

AAUW-BC Board minutes, Zoom meeting, Thursday November 5, 2020 24 in attendance

Per Jan's note, several board members signed in between 9 and 9:30 for social time

Jan Horner, Co-President, welcomed Board members, who recited the Mission Statement. **Sage Taber, Co-President**, thanked everyone for the Get out the Vote hard work. Several attendees were wearing their RBG pearls.

Finance Officer, Pat Shores: October ending asset: Operating Fund, \$43,855.91; Dollars for Scholars, \$5,302.13; and Contingency Fund, \$3,732.35, for a total asset value of \$52,890.39. Pat did extensive research on the topic of our branch becoming a 501(c)(3). The Board members voted to accept her recommendation that as a branch, we not make this change at this time.

Programs – Carol Anthony, Co-Chair: next week's speaker is **Ana Kent**, a policy analyst at the Federal Reserve Bank; her topic will cover the growing income divide. A video will be on the member portion of the Website. **Yvonne Ward, Co-Chair**: we will continue to use the zoom Chat function to give comments on the speaker plus a 1-5 rating. Last month's speaker, Julie Smith, received positive comments and high ratings.

Jean Elliott, past co-president, asked if there is any way to share the videos with IBC members. The **agreement** is that we will share recommendations only. The speaker's contract is with our branch, not with the entire region. Per Sage, we don't want to lose control of the information and guidelines are in place. **Webmaster Joyce Katz** reminded us of the new password for the website – **BCMembers2020**. Website revisions are completed – it is more concise and easier to find items. Joyce will post the videos on the password protected portion of the website for those who missed the meeting. Last month's talk from Julie Smith is still on that site.

AAUW Fund: Marian Bauer, Co-Chair: the Fund is doing well; the message has gotten out to everyone. At the November meeting we will have short presentations from Focus St. Louis and Room at the Inn about how they used their community grant money; **Eileen Krahman, Co-Chair**: we collected a total of \$1,995 for the Eleanor Roosevelt Walk; \$1,570 of that went directly to Fund for research; the remaining \$425 was designated for Greatest Needs. Thank you to the committee for the wonderful time. **Carol Derington** told us of a CNN program Sunday nights about First Ladies; Jean Elliott said there is a new ER book out.

Public Policy: Angie Janik, Co-Chair, thanked everyone who helped with the Get Out the Vote, and singled out Bette Bude and Mary Kay Wolfe for their clear messaging on the Friday notes. **Karen Francis, Co-Chair**: everyone should go to the AAUW website to read Kim Churches' statement on the importance of the vote count. AAUW had over 1500 volunteers to help at election sites. Next push once we know the results will be on gender pay gap/equity. AAUW is political, but not partisan.; they provide information on issues, not on individuals.

Branch Fundraising Chair Marcia Block: it is now 5 weeks to the Winter party! Two goals – raise money for the branch, and have a good time. Raffle tickets are in the newsletter and Joyce will re send the email

to everyone. Send checks to the branch; \$50 or more qualifies the donor as a Belle. Dennis Strougmann will present “Fiddlers and Folklore” about French heritage in our area – he will be both entertaining and informative. To help with the missing social aspects, send to Marcia by Dec. 2 pictures of your holiday decorations – any holiday, this year or last, with yourself in the picture if possible. Jean will talk to son-in-law about best way to link the pictures in a presentation to show on Zoom.

Dollars for Scholars – Co-Chair Janet Sloey continues to put items of interest in the Friday notes. There are no plans for book collections in the future; members can sell books directly to Half Price Books themselves if they wish to make the receipts a donation. Pat said that right now we have an adequate balance, but once we pay out for second semester we need to beef up the account. We do have funds available to supplement. Some members are donating what they would have spent on events.

Marcia Weppelman, Governance: the only item of interest is that AAUW is raising dues over the next three years (\$3, \$5, \$5). Jan said it would be on the Branch meeting agenda; **Marian B.** suggested a Friday note; and **Karen F.** suggested a reminder about the AAUW Webinar that addresses the reasons.

Octoberfest was fabulous – thanks to **Jean and Eileen** for a great time. We had 60 attendees; Jan commented that 60 seems to be the magic number for Zoom meetings also, although not always the same 60 each time.

STEM: Barb McQuitty, Co-Chair: the STEM committee has been hard at work; they established and distributed goals. Valley Park sent enthusiastic response and still wants to be involved; Maplewood/Richmond Heights has not yet replied. Science Fair will have 3 prizes this year; it will be virtual again. They are considering lanyards for the events. A list of STEM books and articles is being compiled.

AAUW business section of meeting: Dues increase was a national decision, not involving a vote. Missouri AAUW is not continuing the Named Gift awards at the state level; we will stop them for right now at our Branch level. Per **Pat Shore said that the new** state president, Sue Shineman, is a dynamo. The state meeting will be by Zoom for a half-day on May 1. The Inclusion and Equity committee has been formed. We have 4 reps to IBC; the past president is our delegate. **Jean** reported that the next IBC meeting is November 24.

Branch business – we currently have 3 editors of the newsletter – **Sandy Brody, Jean Light, and Joan Davis.** We agreed to appoint **Mary Jermak** as a 4th editor, a job she has been doing de facto since she officially left the staff; Sandy explained the extensive tasks involved with the news section. We will be looking for another Webmaster for next year. Joyce pointed out that there are already others who help with postings, such as Jean Light posting the newsletter each month.

The Board approved **Barb McQuitty, Judy Stagoski and Linda Roberson** as the nominating committee. This is a challenging assignment; please get suggestions to them. We will need Co-President, Finance Officer, Co-VP for Programs, Co-VP for Membership, Co-Chair Public Policy, and Co-Chair AAUW FUND. Barb asked us to think of newer members. Judy S said she reviewed the new members section of past newsletters, looking at skills used in prior jobs.

Marian B. brought up that members had been glad to receive our earlier calls; new members had been impressed that we reached out. We agreed to do this again before the Winter Party; Pat White and Judy Stagoski will work on talking points. This is to check on members, share info and invite to the party – do not ask them to do stuff. Send Jean a note if you still have your previous list, and she will resend to those who don't have them.

Submitted by Leslie Wier, Recording Secretary