

MINUTES OF THE AAUW BALLWIN-CHESTERFIELD BOARD MEETING – March 3, 2016

Call to Order and Welcome

President Karen Francis called the meeting to order, followed by recitation of the AAUW Mission statement: *AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.*

Karen thanked today's hostesses: Linda Roberson, Suzanne Couch, Marian Bauer, Barbara Butchart, and Erlaine Eltomi.

Minutes Motion

Karen asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the February board meeting. With none heard, the minutes were approved as posted.

Financial Officer: Rita Hawkins-Page

Dollars for Scholars has \$4600; Schnuck's collected 42 dollars this month, with a total of more than \$2000. \$3000 was transferred to Leadership; Operating has \$31,000. Total assets are \$46,500. Rita will begin collecting dues at the next branch meeting, as dues may be sent in any time after March 15.

Elected Officer's Reports

Past President: Suzanne Couch

Remember that the Spring Fling is March 12. Money is in budget for the basket that we are donating this year. Next year Ballwin-Chesterfield is president of Interbranch Council (IBC). Being president means that we secure the program for the event.

Named gift nominations are trickling in. Suzanne has forms available to nominate someone, and the deadline is 18 March.

Programs: Judy Stagoski

Programs is in the process of following up after the committee meeting, by calling people. Next year's programs are 50% lined up. Note: The Secret Service has a cadre of speakers available. This is considered service to the community, and they ask for no honorarium. Karen expressed thanks for the lunch provided at the last committee meeting.

Membership: Linda Seibert.

No report.

Elected Director's Reports

Public Policy: Pat Shores

This is a very busy part of the year for Public Policy. Equity Action Day will be April 12 in Jefferson City. We have an opportunity to ride a bus to the Capitol, in cooperation with NCJW and the League of Women Voters, for \$36. This includes a Panera box lunch, snacks, training, and drinks on the bus. The number to call to register is on bottom of a flyer distributed by Pat. Registration and bus info also is on our B-C website. Call now!

There is an agenda for once we arrive. There will be a legislative update first thing in the morning, followed by topic-specific lobbying. The League of Women Voters will talk about voter registration restriction, and NCJW, about domestic abuse and legislation protecting abuse victims. AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield will talk exclusively about pay equity. There are several pay equity bills pending. You will be told who your representative is, and we will go in groups to talk to them.

Pay equity, preventing sexual assault on campus, and human trafficking are three areas of focus for AAUW. Help is needed to call or send email to legislators on these topics. You will be given weekly materials to send them. Please sign up.

Also, sign-ups are needed for Get Out the Vote. There will be training. You are asked to be at community colleges at least once a month between now and the November elections.

The Midwest Ten-State Conference takes place on alternate years. It is time to register (flyer distributed) for the conference in June. Also it is time to register for the AAUWMO State Conference, to be held on April 30. Registration is paid by each individual and reimbursed later for both of these conferences. Two seats in the car are available, along with space in a room reserved by Suzanne at the Ten-State Conference, so contact her if you'd like to go.

Karen thanked Joyce for putting flyers for all of these events on our website. It takes a lot of work to reformat them.

A reminder from Julie Triplett: The Missouri primary election is coming up on Tuesday, March 15. VOTE! Check your card to ensure your polling place did not change. You may vote absentee.

Educational Opportunity Fund: Marian Bauer

Good news! In the EOF budget, \$500 is allocated to NCCWSL. In cooperation with the Interbranch Council we were able to offer two scholarships this year, since IBC contributed enough for a second scholarship. There were five applicants. Our two

scholarship winners are a Janet Kagoda, who is majoring in social work at UMSL, and Liz Koenig, a psychology and gender studies major at Webster University.

The judge for awarding scholarships was Suzanne Couch, who filled us in a little more about NCCWSL scholarship awardee Janet Kagoda, whose inspiring story shows her strong determination to get an education and help others. Janet is from a very large family in Uganda where educating boys takes priority. She lost her mom at age thirteen, and raised money for her own high school education. Along the way she volunteered, helping people with HIV/AIDS and orphans of that disease. Janet is continuing her outreach program while attending UMSL, working with Ugandans who live in the St. Louis area and helping a minister who is living and working in southern Sudan.

Book Fair results have been exceptional this year. The total raised presently stands at \$918. EOF still will accept books in March and April.

