

AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield Board Meeting

May 3, 2018

I. Call to Order

A. Welcome

- President Sandra Murdock called the meeting to order at 9:32 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.”

- Parliamentarian Marsha Weppelman confirmed a quorum.
- There was a special thank-you for lunch from the AAUW B-C Board to co-presidents Sandra Murdock and Marcia Block. This was Sandra’s last board meeting, and she thanked the board members for the honor of being president. She has truly enjoyed being president, and she will continue to work for AAUW.

II. Elected Officers

A. Co-President’s Report: Sandra Murdock/Marcia Block

- Sandra reminded members to pay their dues of \$91. It is easy to pay online.
- There are positions available at the national level. If you wish to volunteer, the deadline to apply is May 4. Sandra has a printout of the openings, which she circulated.
- Voting opened on April 25 for requested changes to national bylaws. You may vote online until June 9. You still have time to ask for a paper ballot, if you want one. Remember: if you don’t vote, you can’t complain!
- Marcia Block circulated a signup sheet for board meeting hostesses for next year, three for each month. If you have already served as a hostess a lot, you may take a break. New members also will be asked to sign up.
- It was necessary to vote on the rest of the board for next year. Names were passed out. Karen Francis is going to complete Barb Butchart’s unexpired term. New volunteers are taking on some of the Communications/Web tasks. Bette Bude and Mary Kay Wolfe will be handling Friday Reminders. Susan Haynes is going to be in charge of the database. Joyce Katz and Linda Robinson will continue managing the website. The new people prefer to be committee members rather than directors, but this is a question for the Restructuring Committee.

- Joyce asked if the new board members should be invited to the Yahoo Group. Answer: yes. Note: The board does not vote on standing committees. These are appointed by the presidents.
 - Usually the Budget Committee meets in August and the budget is brought to the September meeting.
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MOTION

Marcia Block moved that the Appointed Directors be approved.

Results: Motion carried.

MOTION

Marcia Block moved that the Audit Committee be approved.

Results: Motion carried.

- Linda Roberson's term on Communications/Web is expiring. She and Joyce will work things out.
 - At the May luncheon, Membership will pass out a sheet to seek members who might be interested in serving on a particular committee, and results will be passed along to the committee heads.
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MOTION

Marcia Block moved that a Restructuring Committee be re-established to consider and recommend any changes to the current board structure as defined in the bylaws. It is expected that any changes recommended would be minor.

Results: Motion carried.

- Leslie Wier has been asked to chair the Restructuring Committee, holding maybe two or three meetings. This does not need to be a large committee; the desired size is around six people. If you would like to serve on the committee, please let Sandra or Marcia know.
- Marcia passed out the responses to an inquiry about when we should hold Individual Giving. We probably need to eliminate February from consideration because it is the least well attended meeting of the year. Sixty-six (66) members responded to Mary Jermak's survey on this subject.

MOTION

Marcia Block moved that the Budget Committee be approved.

Results: Motion carried.

B. Minutes – Secretary/Archivist: Susan Fenwick

Susan confirmed that the April 2018 board meeting minutes are on the AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield website. No corrections or additions were proposed. The minutes are approved as posted. This is Susan's last meeting as Secretary.

C. Financial Report: Pat Shores

- Pat presented her financial report, with the following ending balance amounts: Operating Fund, \$43,637; Leadership Development Fund, \$6468; Dollars for Scholars, \$7520; Schnucks, \$2940.
- Pat will write you a check at the state meeting to reimburse your registration fee. She asks that you please cash your check right away because the year ends in June.
- All budget requests for next year have been received.
- The dues incentive program is going great. There still are around one hundred (100) members who need to renew, however.
- Pat paid the bill for Director and Officer Liability Insurance for 2018-19.
- The Financial Planning Committee met and proposed a series of actions. A report was distributed at today's board meeting. There are two motions to propose. This year, Dollars for Scholars money was divided between local and national.

