



## Call to Conference

Dear District 4 Zontians,

Call to Conference is the ZI required preparation for Conference. Contained here is important information on voting issues. Please read it over and discuss with your other members at your September Meeting. Then, your delegate will know her Club's opinions.

I am very much looking forward to seeing many of you at our Conference. Already almost 140 are registered but there is room for more. And you know we want You!

Happy Centennial,

Governor Bonnie

## 2019 ZONTA District 4 Centennial Conference



Celebrating 100 Years of Service

September 27 – 29, 2019

**Hyatt Regency Buffalo**

**2 Fountain Plaza**

**Buffalo, NY 14202**

(877) 803-7534

\$159 per Room Night US Before 08/25/19

(Plus Tax & Fees)

Reference "Zonta Club Block"

<https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/group-booking/BUFFA/G-ZONC>

Early bird Registration Deadline

July 15<sup>th</sup>

Registration Deadline August 24<sup>th</sup>

### Conference Registration

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Office or Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Highest Office Held: \_\_\_\_\_

Check if applicable

First Timer  Delegate  Alternate

List Food Restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

### Prices

1. Conference - Meals & Gala Included
  - Before July 15<sup>th</sup> \$ 225 US
2. Thursday International Reception 45 US
3. Friday Dinner Guest 55 US
4. Saturday Gala Guest 65 US
5. Zonta Store (fee per table) 12 US
6. Seneca Falls Tour 56 US
7. Buffalo Tour 24 US

Total Registration\* \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\* July 15<sup>th</sup> to August 24<sup>th</sup> \$260 US

Cancellation Fee – After 09/15/19 - \$50 US

If using PayPal additional processing fees will be added.

Canadian Checks include "Payable in US Funds"

Does not include Hotel Reservation.

## Draft Conference Overview

### Thursday September 26 to Sunday September 29, 2019

<u>Date</u>	<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>	<u>Function</u>	<u>Place</u>
<b>Thursday</b>	8:30 am	6:00 pm	Seneca Falls Tou	
	6:00 pm	9:00 pm	International Reception	Sungarden Room
<b>Friday</b>	8:30 am	noon	Buffalo Tour	
	Noon		Elected Board Meeting	
	Noon	3:00 pm	Zonta Store & Basket Raffles	Niagara Room
	1:00pm	3:30 pm	Registration & Credentials	Grand Ballroom Hall
	2:00 pm	2:30 pm	Delegates & Alternate Mtg.	Grand Ballroom
	2:00 pm	2:30 pm	First Timer Mtg.	Grand Ballroom
	3:00 pm		Assemble - Flag Entry Parade	Grand Ballroom Hall
	3:15 pm		First Business Session	Grand Ballroom
	7:00 pm		Dinner & Diva by Diva	Grand Ballroom
<b>Saturday</b>	7:00 am	8:30 am	Zonta Store & Basket Raffles	Niagara Room
	7:00 am	8:45 am	Registration & Credentials	Grand Ballroom Hall
	8:45 am	noon	Second Business Session	Grand Ballroom
	Noon	1:30 pm	Buffet Lunch	Grand Ballroom Hall
	1:30 pm	4:25 pm	Third Business Session	Grand Ballroom
	5:00 pm	6:30 pm	Zonta Store & Basket Raffles	Niagara Room
	6:00 pm	7:00 pm	Reception	Grand Ballroom Hall
	7:00 pm	10:00 pm	Gala Dinner & Entertainment	Grand Ballroom
<b>Sunday</b>	7:30 am	8:30 am	Breakfast Buffet	Grand Ballroom
	8:15 am	9:15 am	Zonta Store & Basket Raffles	Niagara Room
	8:30 am	9:30 am	Memorial Service	Grand Ballroom
	9:30 am	11:45 am	Fourth Business Session	Grand Ballroom
	Noon		Board & Chairs Lunch Mtg.	Niagara Room

### Speakers at Sessions

ZI Liaison Director Judy Gorton

D4 Centennial Honorees:

- Mary Travers Murphy – D4 New York State
- Susan Evans – D4 Pennsylvania State

**2016-2018 D4 Financial Statements Audited by Marcia Bliss**

DISTRICT 4 ZONTA INTERNATIONAL  
Biennial Statements of Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets - Modified Cash Basis  
May 31, 2018 and 2016

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2016</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	\$35,922	\$30,540
Deposits on Retreat and Conference	460	1,315
Total Current Assets	<u>36,382</u>	<u>31,855</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>\$36,382</u></u>	<u><u>\$31,855</u></u>
<u>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</u>		
LIABILITIES		
Deferred Dues Income	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$30</u>
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS		
General	27,382	22,825
Board Designated:		
Conference Reserve	4,000	4,000
Reserve	5,000	5,000
Total Unrestricted Net Assets	<u>36,382</u>	<u>31,825</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES and NET ASSETS	<u><u>\$36,382</u></u>	<u><u>\$31,855</u></u>

