

AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield Board Meeting September 5, 2019

Call to Order and Welcome

- President Jean Elliott called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.
- Attendees recited the AAUW mission statement.
- Jean thanked today's hostesses: Angela Janik, Karen Francis, and Jane Hemer.
- Marsha Weppelman described the voting paddles and the voting process.
- A folder of information for members of the board was distributed, as well as a listing of branch meetings.

Presidents' Announcements

- Co-presidents Jan Horner and Jean Elliott are switching seats for October and November. Jean will lead the October meeting and Jan, November and December.
- Jan reminded us that 2020 is the hundredth anniversary of the 19th amendment. There is money budgeted to work on a Women's Suffrage Celebration event. What do we want to do to celebrate? Maybe something in connection with the Spring Luncheon? A small committee will be appointed to work on this. Think about proposing an idea.
 - Patricia Bishop observed that Ellen Irons put together a packet of hundredth anniversary programming ideas that soon will be on a website womensvotecentennial.info (with a tab at the top of the state website). Ellen is chair of the state committee.
 - Karen Francis reminded us that the 19th amendment gave **white** women the right to vote. Black women could not vote until the Civil Rights Act was passed.
 - Sage Taber pointed out that at the March meeting someone from the League of Women Voters will be speaking on the topic of suffrage. Maybe we could tie a celebration into that meeting.
- Board members were asked to avoid arriving at Trinity for AAUW meetings between 8:45 and 9:00 a.m., to prevent interference with day care drop-offs.
- Please go to Membership first with changes of address, etc.
- Jean asked that as board members were speaking today, they indicate whether or not they want to speak next week at the Fall Brunch, so she could develop an agenda for that meeting.

Elected Officers' Reports

Finance Officer: Pat Shores gave an assets report and handed out a proposed budget. Pat explained the content of the line items in the budget (i.e., how to read the spreadsheet). The Financial Planning Committee met over the summer to review branch finances. All committees had turned in their budget requests at the end of last year, and all requests were honored. In some cases, additional funds were proposed.

- The Operating Fund has been gradually growing, for several reasons, including lower conference costs. It is desirable to spend down the accumulated funds on appropriate budget items.
 - Karen Francis remarked that there will be no separate state conference this year. On June 18-20 in the Quad Cities, it will be folded into the regional conference. Kim Churches will speak.
- If your committee is going to go over its budget by more than \$100, the expenditure needs approval.
- If funding is in the budget, it can be spent, but it does not have to be spent.

MOTION

On behalf of the Budget Committee, Pat Shores moved that the Ballwin-Chesterfield board approve the 2019-2020 budget as printed.

Results of the Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

VP Membership: Willeyne Berger. The Membership Committee has discussed measures to increase branch membership. We all need to encourage people to join.

- 24 people did not re-join, but some of them may re-join next year.
- The committee discussed having some members recognized, such as fifty-year members.
- They are considering not holding a new-member brunch, since many of the new members already are involved in branch activities. Last year's new-member event attracted only two people. Instead, a member of the committee will contact individuals to schedule coffee or lunch and go over branch activities. The committee is examining when attrition tends to occur, and how to encourage people to re-join to avoid losing them.

V-P Program: Sage Taber. Sage ran through the programs planned for each month. Mary Jermak stated that they would like to continue to invigorate the Program Committee with additional members joining.

Immediate Past President: Marcia Block. Her job this year is primarily Interbranch Council (IBC). Changes for recognition have been announced. State is still doing the Ten-star Award but is dropping the Galaxy Award. National has started a Five-star Award.

Elected Directors' Reports

AAUW Fund: Marian Bauer.

- About five years ago, it was explained to us that EOF and LAF were fully funded. In 2018 it was decided to put all of our fundraising under a single umbrella group called AAUW Fund.
- This Committee met in August. There are two goals, (1) promoting all aspects of AAUW funds and (2) writing for the newsletter each month under a new banner. This will replace the separate EOF, LAF, and Eleanor Roosevelt Fund articles.
- National Funds under the AAUW Fund are AAUW Greatest Needs Fund, Education and Training Fund, Economic Security Fund, and Leadership Fund.
- Our annual giving collection will be held in November.
- Also the committee is pushing Century and Century Plus clubs.
- Donations to AAUW Fund may be made in the name of a person, for instance as a celebration tribute or a memorial.

