

AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield Board Meeting September 1, 2016

Call to Order

President Sandra Murdock called the meeting to order at 9: 30 a.m. and welcomed everyone.

Mission Statement

Attendees recited the Mission Statement: "AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research."

Introductory Remarks

Sandra thanked today's hostess committee--Judy Stagoski, Bette Bude, Joyce Katz, and Kay Meyer--for the lovely refreshments and table decorations.

Special get well wishes go out to Barbara McQuitty, who is recovering from surgery.

Marsha Weppelman explained the use of the new paddles and voting procedure. She thanked Doris Nistler for the new paddles.

- All elected officers get one full vote.
- Elected directors get one vote per position.
- Appointed directors also get one vote per position.

Elected Officers

Secretary/Archivist - Susan Fenwick

Minutes of the May, 2016, board meeting are on the website and are available from Susan. With no corrections or additions heard, a vote was taken and the minutes were approved.

Financial Report, Budget 2016 - 2017 - Rita Hawkins-Page

- This is Rita's last year as Finance Officer, so she needs our help in finding the next Officer. She is happy to train the next person, and Leslie Wier will help, too.
- Reminder: If you need a reimbursement, Rita must have a reimbursement form and a receipt. If you turn in these two things, you will receive a check in just a couple of days. Please cash your check in a timely manner.

- Audits require a reference point. This applies to conventions, too. You must submit proof of attendance. Forms are on the website, and Rita can provide them, too. Note: Rita cannot reimburse tax. Use the tax exemption letter.
- The budget Rita passed out is preliminary. She will make the modifications discussed.

Budget Discussion: The amount of the line item “EOF grant or contribution” was voted on previously, and it should be \$2,000, not \$2,500, so Rita will change that. Suzanne Couch requested a budget of \$100 for IBC. Pat Shores asked that the line item “Public Policy (Get Out the Vote Publicity)” be listed simply as “Public Policy.”

The amount of the AAUW B-C International Relations contribution was questioned as seeming high, given that members of multiple branches attend. It was explained that this money supports the speaker series. A basket is passed for donations and how much is collected depends on attendance. Julie Triplett stated that this is a community outreach effort with Ethical Society and other branches that is of great value for AAUW B-C. The speakers’ topics are really interesting, and the Ethical Society is a coalition partner with many of our events, too. Also, since Creve Coeur is not in the mix anymore, that puts more pressure on other branches to contribute. The result of this discussion was to leave the amount budgeted the same.

Regarding sources of income, remember to plan Dollars for Scholars events, which can be held in the summer, not just during the year when the branch meets regularly. Please get a Schnuck's e-scrip card and use it! Joyce Katz will bring cards to the September brunch. Dierberg's offers a card, too, but theirs supports local organizations, not large national organizations like AAUW.

Beginning balances are: Dollars for Scholars, \$9,507; Schnuck’s, \$1,751; Leadership, \$7,630; Operating Fund, \$23,766.

Karen Francis made a motion to approve this budget with the amendments brought forward today. Result: Motion PASSED.

Programs - Marilyn Fletcher & Judy Stagoski

The programs for the year are set. Replacing the April speaker who backed out, businesswoman Susan Conrad will speak on what it's like as a woman to climb the corporate ladder.

Membership - Fran Reiland & Susan Teicher

Not present.

Elected Directors

Education Opportunity Fund (EOF) - Marian Bauer & Vicky Jany

We have four (4) local scholarships. Two recipients of national fellowships will be in St. Louis in the fall; perhaps they would agree to come to talk with us. Both EOF national and local are supported by Dollars for Scholars.

Panera gift cards will be available in September. The book sale will begin in October. Please bring books! Marian brought in bean soup today, for an advance opportunity to buy, at \$6.00 per pound.

We have heard from AAUW national several times now that they no longer need money for EOF because all grants and fellowships are funded from interest on money they already have. They are collecting money for other initiatives in an unrestricted fund. In the past, our EOF has supported local scholarships, national EFO fellowships and grants and NCWSSL. It was proposed that we assemble a finance committee to review what we do with the funds we raise. LAF also supports that idea since LAF also has been a fundraising entity. We may need to change our priorities; perhaps our emphasis may change from fundraising. Co-presidents Sandra and Barb will work on establishing a review committee.

