

## AAUW B-C Board Meeting

March 5, 2015

### I. Call to Order

Karen Francis called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. with the reading of the Mission Statement. "AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research."

### II. President's Remarks:

- Karen thanked our hostesses: Judy Green, Darlene Harris and Vickie Jany.
- Our first contribution to UMSL was in 1986. We have given close to \$57,000 in scholarships to UMSL (including Pierre LaCledde College). All of this funding has come from Dollars for Scholars.

### III. Officer Reports

#### A. Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the February Board meeting are available from Susan Fenwick and on our website. The motion to approve the February minutes as posted passed.

#### B. Financial Officer: Rita Hawkins-Page

Dollars for Scholars has \$7700; Schnuck's, \$1587; Leadership, \$8400; Operating Fund, \$25,000. Budget sheets were passed out today because Rita will not be at our next meeting. Budget requests for next year are requested to be turned in ASAP, but they may be turned in at the May luncheon.

### IV. AAUW Priorities

#### A. Public Policy

- ERA day will be Tuesday, April 14. Please sign up; a bus will leave from Trinity. The ERA bill was filed in the Missouri House by Judy Morgan. Two other bills of interest were introduced: one establishing Maya Angelou Day, and legislation that requires the governor to keep a list of appointments by gender.
- Barb Butchart has written an article to remind us that AAUW supports a new Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The voucher part has been removed from legislation.
- Events related to fighting Human Trafficking in St. Charles have taken off. February 8 is designated nationally in the churches as a day for remembering those who are trafficked. The coalition in St. Charles is getting a website. Jill Norton wrote a poem on human trafficking, and she has given her permission to share it with everyone.
- SLEVAWN - Court Watch reports on ongoing research. They are monitoring proceedings of St. the Louis Family Court, specifically examining judges' sensitivity

towards petitioners. One recommendation: Make available a pamphlet or handout detailing the judicial process. This would be helpful, since what happens in court can be confusing to those unfamiliar with it.

- Karen Francis: Senate Bill 130 – Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act (VESSA). AAUW signed on as a sponsor of this bill, which allows employees who are victims of domestic violence to see a doctor or go to court without worrying about losing their job.

#### B. Educational Opportunity Fund/Named Gift: Marian Bauer

Thanks for all of the books, and thanks for buying books. \$661 was raised for Dollars for Scholars. This is enough to fund one semester for one person.

Named Gift: Nominations are due on March 20. Please download the form and send it in.

#### C. Legal Advocacy Fund: Linda Evans

- An alert was received about House bills limiting alimony to 5 years, or 10 years. 73% of women have a standard of living drop after a divorce. For 42% of men, their standard of living goes up.
- House Bill 190 passed the House. It requires annual inspection of abortion clinics. It hasn't gone to the Senate yet.
- March is LAF Giving Month. An envelope will be on every chair at the branch meeting.
- A Trivia Night has been planned, and fliers are ready to distribute. It will be on October 24 at Trinity. Get tables of people together, especially tables with outsiders to help them learn about AAUW. The committee needs volunteers to help with the event.

#### V. Branch Priorities

##### A. Communications: Joyce Katz

STEM had put out a brochure on "Why so Few?" There is a new one, "Solving the Equation." A launch event will be live streamed on March 26. Joyce is hosting a gathering at her home to watch the live stream from 1:00 - 2:30. We can contribute questions and comments in advance. Joyce circulated a signup sheet for this event.

We are being asked to vote during one-member, one-vote, and AAUW National is trying to beef it up. AAUW is suggesting that branches set up a voting booth at meetings. The only meeting we have scheduled during the voting period is the May luncheon. It probably will take each member who needs assistance ten minutes to vote. Alternatives:

1. Have a voting party at Trinity on a drop-in basis. This would require volunteers and computers, plus room expense.
2. Print out a brochure to place on seats at the April branch meeting and on a table at the May luncheon, giving step-by-step directions. Volunteers would field phone calls for assistance.
3. Send detailed directions for voting, and reminders, in the Friday Notes.

Voting is April 20 to mid-June. The issue may not be entirely trouble with following the voting process. We need to publicize why people need to vote, how to become familiar with the issues, how to vote, and how to get help. This could be emphasized by Public Policy and in the President's Corner. For Joyce: please print this and publish it in the Friday Notes.

