

AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield Board Meeting
February 2, 2017

I. Call to Order

President Sandra Murdock called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and welcomed the attendees, who then recited the AAUW Mission Statement:

“AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.”

Hostesses Rita Hawkins-Page, Leslie Wier, and Susan Teicher were thanked.

II. Elected Officers' Operational Reports

A. President's Report: Sandra Murdock

- Sandra is pleased to see women all over the world voicing their opinion.
- Go see the film *Hidden Figures*. The book was about ALL women who were part of the science/space age who were hidden. The women featured in the film were called 'computers.' Maybe this story will spur writers to do research on other women's contributions. We need a Women's History Museum in Washington, D.C.!
- This is Black History Month. The NAACP was founded in 1909. Nine of the original members who founded it were AAUW members.
- January was an interesting month, with a new [U.S.] President and notable winter weather.

B. Minutes

Minutes of the last board meeting are on the AAUW B-C website and are available from Susan Fenwick.

Sandra asked whether there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the November 2016 board meeting. None were heard.

C. Treasurer's Report: Rita Hawkins-Page

No report this month, as Rita was on travel status.

D. VP-Program: Marilyn Fletcher & Judy Stagoski

Marilyn: Judy is doing well, recovering from getting a pacemaker. She will be at the Branch meeting. At that meeting a judge will speak, addressing the topic of women in the judiciary. After the Branch meeting, anyone interested in helping with Programs is asked to stay, to get going on next year's programs.

E. VP-Membership: Fran Reiland & Susan Teicher

Susie: 69 people attended the last meeting. It was noted that the January meeting attendance always is low.

Fran passed around a sheet with facts about collecting dues (attached to hard copy of these minutes). As of March 15, the national database will be changed over to the next fiscal year, 2018. Consequently, we can start collecting dues for the coming year in March. An issue is that when new people come into Membership leadership positions in June, they are hit with collecting delinquent dues immediately. Our branch directory is updated in September, but AAUW national does not declare a member delinquent until November. Maybe this is why people are late in paying their dues.

Another problem occurs in January-February. Anyone who joins at a meeting gets the special cut in national dues. If the new members have just paid \$56 or \$81 to join in January or February, it's hard to hit them for another \$81 in March. It is suggested that if people join in April or May, they should pay \$81, and that will carry them through the next fiscal year. It's kind of confusing and an accounting nightmare. There is no way to count these members in the national database for this year. We need a separate meeting on the question of how and when to collect dues. Right now we must follow national policy, and if our policy is not in agreement with national, then we need to amend our policy. Our branch policy says January 1 - March 15 dues are 1/2 of everything—branch, state, national dues. For now, we should follow the policy in our bylaws.

III. AAUW-BC Appointed Directors and Branch Priorities

A. Public Policy: Pat Shores & Barbara Butchart

- Barb – The evaluations from the Breaking the Chains event scored it really high. The different format, with the 'puzzle' approach, went over well.
- Two SCCAT meetings were held that led to a proposal to use eighty (80) acres of land in Warren County as a therapeutic place for trafficking victims to continue their recovery. There is such a place in TN, Thistle Farms. It follows standard procedures for non-profits that run this sort of program. There will be a meeting on February 15 to talk about what can be learned from Thistle Farms and to visit the

MO property. SCCAT is talking about starting very small, at some time in the future. The project is in the dreaming stage right now.

- Barb passed around pictures of two AAUW B-C members and the sign they carried in the Women's March. Quite a number of B-C members marched. They staffed a table at the Y, and 500 people came through.
- How many people from the community attended the Jan. 10 event? The count is not available yet. Barb McQuitty congratulated Public Policy on a wonderful event.
- Pat Shores reported that AAUW National is encouraging us to "march forward" from the Women's March. Ten actions are to be addressed from the first 100 days; please sign up for the 2-minute Activist. Let our voices be heard.
- Shima Rostami is a paid program director for SCCAT and a doctoral student. She needs help for a public service announcement, so she is asking for people to write down one word (a feeling) when you hear about Human Trafficking.
- Impact Grant: Establishing a Missouri Lobby Corps is goal number 3 of this grant. Karen Francis is in charge of it. The lobbying of legislators will focus on pay equity to close the gender pay gap.
- Another goal is sending weekly emails or making phone calls on the topic of pay equity. Instructions will be provided on what kinds of things to say.
- Sandra Murdock noted that legislators have been flooded with comments since the Women's March. Can we sustain this? Maybe the March woke up younger women to get involved.
- Joyce Katz observed that at Friendship Village, where she and her husband recently moved, nobody has asked Joyce what she used to do. All they want to know is what her husband did (!)

B. Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF): Marian Bauer & Vickie Jany

- We lost our branch member Jo Ann Black this year. Marian asked whether or not a memorial was sent to National. She will take care of that and will send a card.
- Book sales for the first 3 months amount to \$510!
- AAUW National notified us that EOF is fully funded. Should our branch continue sending money to the AAUW EOF Fund? The Finance Committee said no. Another fund that would fit with our educational mission is NCCWSL, so Marian made a motion to allocate branch EOF funds to local scholarships and to

NCCWSL. EOF isn't sticking with a set percentage for each, because we don't know how much money will be raised and we have scholarship obligations. This year we gave \$4000 to local scholarships, \$2000 to national, and \$500 to IBC. The amounts will be brought to the board later, once the proposed budget is set.

MOTION: "I move that as of the year 2017-2018 Dollars for Scholars money be allocated to local scholarships and NCCWSL national."

A vote was held, and the motion CARRIED.

- Second question: Should we continue our November Individual Giving for EOF if this is already fully funded? Marian made the following motion.
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MOTION: "I move that as of the 2017-2018 year the November Individual Giving be changed from EOF national to AAUW Fund."

A vote was held, and the motion CARRIED.

- When donating to the AAUW Fund, people can mark a preference for where the money goes, on the donation form. AAUW Fund covers many activities including LAF, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Public Policy, or unrestricted fund. There still would be a separate LAF fundraiser in March.
- As an aside, should we give our EOF Committee a different name? This question was raised, but there was no resolution at the board meeting.

C. Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF): Doris Nistler & Julie Triplett

- LAF individual Giving is in March. There will be a LAF meeting after next week's branch meeting.
- Save the date: An LAF fundraiser, consisting of a Game Day and luncheon, will be held on Thursday, June 8, at Friendship Village. Carol Derington is in charge.

- At the AAUWMO meeting, we will have a plaintiff to speak.
- Doris: Recall that LAF doesn't just support individuals. It also can file a Friend of the Court amicus brief.

IV. Branch Priorities

A. Branch Development-Leadership and Operating Fund: Suzanne Couch

Suzanne hasn't finished final accounting from the Winter Auction because our Finance Officer is out of town. Suzanne said everyone was wonderful to work with, and the Board congratulated Suzanne on a job well done. Suzanne will send a final report on the Auction via the Yahoo group.

B. Directory: Leslie Wier, Marilyn Beiter & Joyce Katz

Leslie: Only a handful of directory binders is left. The minimum order is 100. Leslie posed several questions about what to order. The Board's recommendation is to stick with the same color of binder and no new setup on cover printing; just get the best possible deal on binders.

C. Dollars for Scholars: Janice Buckhold & Phyllis Oakes

- There was an announcement of upcoming DFS events, as reflected in our newsletter.
- DFS will make a presentation at the branch meeting.
- Tickler list (Janice): Two people came to the DFS leaders to commit to events, a tour of the Frank Lloyd Wright house and trolley ride from the Loop to Forest Park, in August. Also a genealogy tour will be sponsored in the fall. The Tickler List is always open for ideas. If you sponsored an event that was a hit in the past, feel free to repeat it. Joyce can post a digital copy of that list on the web. There will be a tour of the newly reopened Arch in the fall as well. Susie will be sponsoring an event on a property near Washington, MO, for lunch and a history presentation, probably in mid-April. This will be limited to 12 people.
- Thank you to members of the Board who have sponsored an event. This serves as a good model.
- We have over \$6000 in DFS funds.
- We ask a \$10 contribution for DFS events. If the event is free, members may be encouraged to pay a little more. \$10 has always been the **minimum**.

D. Governance: Marsha Weppelman

New bylaws with mandatory regulations have been uploaded; we had to make a couple of changes in the bylaws that Marsha had discussed in November. We had to update the indemnification to 2016, and the state wanted us to take out parliamentary regulations that already are covered by the national bylaws. Our branch bylaws now are approved, and Marsha sent them to the branch President and the Bylaws Committee members. She asked whether the new bylaws should be in next directory supplement. It was stated that they should not, because they are online.

