

AAUW-BC Branch minutes, Zoom meeting, Thursday January 14, 2021 49 in attendance

Covid vaccine signup info will be in Friday reminders

Jan Horner, Co-President, started our meeting with the Mission Statement. Happy New Year! Jan said that unlike previous years, bad weather does not affect our ability to attend Zoom meetings. Please use the chat function for everyone; we can scroll to the name of a person if we want to chat in private. She welcomed Nancy Hutchins back from the hospital and said that Judy Stagoski, as a volunteer at Mercy, is getting her second vaccine shot today. Sage Taber, Co-President, asked us to save these dates: 3/13 - IBS Spring Fling, 10:30-12 on Zoom; 5/1 – Missouri State annual meeting; 5/13 – our own Branch spring luncheon (more below).

Pat Shores, Finance Officer: December 2020 ending balances: Operating Fund, \$46,585.53; Dollars for Scholars, \$6,072.03; and Contingency Fund/CD, \$3,758.22, for a total asset value of \$56,415.78. She reminded us that dues for 2022, which she starts collecting in March, are going up \$3 at the National level to \$62; State remains \$10 and IBC remains \$22, for a total of \$94. NCWSL will be virtual this year, not in person. Nicole Caldwell from UMSL will be our representative.

Carol Anthony, Co-Chair, Programs : Our next speaker, February 11, will be Shawntelle Fisher, founder of The SoulFisher Ministries, who will share her story with Life After Lock-Up: The Reality of Re-entry. **Yvonne Ward, Co-Chair**, will introduce today's speaker later. We will continue evaluations with comments and a number rating in the Zoom chat box. Each speaker presentation on Zoom is recorded and placed on our website under Members Only section.

Jean Elliott – Past President, encourages us to sign up for the 3/13 IBC Spring Fling Zoom session. Our AAUW-BC member Mary Jermak is receiving the Barb Lackritz award this year; we should be there virtually to recognize her contributions. The speaker is TBD. **Deb Ward** said a flyer will give details. There will be raffle tickets. We can make donations or enter the raffle. Money goes to various IBC expenses and buildup their account to help fund things like NCWSL attendees. The flyer will be emailed to each member, put in the newsletter, and included in the Friday news notes. The cost is \$10 and if attending, you need to register.

Marian Bauer, Co-Chair AAUW Fund: Thank you for the generous contributions made to the Fund in the final months of 2020. Continue to read the Fund write-ups in the newsletter.

Karen Francis, Co-Chair Public Policy: thanked everyone for Get Out the Vote efforts. AAUW will now focus on pay equity and social issues. AAUW is following state legislation. Over 1200 bills have already been submitted. The AAUW Equal Pay group is following 3 or 4 of them. HR1 is a national bill regarding voting. Our governor has not extended the temporary changes made for the 2020 elections. Please read the powerful letter from Kim Churches and other women's groups regarding the 1/6/21 actions at the Capitol. A by-laws change regarding membership comes up 7/13. MO is one of only 17 states with committee on equity and inclusion. If the by-laws change is approved, there will be no name change to our organization. Side note: men are members at large, not branch members.

Marcia Block, Co-Chair, Branch Fundraising, thanked everyone for making our December party a success. We netted over \$5000 for the event. Thank you!.

Michelle Mangnall, Co-Chair Spring Luncheon: - The committee is ready if we can meet in person by May, but since that is not likely, they are working on the possibility of a picnic instead, similar to the Oktoberfest idea. They are poised to go in any direction, so keep the date open: 5/13! The celebration portion will be moved to July or later. .

Jan Horner: AAUW business section of meeting: Please give National your opinion on by-law changes by February 5. We are no longer doing named gifts at the state level. **Barb McQuitty, Judy Stagoski and Linda Roberson** as the nominating committee; they are open for nominations until 1/25. 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.

Parliamentarian Marcia Weppelman pointed out that our own branch Bylaws finance section does not include honorary lifetime members as exempt from dues, although it is addressed in our Policies. We will need to revise the By-laws for this exemption. Jan explained that honorary lifetime members are those who have paid dues for 50 years. **Pat Shores** is working with **Alice Crippen** and **Jane Edwards**, who qualify by providing the forms and obtaining the certificates and letters. **Jayne Kasten** has already qualified.

A final question – What are we looking forward to in 2020-21 year? The value of true human connection.

At the conclusion of the business session, **Yvonne Ward** introduced our Zoom speaker, Sandy Davidson, retired media law professor, who spoke on Supreme Court Blunders on Race and Sex. Hear her talk in the Members Only section of our website.

Submitted by Leslie Wier, Recording Secretary