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DISTRICT 4 ZONTA INTERNATIONAL  
Biennial Statements of Support, Revenue, Expenses and  
Changes in Unrestricted Net Assets - Modified Cash Basis  
For the Bienniums Ended May 31, 2018 and 2016

	For the Biennium <u>6/1/16 to 5/31/18</u>	For the Biennium <u>6/1/14 to 5/31/16</u>
<b>SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>		
Per capita dues	\$25,770	\$26,382
Fundraising for ZIF	3,077	3,386
Miscellaneous	-	2,955
Interest income	95	75
	<u>28,942</u>	<u>32,798</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Area Directors	812	1,171
Awards and Gifts	820	790
Board Meetings	3,034	6,482
Conference	4,055	4,499
Convention	4,676	7,167
Funds to ZIF	3,077	3,386
Governor	2,789	1,931
Lt Governor	552	659
Membership	268	750
Office Expense	1,527	2,423
Other Committees	165	209
Public Relations	616	1,888
Secretary/Treasurer	81	27
Training Area Directors	645	396
Workshop	1,223	1,428
Z Club	45	85
	<u>24,385</u>	<u>33,291</u>
Total Expenses		
	<u>24,385</u>	<u>33,291</u>
Change in Net Assets	4,557	(493)
Unrestricted Net Assets, beginning	31,825	32,318
	<u>31,825</u>	<u>32,318</u>
<b>UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS, ending</b>	<u><u>\$36,382</u></u>	<u><u>\$31,825</u></u>



## Slate of Candidates from Nominating Chair Lori Robinson

**Governor** Janice Durmis  
**Lt. Governor** Sheena Poole  
**Treasurer** Nancy Peacock

### Area Directors

**Area 1:** Jane Newman  
**Area 2:** Marion Reeves  
**Area 3:** Nicki Inch  
Kyle Patterson

**Area 4:** Lindsay Edwards  
Mary Vacanti  
**Area 5:** No applications at this time  
**Area 6:** No applications at this time

### Vice Area Directors

**Area 1:** No candidates at this time  
**Area 2:** Margaret Geare  
**Area 3:** Kathryn Bunyan-McClendon

**Area 4:** Elaine Barkowski  
**Area 5:** No candidates at this time  
**Area 6:** No candidates at this time

### Nominating Committee

Diane Balaban	Jenny Johnston	Judy Powers
Brenda Graham	Nita McCown	Doreen Thompson
Karen Grant	Gina Orsini	Alyce Van Patten

## Workshops

1. Zonta Website Navigation – Frustrated to Confident  
“Bring laptop or tablet to a hands-on session.”
2. Zonta Club Lifecycle - Surviving to Thriving
3. Achieving Gender Equity
4. Invigorating Your Club!
5. The Marriage and Divorce Fund... An Expanded (and sometimes funny) Look at Our History

## Credentials - Information for Delegates, Alternates & Elected Board Members

From Credentials Chair Phyllis Dickinson

It is necessary that all delegates and alternates report to the Credentials Table immediately after registering. You will be given any information and materials needed. There will be a short meeting of all delegates and alternates Friday afternoon from 2:00 pm to 2:30 pm in the Grand Ballroom.

Each Delegate's vote represents the best option for her club. Her vote should reflect her discussion of the issues with her members at their September meeting as well as whatever new information is presented at Conference.

## **Contacts for Questions:**

Nancy Peacock ([napeacock@aol.com](mailto:napeacock@aol.com)) and Gail Willsky ([gwillsky@buffalo.edu](mailto:gwillsky@buffalo.edu))

Report to Conference of the 2018-2020  
 Zonta District 4 By-laws and Resolutions Committee  
 From Parliamentarian Kris Fletcher  
 Proposed Amendments to the Zonta International Bylaws

The following are the relevant provisions of the current documents with the words to be deleted or substituted ~~crossed out~~ on the left hand side and the proposed wording with changes and/or additions underlined on the right hand side. Page numbers in headings refer to the booklet on line version of the Zonta International By-laws.

<https://membership.zonta.org/Governance>.

Proposals are numbered and proposals pertaining to the same issues are grouped together.

If adopted, changes to the by-laws will be forwarded to Zonta International for consideration at the next convention.

