

AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield Board Meeting
February 1, 2018

I. Call to Order

A. Welcome

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

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

Marcia thanked today’s hostesses: Phyllis Oakes and Sage Taber. (Marcia also contributed).

B. Governance Parliamentarian: Marsha Weppelman

Marsha confirmed that there was a quorum.

C. President’s Remarks

- Thank-you’s received: (1) Bob Kelly, for the AAUW B-C contribution in memory of Barbara, and (2) American Heart Association thanking our branch for the little red hats for babies made by Expressions. Fifteen (15) hospitals will receive hand-made hats as part of the “Little Hats, Big Hearts” initiative. Forty (40) hats were sent to Children's Hospital and forty (40) to the American Heart Association.
- Regarding the Branch Honoree (Named Gift) Committee, please send nominations to Barb McQuitty. People can be honored this way more than once and people on the committee can be named, too. The honoree doesn’t have to be a long-time member. Go through the directory for ideas about people to nominate.

MOTION

Marcia Block made the following motion: I move the Board approve the following Branch Honoree Committee for 2018: Barbara McQuitty, chair; Phyllis Oakes; Judy Stagoski; Michele Mangnall; Sandra Murdock and Marcia Block, ex officio.

Results: The motion was unanimously approved.

- A committee is reauthorized to reach out to recent retirees from local schools. We need to find these women and contact them before school is out. Perhaps we should target other sources as well, e.g., substitute teachers. Bette Bude and Rita Hawkins-Page are interested in pursuing this.
- Munching Matters could be our Galaxy project for this year, and perhaps we could use the school contacts committee for next year's Galaxy project. A Galaxy project is a Special Project that has gone above and beyond the Ten Stars.

MOTION

Karen Francis made the following motion: I move that AAUW B-C submit Munching Matters as our Galaxy Award proposal for 2017.

Results: Motion carried.

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- The Financial Oversight Committee will meet again in March, and will report to the Board in April.
 - Marsha Weppelman and Marcia Block have been working on list of people whose terms are expiring this summer. We will need people to fill these positions, including Winter Auction, Dollars for Scholars, and Hospitality. Leslie Wier also wishes to move on from Directory. Please give Marcia and Marsha suggestions.
 - Sandra Murdoch reminded us that the annual AAUW Art Contest is in progress; the deadline for entering is February 4. Voting will take place in February and March.
 - The Financial Committee is looking for new fund-raising ideas. Please send the ideas to Sandra Murdoch. Sweatshirts are still being sold. If you have friends in other branches, please let them know. We earn \$5 on each sale of a sweatshirt.

II. Elected Officers

A. Minutes – Secretary/Archivist: Susan Fenwick

Susan confirmed that the November 2017 board meeting minutes are on the AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield website. No corrections or additions were proposed. The minutes are approved as posted.

The minutes were accepted as posted.

B. Finance Officer's Report: Pat Shores

Pat was not in attendance, so there was no report.

C. Membership: Mersine Kallaos/Michele Mangnall

- Mersine said the branch now has two hundred thirty-seven (237) members.
- After March 16, national dues are increasing by \$10, so our total dues will be \$91. You will be receiving a notification of the dues increase from AAUW national in your email.
- The Membership Committee met and talked about giving people who renew early a chance to be entered into a drawing for a \$25 Panera card, to be presented at the Summer Picnic.

D. Program: Marilyn Fletcher/Sage Taber

- Sage stated that the committee will hold its annual meeting after the next branch meeting to decide on speakers for next year. They already have two speakers, but need more. Everyone is invited to this meeting.
- The committee got twenty-six (26) questionnaire responses. Top vote-getters were health, educational equity, diversity, and public policy. Good suggestions were received, too.

E. Immediate Past President: Barbara McQuitty

The IBC Luncheon will be held on April 21 at 11:00 a.m. The cost is \$35. We should sell sweatshirts there. The program is "Miss Jubilee," a musical group. Send your check to Barbara. The menu includes chicken piccata, pasta con broccoli, and cake for dessert. Instead of a basket this year, there will be a purse with some things inside it. The Kirkwood-Webster branch is in charge of this.

III. Elected Directors

A. Educational Opportunities Fund (EOF): Marian Bauer/Judy Stagoski

- Marian Bauer said she and Judy were invited to Maryville to see their new cyber security labs. The university offers a B.S. and M.S. in cyber security. Joyce Katz and Marian visited the labs, which are very impressive. Students get experience by helping non-profits and school districts with cyber security.
- Book sales for three (3) months has netted \$590. The goal is at least \$1000.
- For the February 8 meeting, one of our students, Jaimie Talir, will come to meet people, thank us, and speak briefly. She's at Maryville. On February 14, Kristen Jordan will talk at Munching Matters about student debt.

- The UMSL people are hard to get ahold of, but Marian is in touch with a new financial aid person.
- Deb McWard is our contact person for university people seeking information.

B. Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF): Doris Nistler/Julie Triplett

- Doris mentioned that she and Julie are lining up the speaker for March, from the firm that handled the Francine Katz gender discrimination case, and other local discrimination cases.
- St. Louis University locally is involved in a big case of sexual harassment.
- Munching Matters: Signup sheets were available. The organizers are pleased with the meetings so far, hosting our own members as speakers who talk about AAUW mission topics. Sandra Murdock and Shima Rostami were wonderful. Linda Seibert will not be here in March, so Susan Fenwick will give the last talk for this year. The series will follow the same format next year, four (4) meetings. Two speakers already are lined up for next year.