Public Policy: Karen Francis.

- Public Policy Priorities have been revised. They will zero in on legislation, Work Smart, and gender pay equity (addressing the gender pay gap).
- In addition, Public Policy will address other issues that come up, such as reproductive choice, Title 10 funds, immigration rights, and voter suppression.
- The AAUW B-C Public Policy Committee will be collaborating with other women's organizations.
- Public Policy has signed up with four (4) county library headquarters to give WorkSmart programs.

Appointed Directors' Reports

Branch Fundraising: Marcia Block.

The committee needs ideas for the winter event, Winter Belles. There will be a meeting right after the Fall Brunch. No big changes from last year are anticipated. There will be entertainment. Monetary donations will be encouraged, with an honor roll list of donors who contribute at least \$50. Auction items are welcome as well.

Directory: Joan Hewitt. Due to a printing glitch, the new directories are not here today, but they are hoping to have them for the Fall Brunch.

Dollars for Scholars: Marilyn Fletcher. Events are scheduled for September and October. Board members are encouraged to sponsor Dollars for Scholars events.

Governance: Marsha Weppelman. The bylaws needed to be updated, and currently they all are up to date. Nothing came in this year from national, but next spring we anticipate bylaws changes.

Hospitality: Carol Greenaway. Signups at the Summer Picnic were very successful. The number of hostesses per meeting has been reduced to one coordinating hostess and eight hostesses. Just a few more people are needed to sign up for later months. Next year's picnic will be held at Trinity.

Newsletter: Sandy Brody. Sandy provided some guidelines for submissions to the newsletter.

- The deadline for articles will always be the twelfth of the month. If you're having trouble getting items in by then, please let Newsletter know.
- There is a 250-word limit on articles, because space is limited.
- Please check the spelling of members' names.
- Give the source of any quotations used.
- The newsletter follows the AAUW Style Guide. Ariel 10 is the font of choice.

Special Events

Fall Brunch: Eileen Krahnman (not present). Jean Elliott spoke on behalf of Eileen, indicating that the Fall Brunch preparations are well in hand. An activity is planned that ties into the hundred-year anniversary of women's suffrage, seeking to hear about one hundred ways people have helped the AAUW mission.

Spring Luncheon: Jane Hemer. The committee received great reviews from last spring's luncheon.

- Jane distributed a financial accounting sheet for the luncheon.
- The committee needs members. The first committee meeting is on September 25.

STEM: Susan Fenwick. This year's committee has been formed, and the first organizational meeting is scheduled for September 24.

- STEM will continue its support of established activities like STEM Girls of Promise recognition, Expanding Your Horizons sponsorship, and Science Fair recognition.
- At the first meeting we will discuss ideas for enhancing these activities and/or adding some new ones. Our expanded budget may be used to facilitate these initiatives.

University Liaison: Carol Greenaway announced that Panera gift cards and bean soup sales will be held again this year, along with book sales starting in October. Carol had bean soup packets available for purchase at the board meeting.

Web Manager: Joyce Katz. The website is due for restructuring, with a change in information architecture.

- Joyce reminded board members about the Members Only page, which contains lots of information.
- Patricia Bishop distributed handouts concerning the restructuring of the website.

Care Notes: Joyce Katz. Joyce asked to be informed if a member knows that another member or their family member is ill. In case of bereavement, Joan Reed sends cards from the branch.

E.R. Walk: Jean Elliott announced that the walk will be held on October 15 at 10:30.

- Carol Derington and Eileen Krahman are in charge.
- A pavilion in Des Peres Park has been rented where a luncheon can be held afterwards, so bring a small salad.
- Members of other branches are invited.
- There will be sign-ups for the walk at the September and October meetings.
- Donations are accepted, but not required to participate.

Database: Joyce Katz. Please let Membership know of any changes. They will be reflected in the database.

Adjournment

Jean Elliott adjourned the meeting at 11:17 a.m.

Susan Fenwick, on behalf of
Sue Lancaster, Secretary/Archivist