Proposed Amendments to the By-laws of Zonta International

The following proposals pertain to election by “ballot vote” and allowing acclamations

**1.1 Article XIII, Districts, SECTION 6. Officers, (b) Election, page 13**

Present Wording	Proposed Wording
<p>b) <b>Election.</b> Officers, with the exception of the secretary, shall be elected at the district conference immediately preceding the convention. Election shall be by ballot vote of voting members present and voting. Area directors and/or vice area directors shall be elected by the delegates from the clubs in that area, either at the district conference, or, at the option of the district, at the area meeting immediately preceding the convention. Elections at area meetings shall be in accordance with the procedures in Article XIII, Section 11 (a)(4)(a).</p>	<p><b>b) Election.</b> Officers, with the exception of the secretary, shall be elected at the district conference immediately preceding the convention. <del>Election shall be by ballot vote of voting members present and voting.</del> <u>The election shall be by conference voting members.</u> Area directors and/or vice area directors shall be elected by the delegates from the clubs in that area, either at the district conference, or, at the option of the district, at the area meeting immediately preceding the convention. Elections at area meetings shall be in accordance with the procedures in Article XIII, Section 11 (a)(4)(a).</p>

**1.2 Article XIII, Districts, SECTION 14. Election, page 17**

Present Wording	Proposed Wording
<p>Election shall be by ballot vote, and a majority vote of the conference voting members shall elect district officers. In the event that no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast for any office, only the two candidates receiving the largest number of votes shall remain on the second ballot. The district Nominating Committee shall be elected by plurality vote.</p>	<p>Election shall be by ballot vote <del>and a majority vote of the conference voting members shall elect district officers.</del> <u>unless there is but one nominee for the office. If there is only one nominee, the nominee shall be acclaimed to office and the presiding officer shall announce this to the conference voting members. If a ballot vote is required</u> a majority vote of the conference voting members shall elect district officers. In the event that no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast for any office, only the two candidates receiving the largest number of votes shall remain on the second ballot. The district Nominating Committee shall be elected by plurality vote.</p>

**Proposed by the Zonta Club of Kitchener Waterloo**

**Rational:**

Under Article XIII – Districts, elections must be held by ballot. When there is only 1 nominee for a position, a ballot election still must be held. A ballot process for only 1 nominee:

- Takes time out of the business sessions that could be spent differently – e.g. guest speakers, updates of various programs;
- Does not make any difference in candidate outcome. E.g. there has never been a time when a single nominee was not successful in achieving office at District 4;
- The voting members generally don't understand why it is necessary to vote for a single nominee;
- The process is redundant and unnecessary. e.g. just because the by-laws say so;
- Utilizes resources at conference that could be used more productively elsewhere e.g. tellers, setting up polling locations;

According to Robert's Rules, it is unnecessary to even take a voice vote. Acclamation means unanimous consent. If the Zonta membership does not bring forward an additional qualified nominee, there is consent. The presiding officer needs to announce this but no further voting is required. Currently "by ballot" appears to 2 sections of the by-laws, Section 6(b) and Section 14. This can be confusing. This proposal moves how the election is conducted "by ballot" or "acclamation" to section 14. The proposal also simplifies the language in this section by using the term "conference voting members". This terminology is used elsewhere in the by-laws, Article IV Section 11 and



Zonta District 4 By-laws and Resolutions Committee

Section 14. Conference voting members provides greater clarity than the term “voting members present and voting”.

Under Robert's Rules of Order, “If only one person is nominated and the bylaws do not require that a ballot vote be taken, the chair, after ensuring that in fact, no members present wish to make further nominations, simply declares that the nominee is elected” (Robert’s Rules, 11th ed., p. 443.)

In order to take advantage of acclamation the by-laws must be amended to remove ballot voting when there is only one candidate.

**Alternate**

An alternative would be to use the language currently available in the Article IV Clubs 4b) Election. At the election meeting, officers and directors shall be elected by ballot vote unless there is but one nominee for the office, in which case a voice vote may be taken. A majority vote shall elect.

**Supported and Recommended by the D4 Board**

**2.1 Article XIV Clubs, SECTION 4. Officers and Directors, b) Election, page 18**

<b>Present Wording</b>	<b>Proposed Wording</b>
(b) Election. At the election meeting, officers and directors shall be elected by ballot vote unless there is but one nominee for the office, in which case a voice vote may be taken. A majority vote shall elect. At the option of the club, balloting may be by mail.	(b) Election. At the election meeting, officers and directors shall be elected by ballot vote unless there is but one nominee for the office, in which case <del>in which case a voice vote may be taken</del> <u>the nominee shall be acclaimed to office and the presiding officer shall announce this to the conference voting members.</u> At the option of the club, balloting may be by mail.