C. Public Policy Priorities: Barbara Butchart/Eve LaJeunesse

- Barb told us that Karen Francis and Pat Shores, respectively, are sponsoring the Missouri Lobby Core and “contact your legislator.”
- The paycheck fairness act, fair pay act, and pay equity for all act are still in need of congressional action.
- Barb passed out an outline of how to contact your legislator, put together by Pat Shores. The question was raised, “Should we send out a letter on this to the entire membership.” We could ask Joyce Katz to send this out in the Friday reminder note. It would be a good way to teach members what we are involved with. The sample statement makes it easy for people who don’t know exactly what to say. The best method for contacting legislators is email. State the name and number of the bill, and the congressional district. Perhaps we could also hand out postcards at a meeting.
- Karen Francis mentioned that advocacy is the first mission of AAUW. This can be face to face, via postcards, or meeting with people when they are in their home district. It is inspiring to go to Jefferson City and meet with legislators in person. The Lobby Corps has training, and Public Priorities ask people to join the Corps who will visit Jefferson City once or twice a month, with specific legislator(s) to see. The top issues for this year are: pay equity, human trafficking, and the Missouri court plan.

- Karen named another opportunity to advocate, a big push starting now on a Title IX delivery project, not just for athletics, but also gender equity in schools. Every branch in Missouri will be asked to participate. There will be training and hand-outs.
- Sandra pointed out that a field that still is 90% male is engineering and computer science. This fact is related to student debt and pay equity.
- There is a case in California with students suing their school district for transgender rights.
- AAUW can talk issues, but not endorse candidates.
- 2018 is an election year. Once again, we will be registering students to vote.

IV. Appointed Directors

A. Winter Auction: Thanks to the newsletter staff and everyone who helped. The auction made over \$10,000. The committee has held a meeting to collect ideas for improving the auction.

B. Directory: Marilyn Beiter/Joyce Katz/Leslie

- Leslie reported that Directory is getting ready to put out a spring supplement. Let the committee know if there is any new information or any corrections.
- There are fewer than forty (40) directories left.

C. Dollars for Scholars (DFS): Janice Buckhold/Phyllis Oakes

Jan passed out DFS event sheets. There are some neat things coming up in the ticklers. One will be a “walk and learn” photography class.

D. Newsletter: Sandy Brody/Joan Davis/Mary Jermak/Jean Light

Sandy asked submitters of articles to please not state in the article how to contact people by looking in the directory. This is covered by a blanket statement in the newsletter. The deadline is the 12th of the month for the next month’s newsletter.

D. Spring Luncheon: Carol Anthony and Linda Kridel

The Spring Luncheon will be held on Thursday, May 10. The committee met with the chef, and finalized the \$26 cost. Payment should be by check, collected by Carol Derington. The theme is “celebrating new heights,” pictured as a hot air balloon. There will be a pre-planning meeting on February 20. Changes are being made in the format of the luncheon. On April 3, the Spring Luncheon Committee will meet with the Expressions group to make programs.

E. STEM: Jean Elliott/Carol Greenaway

- Carol reported on lots of things going on in STEM. The Expanding Your Horizons Conference will be held on March 12 at the Meramec Campus of Meramec Community College. Please contact Marcia Block to sign up. Over 500 girls have already registered. There will be workshops and a career panel. The keynote speaker is a woman from Iran who is playing chess. Her major is a STEM career.
- Also coming up is judging of the St. Louis Science Fair. We sponsor two girls for their projects.
- STEM Girls of Promise is coming in April. Five (5) girls will be honored at each school.
- Jean mentioned the Missouri Science Bowl on February 24, a trivia contest for middle school students (boys and girls) at Washington University. Monsanto is the sponsor. You can volunteer to be runners.
- Ameren has a neat ad promoting girls in science. Can our branch compliment them on this? Jean Elliott will try to find a contact to whom we could send a letter.

V. New Business: Marsha Weppelman, chair of the Nominating Committee

Marsha, Bette Bude, and Leslie Wier were the Nominating Committee. Marsha read the new slate of officers to the Board, and then made the following motion.

MOTION

I move to approve the following slate of officers for the 2018-2020 term: Jean Elliott for Co-President; Mary Jermak for Co-VP Program; Angela Janik for Co-VP Membership; and Sue Lancaster for Secretary/Archivist.

Results: Motion carried.

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- The slate of officers will be announced at the March branch meeting. Voting will take place at the April branch meeting. The committee has developed a timeline for use by new nominating committees.

VIII. Adjournment

President Marcia Block adjourned the meeting at 11:13 a.m.

Addendum – Results of Electronic Voting

Between the time of the November 2, 2017, board meeting and today's meeting, the following votes were conducted electronically via email.

Subject of Vote #1: On December 5, 2017, board members were asked to approve sending \$500 to the Interbranch Council (IBC) for the National Conference of College Women Leaders (NCCWSL). This is in addition to the \$2000 already sent to AAUW.

Results: On December 10, President Marcia Block announced that the vote was unanimous in favor.

Subject of Vote #2: On December 5, 2017, board members were asked to approve selling navy hooded sweatshirts with AAUW in bright green letters on the front, as designed by AAUW B-C member Rita Hawkins-Page. Sweatshirts to be sold initially at the branch's Winter Auction and subsequently marketed to other branches and at functions such as the state meeting.

Results: On December 10, President Marcia Block announced that the vote was unanimous in favor.

Susan Fenwick, Secretary/Archivist