MOTION

The Financial Planning Committee moves that the Dollars for Scholars money be dedicated to local scholarships, only.

Results: Motion approved unanimously.

Discussion: The reason is to avoid mixing local and national money. The Dollars for Scholars (DFS) Committee is very eager to see this motion approved. Local money is not tax deductible. Most members already think that the DFS money stays local, and this is a draw for people to sponsor events. If the Educational Opportunities Fund is fully funded at the national level, then we do not want to send new money to fund it. At the national level, it is funded by the interest on an endowment.

Julie Triplett noted that LAF is funded by being budgeted by the national board. It is not primarily an endowment.

MOTION

The Financial Planning Committee moves that the money sent to national in 2018-2019, be paid out of the Operating Fund.

Results: Motion approved unanimously.

Discussion: The amount will be determined by the Budget Committee. We are carrying quite a bit of money in the Operating Fund. Maybe it is time to spend this down judiciously.

D. Program: Marilyn Fletcher/Sage Taber

- Marilyn was back. She expressed appreciation for the support of members of AAUW B-C during her recovery from surgery, and also thanked Sage for moving things forward in the Program area during her absence.
- Sage: Someone is arranged for next year in every speaker spot.
- Mary Jermak and Sage already are working on next year's programs as well.

E. Membership: Mersine Kallaos/Michele Mangnall

- The branch now has 240 members. 4 new members joined in April. The total for the year is 17 new members, which qualified us for four national memberships with complimentary dues. We already have two, given to people who might have a need for this. If you know someone who struggles to pay dues, please let Membership know before June 30, the deadline to take advantage of the other two memberships.
- Karen Francis asked if the branch could budget some money to also cover the state and local dues. The Budget Committee could consider this.
- It was also suggested that we might use this opportunity to give a speaker a complimentary AAUW membership.
- People who are members at national level but not of branch, have been contacted, and they support the mission but they do not want to join the branch.
- Membership also contacted people last summer who hadn't paid their dues. They have lots of reasons, but not liking the branch is not the reason, typically. They have some leeway in not being officially dropped from the directory until November.
- President Sandra Murdock presented a gift of appreciation to Morris.

III. Elected Directors

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

- Marian Bauer reported that the Book Sale earned \$1,067, exceeding the goal of \$1000. EOF has doubled the amount of money it used to make.
- We have two graduates this Saturday, both from Maryville. They will receive "Give a Grad a Gift" membership. They also received a graduation card from us.
- Marian passed around the EOF budget now because school starts in August and the branch does its budget in October. On April 15 the initial budget that the committee used as the basis for planning, which included what we are giving to national, was set. This was the money we had, with no extra money added. We give four scholarships. If we get extra amounts of money, we may be able to add another scholarship, but right now this budget is what we have. Each student will receive \$847 per semester.
- Marian submitted the following motion:

MOTION

I move that the EOF budget presented for 2018-2019 be approved.

Results: Motion carried.

- Sage suggested we stay at four scholarships, but with more money each, up to \$1000, instead of adding more scholarships. Marian inquired as to what groups like ours usually give. The answer is about \$500, so we aren't out of sync with other groups. Students do not apply for this scholarship per se; it goes through the Financial Office. We have our criteria, though. The student must be at least 28 years of age, and meet some other conditions. The scholarship can extend for another year if the student is still meeting the criteria and continuing her studies.
- Pat Shores said that we have records on scholarships awarded.

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

- Julie thanked everyone for the sympathy cards they sent her.
- The LAF Committee will continue, but with a mission of educating, not fundraising. A plaintiff will be at the state meeting.
- Munching Matters was submitted for the Galaxy Award and the award was granted. Julie asked for a small budget for Munching Matters, to cover the videographer's lunch, speaker's lunch, and the server's tip. There are already topics for next year.

MOTION

I move that Munching Matters be approved for \$150 for next year's expenses.

Results: Motion carried.

C. Public Policy Priorities: Barbara Butchart/Eve LaJeunesse

- Eve had no report.