**2.2 Article XIV Clubs, SECTION 8. Nominating Committee, b) Election, page 20**

<b>Present Wording</b>	<b>Proposed Wording</b>
<p>(b) Election. If nominees are unopposed, a voice vote may be taken and committee members may select their own chairman. If elected by ballot vote, the designated number of committee nominees receiving the highest number of votes shall constitute the club Nominating Committee. The member receiving the highest number of votes shall be chairman of the Nominating Committee</p>	<p><b>b) Election. If nominees are unopposed, <del>a voice vote may be taken and committee members may select their own chairman.</del> <u>they shall be acclaimed to the office and announce to the club by the presiding officer.</u> If elected by ballot vote, the designated number of committee nominees receiving the highest number of votes shall constitute the club Nominating Committee. The member receiving the highest number of votes shall <del>be chairman of</del> <u>chair</u> the Nominating Committee.</b></p>

**Proposed by the Zonta Club of Kitchener Waterloo**

**Rational**

In order to align these proposals with the recommendations under Section 1.1 and 1.2 above, changes need to be made to the sections dealing with club elections. Again Robert’s Rules of Order do not require that a further voice vote be taken.

The second proposal in this section deals with the use of the word “Chairman”.

**Supported and Recommended by the D4 Board**

**Proposed Resolution to the Zonta International Bylaws**

**Zonta International Reproductive Health Policy**

That the Zonta International Board review the Reproductive Health Policy and undertake the following:

- Remove the following statement “That Zonta does not take a ‘pro or ‘con position on abortion; and
- Realign the call to action currently contained in the Reproductive Health Policy with goals of the biennium, the UN goals and general support for reproductive health (proposal attached)

Existing Policy Statement	Proposed Policy Statement
<p>Zonta International is an organization pledged to improve the health status of women.</p> <p>Zonta international calls on governments to ensure, on a basis of equality of men and women:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The elimination of all child marriages and similar unions</li> <li>• Equal rights to decide freely and responsibly on the number and spacing of children and to have access to the information, education and means to exercise these rights</li> <li>• Access to health care services, including those services related to family planning.</li> </ul> <p>Zonta International does not take a ‘pro’ or ‘con position on abortion. Recognizing that it is a complex issue. Zonta International calls on government to ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management of complications from unsafe abortions is part of public reproductive health programs</li> <li>• Prevention of unwanted pregnancies is given the highest priority.</li> </ul>	<p>Zonta International is an organization pledged to improve the health status of women <u>and believes every women has the intrinsic right to safe reproductive health.</u></p> <p>Zonta International calls on governments to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eliminate all child marriages and similar unions;</li> <li>• Provide equal access to information and education on reproductive health to both men and women;</li> <li>• Provide equal access to health care services, including those services related to family planning and the prevention of unwanted pregnancies;</li> <li>• Provide opportunities to women to decide freely and responsibly on the number and spacing of children; and the prevention of unwanted pregnancies.</li> </ul>

**Proposed by the Zonta Club of Kitchener Waterloo**

Rational :

There is concerned about the existing reproductive health policy for the following reasons:

- ZI should be supporting the intrinsic rights of safe reproductive health and not focus on one small narrow portion of these overall rights.

## Zonta District 4 By-laws and Resolutions Committee

- ZI aligns itself with the United Nations and the UN supports “Women’s Rights as Human Rights’ and has taken action to develop programs and services that empower women on all issues including those related to reproductive health including abortion.
- Women’s reproductive health must include education and information related to all options so responsible decision making can occur.
- The current policy appears to be contradictory and lacks clarity e.g. ZI doesn’t take a position on abortion however it calls on governments to manage unsafe abortions and manage unwanted pregnancies, ZI’s Advocacy presentation materials include information universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights.
- If ZI is truly neutral on the issue of abortion, it should not pass judgement on clubs who support reproductive health including abortion through advocacy or funding-raising.
- ZI has used the Reproductive Health Policy to restrict the activities of clubs in the past, regardless of whether a state or country already has access to abortion.

### **Alternative:**

Eliminate the existing policy

### **Supported by the D4 Board**

## **UPDATE – ZI has adopted a new policy**

After this proposal was approved by the D4 Board, Zonta International Board approved abandoned the existing policy and developed a statement. The Kitchener Waterloo club is satisfied with the changes undertaken by the Zonta International Board. To see the new statement visit the Zonta International Website

<https://membership.zonta.org/Portals/0/Membership/Tools/AdvocacyTools/Womens%20Sexual%20and%20Reproductive%20Health%20Statement.pdf>

## **A RESOLUTION IS NO LONGER REQUIRED**