Legal Advocacy Fund: Julie Triplett

This is LAF Individual Giving month. Linda Evans has the made arrangements. The LAF committee will make a brief presentation at the branch meeting about the work of LAF. The length of time cases take can be quite long. For example, Feather River is still going after ten years. LAF plaintiffs are so appreciative of AAUW support, not just the money, but that our organization is behind them. Thanks in advance for your support.

AAUW Action Network is holding a phone call tonight at 6:00 p.m. CST about the process of judicial nominations. Urge our representatives and senators to consider a Supreme Court nominee. Besides Justice Scalia's opening, 70 judicial appointments are open, having not been voted on during this session.

Appointed Directors' Reports

Special Events: Carol Derington

The Spring Luncheon will be held on May 12. Committees are at work and the menu will be selected today. Cost is \$26.

Carol asked that when signing up for the Spring Luncheon, board members please pick tables that need hosts for the table. Invite some friends as guests, too. Also try to mingle among the new people or returning people.

Unfinished Business

Voting on Strategic Plan goals: Karen Francis

Karen reviewed the five goals recommended by the Strategic Planning committee. (Note: The goals, and not the indicators of success, were what the board was voting on.

Indicators of success still need refinement. Each subcommittee that works on the indicators of success will not work in isolation).

Goal 1: Ballwin-Chesterfield fosters a growing diverse community of members, supporters, students and others who advance the AAUW mission.

Goal 2: Under auspices of AAUW's powerful advocacy programs, Ballwin-Chesterfield works locally to promote educational and economic equity and civil rights for all women and girls.

Goal 3: Ballwin-Chesterfield supports philanthropic AAUW programs that provide women and girls with opportunities for a lifetime of success.

Goal 4: Ballwin-Chesterfield promotes branch development.

Goal 5: Ballwin-Chesterfield supports AAUW research.

Karen asked if there were any questions about the goals.

1. Are the bullets in hierarchical order? Answer: No.
2. Kudos: The committee did a fantastic job!
3. Did anyone contact you after the last meeting with feedback? No.

Karen then submitted a motion to approve these five goals.

"The Strategic Planning Committee recommends the Strategic Plan goals be approved."

Results of the Board Vote: PASSED.

2016-2017 Board

Karen reported that the process of who will be on the board is beginning. Openings: LAF because Linda is moving; Appointed Directors for Branch Development and Operating Fund; two openings in Dollars for Scholars; 2 openings for Hospitality. Also, there are openings of one more each, for Fall Brunch, Spring Luncheon, and STEM. Please think about people who would be good candidates to fill these positions.

There followed some discussion about allowing new appointees to have a chance to try new things, and support them without negativity. Be tuned in to their comments. Let them know that their voices will be heard and their opinions respected. Be careful with "That won't work," or "We've never done it like that."

If we don't have people to fill the Winter Auction spots and can't hold an auction, then we'll have to cut things out of the budget, to the tune of \$11,000. Newsletter keeps

asking for an apprentice to train to take over newsletter and nobody has stepped up. Everything we do is on a volunteer basis. Entice people -- being on the board is fun and you have wonderful people to work with.

Joyce observed that regarding winter auction, perhaps we've come to a point where we need to consider a different type of fundraiser. If you approach someone about it, ask two people together who are friends and believe they work well together. Personal contact is important! Could we distribute a sheet (again) to ask people to indicate their interests and expertise?

Ideas were shared for making meetings friendlier, and encouraging discussion (round tables instead of rows of chairs for example).

Suggestions for fundraising were shared, including more use of Schnuck's cards, and streamlining of our "standard" events.

Charting the Course

As a follow-up to the last board meeting, Karen has had numerous telephone conversations with AAUW national. If we were designated a Charting the Course chapter, not all of our fund-raising would have to go to Charting the Course. We are acknowledging the initiative and will be working towards it.

New Business/ Presidential Comments

Karen asked how many of the board members had taken the Implicit Association Test. If not, go to the national website. Put "IAT" in the search bar to locate the test, which examines how we associate genders with leadership or support roles. Karen called National with questions. You are asked about your occupation, but the choices do not include "Retired." Karen learned that test was developed by Harvard and the University of Virginia, and they've been offering it since 2011. Give it a try. One question our members have is what is AAUW going to do with the information gathered as results?

Adjournment

Karen adjourned the meeting at 11:05 a.m.

Susan Fenwick
Secretary/Archivist