IV. Appointed Directors

A. Communications/Web: Joyce Katz/Linda Roberson

- Joyce suggested that committees send their annual reports out via the Yahoo Group.
- The committee is ecstatic to welcome Susan Haynes to update the databases and send them out, and welcomes the Friday reminders help.

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

- Jan and Phyllis passed out a DFS events sheet. Susie Teicher just added a new event, a trip to the Churchill Museum. Sign-ups will be available at the Spring Luncheon.
- Phyllis and Janice are not going forward with DFS. The new DFS Committee leaders will be Barb McQuitty and Rita Hawkins-Page.

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

- Sandy commented that the Newsletter Committee is finishing up its first year as a team of four. The team has learned some things along the way. Jean, Joan and Sandy will be staying on, and Susan Fenwick will be joining them. Mary Jermak will serve as proofreader. She is updating the list of documents for proofreaders. Newsletter asked for some new proofreaders, and a team of five (5) responded.
- Newsletter used to use the 12th of the month as the deadline for articles, but this is moving back to the 14th of month. Occasionally Newsletter gets requests for mailed copies of newsletter but they discourage this as it is designed to be digital. This is decided on a case by case basis. Currently, fifteen (15) copies are mailed.
- Karen Francis asked about sharing articles with other branches. This topic has come up at IBC. This is being done on an informal basis. Monthly newsletters for the whole state are on the state website.
- Sandra calls the newsletter the lifeline for AAUW. It's MUCH needed. The Friday Reminders are very important, too, and they always refer to the newsletter, and give other news as well. These keep the lines of communication open.
- Mary Jermak noted that next month will be her 80th newsletter edition! She gave special thanks to Joyce Katz and Pat Shores, to Bette Bude, to Susan Fenwick and Mary Kay Wolfe. She also thanked Sandy, Joan and Jean, remarking that it was a joy to work with them this year. And also, of course, thanks to the contributors.

D. STEM/Science Fair: Jean Elliott

- The last event of the year was the St. Louis Science Fair. Jean Elliott, Sandra Murdock and Marcia Block attended. They decided on two winners, Caroline Dunn of St. Joseph's Academy, and Katherine Schwegmann from Kirkwood High School.
- Those who attended were blown away by the STEM Girls of Promise, several of whom sent thank-you notes.
- Last Friday was the Valley Park STEM Girls of Promise event. There was great attendance this time by relatives and teachers. Six girls received awards. The course of study for these girls at the high school level is amazing. Each of the girls received a certificate and medal, and \$25. More and more people understand what AAUW is about, too.

V. Special Events

A. Spring Luncheon: Carol Anthony/Linda Kridel

- The Spring Luncheon will be held on Thursday, May 10. The cost is \$26 by check. Carol Derington reported 99 reservations and 13 tables. She has a list of the additional tables needed for interest groups.

B. IBC/Named Gift: Barbara McQuitty

- Barb reported that the IBC Spring Fling turned out really well. There were some glitches with the food, but other than that, everything went quite well. The purse thing went over really well. The luncheon was well attended and people had a good time. The hard part is to find a place that will serve a nice meal, reasonably priced. The entertainment was really cute, too. Karen Francis was presented the Barbara Lackritz Award.
- Named Gift is all planned out and nine (9) awards will be presented at the Spring Luncheon.

VI. New Business:

Outgoing board members (except those just changing positions) received a gift of a plant.

VII. Adjournment

President Sandra Murdock adjourned the meeting at 11:12 a.m.

A lovely luncheon followed.

Addendum – Results of Electronic Vote

On April 20, 2108, board members were contacted by president Marcia Block, who asked them to vote electronically on the following motion from the Financial Review Committee. The motion was submitted by Pat Shores, AAUW B-C Finance Officer.

MOTION

I move that the Board approve the payment of \$337 to AHT for Directors' and Officers' Liability Insurance for 2018-2019.

Results: The motion was approved on April 28, 2018.

Susan Fenwick, Secretary/Archivist