

AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield Board Meeting
April 5, 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: Becky Ragan, Pat Shores and Mersine Kallaos.

Governance Parliamentarian: Marsha Weppelman confirmed that there was a quorum.

B. President’s Remarks

- Positions for next year are almost all filled. The committee started working on this in February. Their goal is to be ready to have the nominees approved at the May meeting, and to approve the EOF budget as well.
- Meeting attendance records starting in 2009-10 were distributed by Marcia Block, along with membership data. Peak membership was in 2009. This may be explained in part because we gave memberships to all of our scholarship awardees. Marcia also passed around Missouri AAUW membership data. Missouri membership has been dropping quite a bit; it is down 10% since 2015.
- AAUW B-C Membership has been asked to track attendance at meetings and at our big events. Our branch accounts for more than a third of the AAUW membership in Missouri. We have typically picked up members by inviting guests to our meetings. There was a discussion about attracting young people to join the branch. It was stated that the thing we really have to worry about is retaining current members, more than attracting additional members. The average age of members, nationally, is 73 years old. Younger women are more inclined to join at the national level, where they interact with AAUW online.
- Marcia received a nine-page document from Sue Barley that gives a description and the rationale behind the proposed amendments to the national bylaws. Marcia will email it to all of the board members.
- Suggestions for improving branch meetings were noted. One member suggested having a particular focus for a meeting, rather than covering all areas at every meeting. Our goal is to emphasize the mission and reach people.

- A strategic plan for national is coming.

II. Elected Officers

A. Minutes – Secretary/Archivist: Susan Fenwick

Susan confirmed that the March 2018 board meeting minutes are on the AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield website. No corrections or additions were proposed. The minutes are approved as posted.

B. Finance Officer's Report: Pat Shores

- Pat reported ending balances for the following funds: Operating Fund, \$41,407; Leadership/Development Fund, \$6,468; Dollars for Scholars, \$6,695; Schnucks, \$2,942. Total assets stand at \$57,512.
- The Operating Fund is where the most activity is. Every month Pat has details, which she will provide to anyone who is interested. We are on track for our budget predictions.
- Budget requests: thank you to those who have already submitted. If you have not, please turn in your request.
- Early payment of dues: Fifty (50) people paid dues last month.
- Anyone who plans to make purchases between now and the end of the year, please keep in mind that we don't pay tax; there is a tax exempt form.
- Members who attend the state meeting will be reimbursed after the meeting. You can go ahead and fill out the reimbursement form, though.
- Our year ends on June 30. Please turn in bills before that. We want to avoid having to pay them out of next year's budget.

C. Membership: Mersine Kallaos/Michele Mangnall

- Mersine said the branch now has 238 members. Another lady is about to join, at the branch meeting this month.
- At the Spring Luncheon, Alice Crippen will be honored for fifty (50) years of active membership in AAUW.
- Permanent name tags are available from Shop AAUW. The cost is \$8.00.
- Mary Jermak remarked that our newsletter is a great recruiting tool, when talking to potential new members.

D. Program: Marilyn Fletcher/Sage Taber

- Judy Stagoski read a note from Marilyn Fletcher. Marilyn has not recovered quite enough to be at today's meeting, but she thanks everyone for the cards and calls she has received. She WILL be at the Spring Luncheon!
- Most of the programs for next year are in place. Our next speaker, Joy Weese Moll, is involved with education and the disparity with suspensions of students of color. She is looking at discipline procedures and policies in several school districts.

E. Immediate Past President: Barbara McQuitty

- The IBC Luncheon will be held on April 21 at 11:00 a.m. The signup deadline is today. See Barb, who will take your check. The cost is \$35.
- Barb has been collecting things for the purses for the auction. If you would like to contribute small items like gift cards, jewelry or makeup items, please contact Barb.
- Karen Francis thanked us for her honor as the Barb Lackritz awardee. She will be honored at the Spring Fling.

III. Elected Directors

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

- Book sales for the year have netted \$908. It is hoped that the \$1000 goal is met this month.
- On April 11, Marian Bauer and Judy Stagoski will be representing AAUW B-C at a scholarship reception at Maryville.

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

- Nothing to report.

C. Public Policy Priorities: Barbara Butchart/Eve LaJeunesse

- Eve passed around a flyer for the AAUW Action Network.
- You can take part in the National Day of Action, and you will receive a toll-free number to connect to the office of your legislator.

IV. Appointed Directors

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

Three (3) DFS events are scheduled in April. Janice passed out the upcoming events sheet. Ticklers do not have dates yet.

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

Mary stated that the deadline for article submission is the 14th of the month.

D. Spring Luncheon: Carol Anthony and Linda Kridel

- The Spring Luncheon will be held on Thursday, May 10. Carol told us that around seventy (70) attendees have signed up, and the committee would like to pick up another thirty (30). The menu is set, and the table decorations are finished.
- Jane Hemer is prepared to pick up Linda's role for the coming year.

E. STEM: Jean Elliott/Carol Greenaway

- Jean said next week will be the first Girls of Promise breakfast, at Maplewood Richmond Heights, for five (5) girls. On April 27 there will be a breakfast at Valley Park that involved six (6) girls. It would be nice to see some friendly faces there from our branch.
- The Science Fair, the final event of the year, is April 25.
- Marcia Block remarked that STEM had a wonderful time at Expanding Your Horizons. This event attracted five hundred (500) middle school girls, the most in several years.
- Sandra read a thank-you note from the twenty (20) girls we sponsored from the Collegiate School of Medicine and Biosciences, signed by each girl. There was quite a bit of diversity among the girls.

V. New Business:

- Karen Francis gave a shout-out to the program people for this year. Adrienne Davis was awesome, and she will be the keynote speaker for the National Council of Jewish Women.
- Please consider serving on one of the national committees. Applications are open. It's a great way to learn more about AAUW.
- Marian Bauer commented on meeting attendance records. If we have two different kinds of name tags, will it cause a problem with counting? We may need a different way to count.

VIII. Adjournment

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

Susan Fenwick, Secretary/Archivist