Doris has suggested it would be helpful to change the name from "Unrestricted Fund" because this sounds too undefined. Betty Bude offered that the word 'unrestricted' has a legal connotation.

Legal Advocacy Fund - Doris Nistler and Julie Triplett

Julie: Linda Evans has moved to Columbia. The LAF Committee met this summer, and would like the Board's permission to proceed with planning a games afternoon. Carol Derington has agreed to chair this event. A motion was made to approve this fundraising event, to be held probably in June. It will soon be placed on the calendar. Result: Motion CARRIED.

Carol: The problem we're having right now is finding a place to hold events like this. If you have a suggestion, call Carol, please. We need to minimize the cost.

Bulletin: Mollie Lam has taken another position. She has been our national liaison to LAF, and did an outstanding job.

Note from Karen Francis: Linda Hallman retired as AAUW CEO in July. Mark Hopkins is the interim CEO. A nationwide search is being conducted to fill Linda's spot.

Public Policy - Pat Shores & Barbara Butchart

Everything we do in Public Policy falls under branch Strategic Goal number 2. The Public Policy Committee has four (4) goals, namely: Get Out the Vote, pay equity, preventing sexual harassment and sexual assault in schools, and preventing human trafficking in St. Charles County.

Last year there were twenty (20) presentations on Human Trafficking under the Community Action Grant. This year, an all-day conference is planned on January 10, 2017, at the Spencer library branch. Also there will be a John Denver tribute concert on September 11, 2016, to raise funds, via free will offering, to benefit the St. Charles Outreach Coalition again Human Trafficking. In the last legislative session, there was an expansion of the definition of human trafficking victims that gives police additional grounds for enforcement. Copies of a report on the first year of the Community Action Grant are available from Pat Shores.

The following are goals to be fulfilled under our \$1000 impact grant:

- Goal 1: Require each MO Branch to complete one Get Out the Vote activity. AAUW B-C will register millennials at St. Louis community colleges. Thirty (30) people have been trained for this. We are cooperating with the West County Democrats, but this registration effort is non-partisan and will not promote specific parties or candidates. Even if people don't want to vote for president, they need to be made aware that local votes and amendments are important, too.
- Goal 2: Require each MO branch to complete one gender pay gap activity.
- Goal 3: Establish a MO Lobby Corps, modeled on the national Lobby Corps, that will focus on the passage of a pay equity bill.
- Goal 4: Expand the visibility of AAUW through six (6) letters to the editor which will appear in media outlets across Missouri, nine (9) Facebook postings and nine (9) Twitter messages.

Appointed Directors

Branch Development Leadership and Operating Fund - Suzanne Couch

The Winter Auction will be a "Jingle Mingle." Things are going well on the committee; almost all of last year's chairpersons came back. The plan is to more or less duplicate last year's event. At the Fall Brunch tables, there will be a slip to fill out on what you would like to buy. Large baskets in the oral auction rarely make much money, but if you'd like to do a basket, small baskets could be put on the silent auction table. The

committee can use additional help, so please volunteer. There will be a general meeting after the October branch meeting.

Interbranch Council - Suzanne Couch

There will be an IBC meeting on May 6, 2017, at the Holiday Inn Executive Suites in Columbia. IBC is working on the Spring Fling, but they haven't selected a place for it yet. AAUW B-C is in charge of Programs for the Spring Fling.

Directory - Leslie Wier, Marilyn Beiter, & Joyce Katz

Directories are now available. They will be distributed at the Fall Brunch as well as at today's meeting. Joyce would like to send everyone an electronic (PDF) copy of the 2016-2017 AAUW B-C directory. It's handy to have it on your phone or tablet. She'll begin by sending it to the Board today, and then to the entire membership after the branch meeting.

A couple of corrections were brought up, and they will be incorporated in the electronic form of the directory.