#### B. Interbranch Council: Erlaine Eltomi

- A young lady from UMSL will be told today she is the recipient of a NCCWSL scholarship.
- For IBC Spring Fling, we will contribute a couple of baskets. This expense needs to be in the budget each year. We need more people to sign up to attend Spring Fling. The official cut-off date is tomorrow but you may be able to register late.
- Bookmarks: IBC made laminated bookmarks, and they are being left in libraries. Please help distribute them in your local libraries.
- A group is being formed to work on CU partner memberships.
- Erlaine is chair of the High Tea, April 17 at Sisters Teahouse in Fenton. We need 60 people to fill it. Each table hostess will talk about a Victorian woman of achievement, and there is a booklet that talks about ten of them in different disciplines. \$25 to Erlaine or Jayne Kasten.

#### C. Spring Luncheon: Carol Derington

Reservations for the Spring Luncheon will be taken starting at the March branch meeting. Pay by check only. The committee is asking board members to be hostesses at the table, two per table. Groups may sign up at one time and fill out the seating chart. There is a tasting today; the menu will be announced soon. Luncheon theme: We Shine On.

#### D. STEM: Sandra Murdock

(Full hard copy report is archived by the Secretary).

- AAUW B-C STEM donated \$150 to the Expanding Your Horizons program to sponsor girls from two St. Louis public schools to attend the program at St. Louis University.
- We will have two STEM science awards programs at two different high schools this year to honor girls who have shown promise in science.
- Sandra will also give one award at the Science Fair.

#### E. Leadership – State Meeting: Julie Triplett

The State Conference will be held on May 2. Send in your registration and you will be reimbursed later. Twenty people are signed up, with five maybes.

## F. International Relations (Susie Teicher)

Change: The speaker scheduled for April was offered an opportunity to go on a trip to Antarctica. So he's switching with the March speaker. Topic: "Shattered Arctic Imperiled."

## VI. New Business

### A. Finance Committee Report: Julie Triplett

The Finance Review Committee met twice to deal with issues they were asked to address. They presented a consensus report (full hard copy report is archived by the Secretary).

1. Dues - local dues of \$22/person pay insurance, branch and board meeting rooms, and speakers. These total \$4,860, leaving \$640 for the local budget. Without the holiday auction, we couldn't do as much. Recommendation: publicize to the branch what our dues cover.
2. Eleanor Roosevelt should be removed from budget as a line item and be funded from direct donations from the walk.
3. The EOF committee should recommend to the board in May how to allocate Dollars for Scholars funds (local scholarships, NCCWSL, national contributions to EOF). The percentage to each will be decided yearly; no priority was decided by the committee. How the money is divided will come to the Board, and the Board will have to approve it. Local scholarships: Students funded should come from colleges or universities that are CU partner schools with AAUW in the future.
4. The Fall Brunch should be funded by a line item in the budget. The source of monies would have to be operating funds. Fall brunch must be supported because it is a major opportunity to make a good impression and attract new members.
5. The schedule for individual giving at our branch should be continued as is. (No vote needed, since this represents no change).
6. The Committee believes that the Board and the Finance Officer should have the discretion to establish a Finance Oversight committee.

A motion was made out of Committee to recommend that all of these measures that require a vote be passed, and they all were passed.

### B. Inclement Weather and Dollars for Scholars Events: Suzanne Couch

We have no policy in place to deal with inclement weather for any meetings other than branch meetings, e.g., board meetings or Dollars for Scholars events. We need to put something in place and follow it. A concern is that Rockwood and Parkway are not in sync any more on weather cancellations. We will extend our current policy for branch meetings regarding inclement weather, to say if Parkway is closed, then the board meeting will not be held. We will leave the decision up to Dollars for Scholars to deal with it as they wish. This does not need a vote to modify the policy. It will be added to the board meeting page in the Directory.

C. The Nominating Committee presented their report:

Co-president	Barbara McQuitty
Co-Vice President, Program	Judy Stagoski
Co-Vice President, Membership	Linda Wells
Finance Officer	Rita Hawkins-Page
Co-Directors EOF	Marian Bauer and Linda Roberson
Co-Directors LAF	Linda Evans and Julia Triplett
Co-Directors Public Policy	Barbara Butchart and Pat Shores

Additional Notes

- Reminder: Ruth Griffin's going-away party is tomorrow.
- Suzanne Couch: Some people wanted to do something for St. Martha's Hall, but this is not an AAUW activity. We received a list of things they could use. Suzanne is going to collect things to take them to St. Martha's Hall outside the meeting.
- The St. Louis branch of AAUW compiled a special tribute to 250 notable women of St. Louis.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Susan Fenwick, Secretary