Marsha was asked to check on everyone's term limits, so now we have a baseline record. She thanked Mary Jermak and Bette Bude for providing archived newsletters and directories, to establish when voting positions were up. The record was sent to all elected officers.

Marsha has been notified that at the national level, the membership requirements are going to be brought up again for a vote. All members will be able to vote online. Information on proposed change(s) will come out in April on the national website.

E. Nominating Committee: Vickie Jany

Thanks to Carol Derington and Suzanne Couch for being on this committee, and to those who said 'yes' when they were called. The list (below) was developed from the nomination forms that were submitted. The committee also can take nominations from the floor. The Nominating Committee will present the slate to the Branch in March and in April.

Vickie passed around the proposed slate of officers, as follows.

Co-President	Marcia Block
Co-VP Program	Sage Tabor
Co-VP Membership	Mersine Kallaos
Financial Officer	Pat Shores
Directors of Public Polic	Barbara Butchart, Eve LaJeunesse
Directors of Legal Advocacy Fun	Doris Nistler, Julie Triplett
Directors of Educational Opportunity Fund	Marian Bauer, Vickie Jany

Vickie Jany made the following motion.

MOTION: "To approve the slate of officers 2017-2019 presented by Vickie Jany, Nominating Committee Chair, at the February board meeting, February 2nd."
A vote was held, and the slate was APPROVED.

An issue was raised about having an assistant finance officer. Leslie Wier reminded us that the former finance officer remains as signatory on checks, so Leslie is still on bank papers as backup. Leslie offered to stay on in this capacity if Rita doesn't want to do it.

F. Finance Committee: Marian Bauer & Leslie Wier

No report.

G. Hospitality: Becky Ragan & Pat White

No report.

H. STEM/Science Fair: Marcia Block & Jean Elliott

- Marcia got two thank-you notes from last year's Science Fair winners, and she read selected excerpts to the Board. The goal is for us to go again to the Science Fair and give awards to two young women.
- In February there is a science trivia event for middle school students, both boys and girls. They always need adult assistants.
- Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) will be held on March 13 at St. Louis Community College at Florissant Valley, for middle school girls.
- On Friday, April 28, STEM will be at Valley Park again.
- We sponsor twenty (20) girls to attend EYH out of our STEM budget. This could be expanded with EOF money.

V. Special Events

A. Spring Luncheon: Carol Derington & Carol Anthony

No report.

VI. Standing Committees

A. College/University Partners: Deb McWard

- We are in good shape to send to girls to NCCWSL this year. Donations would help girls have spending money. Applications are due at the end of this week; the deadline moved up this year. We should have four or more applications. Julie Triplett will read the applications. (Need one person from each branch).
- Shima Rostani is willing to be the contact for Lindenwood, if we can get Lindenwood back. We are not sure about St. Louis Community College, whether they can get it into their budget. Suzanne advised that we let national know that the \$125 per college charge is a stumbling block for these partners.
- We are working with UMSL to put together a recruiting statement that will go out to C/U reps all over the state to get young women to follow up on the Women's March.

D. International Relations: Kay Meyer

A notice was read on Kay's behalf: On February 14 at 10:45 a.m., at the Ethical Society on Clayton Road, there will be an International Relations lecture on the topic "Russia Today."

VII. New Business

- Mary Jermak: The Finance Committee is updating guidelines for reimbursement of convention attendance. The statement in our policy is out of sync with what we've been doing in the recent past. There is a draft of a new statement. We can't vote on it before March, due to the requirement for a two-week notification of change (Article 9 of Policy). Mary will send out latest copy of the draft, and board members can vote on it electronically.
- The statement will be included in the March newsletter. Marsha Weppelman will hold the branch vote.

VIII. Unfinished Business

- IBC will meet on February 28 at 7:00 p.m., at the St. Louis County Library on Lindbergh.
- March 25 is the date of the Spring Fling at Glen Echo Country Club. Forms to sign up are on the website.

- If you want to be on the agenda for branch meeting, please stop by and let Sandra know.
- Reminder: please bring at least one book for the book sale to the Branch meeting.

IX. Adjournment

Sandra Murdock adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Susan Fenwick
Secretary/Archivist