Dollars for Scholars - Janice Buckhold & Phyllis Oakes

Thanks to Barb Jowett and Barb Tackitt, outgoing chairs, for their help in the transition. Phyllis passed out a Dollars for Scholars (DFS) event list. They need people to hold events. There is a discount for guests who sign up the same day they visit a branch meeting, with \$12.50 off the membership fee. Could we do the same thing when we invite members to Dollars events? Sign them up that day and give them the same discount? We should consider that.

Jan: DFS has measurable goals to increase DFS events, with a strategy of (1) encouraging sponsorship, (2) encouraging participation and (3) encouraging members to bring friends. There will be a suggestion box on the DFS table to collect ideas for types of events that people would like to see held.

Governance - Marsha Weppelman

The new Bylaws committee is set up. Marsha thanked the Directory Committee for putting the bylaws in the directory; they did a great job! Officers are encouraged to read the bylaws, because there have been changes.

Hospitality - Becky Ragan & Pat White

Becky: Hospitality needs people to sign up for Hospitality at branch meetings.

Newsletter - Bette Bude & Mary Jermak

The due date for articles is the 14th of the month, at the latest. Newsletter is aiming to distribute on the last Monday (or 4th Monday) of the month. Mary is gone for three weeks, so please send articles to Betty. Mary worked with Joyce to include embedded emails in the newsletter, so you can just click on the hyperlinks.

Bette and Mary are term limited out as newsletter editors after this year. We seriously need to line up new editors and get them trained.

Postal mailings are down to 15, out of 250 members! The cost of printing has been dramatically reduced, too.

Special Events, Fall Brunch - Judy Green & Kay Meyer

147 people are signed up to attend the Fall Brunch. Sandra is going to have a video on preparing an "elevator speech" for when people inquire about AAUW. Please let Judy or Kay know if you need an activity table at the Brunch, whose theme is "STEM Blooms," celebrating STEM. Help is needed for set-up on Wednesday night starting at 8:00.

Special Events, Spring Luncheon - Carol Derington & Carol Anthony

We had just under one hundred people at the last luncheon and put \$300 in the treasury. There will be a committee meeting on September 12, 2016, at 9:30 a.m. at Schnuck's to make plans for this coming spring. Please join in.

STEM/Science Fair - Marcia Block & Jean Elliott

Marcia: The plan is pretty much to do what STEM has done before: For junior high age girls, Expanding Your Horizons; two Science Fairs; STEM Girls of Promise at Valley Park and possibly at a second school.

Standing Committees

College University Partners - Deb McWard

Deb needs help on working with SLU and Maryville. A contact person is needed. The focus is on recruiting students.

International Relations - Kay Meyer

International Relations held a good meeting, at which participants selected four topics plus a backup. Julie Triplett is co-chairing, and they need two more women to serve as co-chairs. Meetings will cover the following topics:

1. Reproductive Justice for Women across the World - Karen Francis volunteered.
2. Russia Today - Co-chair already selected.
3. Immigration and Terrorism and the Plight of Refugees Worldwide
4. World Trade

Interest Groups - Barb Jowett

Not present.

New Business

The Eleanor Roosevelt Walk will be held on Oct. 18. Jean Elliott is chairing it.

Unfinished Business

- Karen Francis: Work has been ongoing on our Strategic Plan. Since today was a big meeting, we will discuss the plan next month.
- Karen went to a White House Summit in June, and she will do a brief overview of the proceedings at the AAUW B-C Fall Brunch. Thanks to the Board for its generosity for the gift card and contribution to AAUW in Karen's name.
- Sandra re-checked people who wish to be on the agenda for the Fall Brunch. Leslie requested an announcement from the podium asking people to pick up their new directories.
- Saturday is "Celebrate the Vote" in St. Louis. AAUW is a sponsor. 400 people signed up but organizers are hoping for 1,000 to show up. Members who plan to attend are advised to bring a chair and water.

Adjournment

Immediate Past President Karen Francis thanked Sandra for leading today's meeting, and Sandra adjourned the meeting at 11:23 a.m.