the salad luncheon and attendance would be encouraged because this expenditure will need a vote and approval by the membership.

The Historic District Permit Application, both roof and gutters, and Right Away Permit Application, roof project, have been submitted to the City of Saugatuck by Lora Keller.

Rental Report: Bonnie Lowe

Future rentals are attached to minutes.

Bonnie would like to start a wish list of items needed regarding rentals including a loop system for the hearing-impaired. Susan Wolf, a new member, has volunteered to help with this plan.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Programs: Karen Wessel-report

Special program set for Thursday, August 13, 1:30 PM at Outdoor Discovery Center in Holland.

September programs on target: September 10, Salad Luncheon (will send mass email by August 25) and performance by Reactors Group. Lecture September 24 by Dr. Michael Nassaney, "The Women of Fort St. Joseph".

Fund Raising: On behalf of Karen Wessel, Lora Keller reported \$500 generated on July 4 event, selling water and flags and snacks. Friends served coffee two times this Summer for the Saugatuck Art Club, bringing in \$500.

Karen Wessel shared some fundraising that is coming up this year including the products from Charleston Wrap - online shopping with a 30 to 40 percent return to the SWC. Karen is also leading the way for Christmas Tree Decorating. Cindy Raue is leading the club's holiday decorating efforts by arranging trees throughout the Club and coordinating their sale to visitors during the season. A Santa Claus has been selected and SWC is partnering with Christian Neighbors as a community outreach fund raising. The tree sale will start Friday, November 20, 2026, through the weekend. There will be an art fair at the SWC on November 27 and 28.

Outreach: Karen Wessel let us know that the book club will meet on the first Thursday of each month. Sent notification to all members to join.

In process of organizing other interest groups as voted on by members.

Donations to Christian Neighbors on hiatus until September meeting.

Participated in the river cleanup in June. Distributed Water Safety Guides to local hotels, BnB's, etc. Will plan to get them into the schools by the end of May next year.

No notifications of ill members at present.

Art: no report

Archivist: Tanya Sheridan & Nyla Hensley-no report

Hostess Coordinator: Gail Zandstra-no report

Membership: Lynda Sandberg and Becky Siewert (Website Report)

Lynda Sandberg reported SWC membership at 84.

Becky reported that the website is ready for payments. There will be several helpful updates to the site that will contain information on the calendar, and public events going on at the SWC.

Publicity: Stephanie Burt— No report

Scholarships: C Brockington & K. Killackey—All checks are at Universities for Fall Term. Lora Keller read an attached letter from Francis Bullinger, recipient of scholarship from the SWC. Cathy Brockington noted that she intends to meet with the principal to encourage the scholarship committee to review their criteria and reduce the emphasis on athletics.

Volunteer Hours Coordinator: Nyla Hensley - No report, but she did pass out forms to complete for volunteer hours, necessary to have in case the SWC gets audited.

SWC Liaison to “Friends: Lora Keller - With the \$10,000 grant, Friends has approximately \$40,000 in their treasury to help with the building repairs and scholarships.

Lora also read a thoughtful letter from Judy Graaf, a member of the Women Who Care, offering a personal, sizable donation to our building fund.

OLD BUSINESS:

AUG 13 Outdoor Discovery Program on site discussed under programs.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lora moved to raise dues to \$50 for 2027, second by Susan Pastor. Motion Passed.

Lora gave 3 good reasons for raising dues which included:

1. It would help the treasury to cover expenses incurred from online credit card transaction charges.
2. It would help the treasury since we changed the age requirements and amount due from seniors.
3. No dues have been increased for at least ten years.

Bonnie Lowe will let Chamber Music know that SWC is unable to store their acoustic shell.

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Next board meeting will be held at Bonnie Lowe's home, September 9, 2026, at 10:30 AM because of an SWC rental. November board meeting will begin at 9:00 AM at the SWC on November 11.

Lora moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:48 AM and seconded by Susan Pastor.