

AAUW-BC Board Meeting, 10:00 AM. September 2, 2021 Hybrid in-person and Zoom

Jan Horner, Co-President, called the meeting to order.

Sage Taber, co-President, shared that this was her first co-president in person event – it has been a long time. At Jan Horner's request, all reporting chairs are to list three things about their high school years. In person attendees will do their reports first; Zoom attendees please share comments through the Chat function. Let Jan know if you need to be on agenda next week and if you need a table.

Finance – Pat Shores: Assets through August, 2021: Operating Fund - \$ 37,940.81; Dollars for Scholars - \$5,287.03 (paid out \$3,000 for fall semester at UMSL and Maryville); Contingency - \$838.92; and CD – \$3,058.74. for total assets of \$47,125.50. She commented that we paid for 4 memorials (3 former members and 1 current). The memorials are paid to the AAUW Greatest Need fund, in memory of the member who died. Pat reviewed the proposed budget line by line so everyone knows how it is put together and where our money goes. It is important that everyone understand this is our best idea right now and we can revisit throughout the year and make changes with Board approval. Pat proposed that the Board accept the Budget as presented. Lots of discussion followed. Marcia Block was uncomfortable with the amount of the drop in the proposed ending balance; perhaps we need to cut back. Pat gave more detail about the income drop; we have about 29 fewer members this year than last; lower receipts anticipated for Winter Party and for Dollars for Scholars; and there are proposed increases for contribution for AAUW Fund, and increased rents for our meeting spaces at Trinity. After reiterating that the budget is not static, and considering comments from Board members, the budget motion was passed (show of hands).

Membership – Judy Stagoski and Linda Roberson: current membership at 163. Most common reason for dropping out was health, either of self or of spouse; or person was cutting back on activities. The membership group will continue sending out the birthday cards this year.

Program – Marcia Block and Carol Anthony: easiest new job because Carol and Yvonne had all the speakers already lined up. The information is listed in the directory. Carol said that some speakers may be by Zoom, and if we have a hybrid meeting, the speaker will need to be on Zoom so everyone can see/hear.

Past President – Jean Elliott: she is our branch IBC rep and is on the IBC planning committee. Spring Fling will be March 26 hosted by Florissant; entertainment will be by Queens of Swing, and catering by Catering for You. Jean also works on MO star awards – lots of computer time; and there are 79 signed up for the fall brunch, with the chicken salad being the leading sandwich choice. She reminded us that the Brunch starts at 10:00 – do NOT come before 9:45 at the request of Trinity preschool. There will be a small meeting, games and then lunch – also the food ID paper becomes a raffle ticket for door prizes so don't lose. Please sit only 6 to a table; don't move chairs around.

AAUW Fund – Marian Bauer and Eileen Krahman: Thanks to everyone who has contributed to the Fund. Their committee met at Eileen's home August 27 to review the committee goals – report at meetings, write monthly newsletter articles and contribute to Friday Reminder, and raise money – November is

Annual Giving meeting, and the ER Walk in October is another fund raiser. They meet with Sue Barley, State Fund leader, twice a year. This past year, Missouri gave \$10,115 to the Fund; \$3,674 of this came from our branch, all raised on-line. Marian feels gratified because the Fund is not local. They will still have envelopes for checks at the November meeting but on-line giving is REALLLY EASY! Mary Jermak pointed out that state board members are expected to contribute to AAUW funds; should we have a policy to “require” donations? Marcia commented that we should give with gratitude, not as a requirement, and Pat Shores said that the key was participation, no specific dollar amount was required.

Dollars for Scholars – Janet Sloey and Nancy Pierson: Although links to sites for virtual Dollars events were included in the Friday reminders, the team doesn’t know how many members actually watched any of them. At the Fall Brunch look for a tip jar on each table for donations; 170 virtual events at x cents per click could help the coffers. The committee has packets of forms for sponsoring an event; take a packet if you have a specific idea. They can be found on the website under Forms -> Events and Activities -> Dollars for Scholars. When form is completed, it will go to Pat Shores so she will handle the money, then the forms go back to Janet. The next event is a trip to the History Museum for “Beyond the Ballot.” Janet raised a concern that when she Googled her name online, the picture that came up was her directory picture (later two others verified they found the same thing). Ann Patrice O’Shaughnessy, Directory chair, said she would look into the situation. Nancy Pierson, the new Dollars co-chair, presented additional ideas: (1) Collect donations at a Picnic in the Park (there are 37 parks in the area – the list can go on the website); (2) create an AAUW Honor Roll – celebrate or honor birthdays, achievements, etc. of members and their families. Her daughter will design postcards to acknowledge the donations. This idea generated a lot of discussion – e-cards are free to send, should the card be shown to the Board so they have “eyes” on it, is there an infringement on privacy, etc. (3) Include an “in memory of” portion to Idea 2. These ideas are open to further development. The committee is also working with the newsletter to have a visual “thermometer” of how Dollars fundraising is doing. Discussion on how much to charge for each event - Jan Horner said there is no rule on min or max amounts. Events are now more expensive than several years ago, so \$10 - \$15 can vary depending on the basic charge for the event.

Hospitality – Joan Hewitt and Jane Hemer: Nothing is needed for next week; right now it looks as though individual small bottles of water should be made available at each in-person meeting but there will be no food at the meetings unless it is “non-shared” – wrapped granola bars, for example. People on the list can sign up for a given meeting but the group will have to decide month to month what to bring.

Newsletter – Mary Jermak (Sandy Brody and Jean Light): The team has refreshed the layout of the newsletter. Routine items are on the last page; mission based articles are on earlier pages. They will make a connection between our branch and larger area – state and national – with timely information

Spring Luncheon – Michele Mangnall and Susan Fenwick; everything that was done for 2019-20 and then saved for 202-21 is still in place for the May 2022 luncheon. The date is reserved at Whitmoor, and remaining details to be decided at the October committee meeting.

STEM – Genvieve Gibson-Newman : Genvieve is brand-new to the board and is the only chair this year. She inherited excellent notes and a wonderful committee from last year. They have set up a person as project manager for each area – Susan Fenwick, Science Fair; Barb McQuitty, Girls of Promise, and Marcia Block, Expanding Your Horizons.

University Liaison – Sue Shriver (had to leave meeting) **and Lorna Anderson**: One of the Maryville scholarship recipients did not re-enroll so looking for a replacement. The group will sell Panera cards, which are different this year. They have a \$15 face value and come as a folded paper card (90 were ordered) and bean soup in October. Book sales may restart in October, but the group will limit the donations to what will sell to members. Sales to Half Price Books were disappointing – many books were rejected. We need to find another partner to take un-sold books, and transporting them is a problem.

Webmaster – Joyce Katz and Carolyn Brown: the website provides an introduction to new viewers to see what goes on in our Branch; it is a useful tool for our members; and it is constantly updated.

Public Policy – Angela Janik and Ann Riley (absent): one goal is to develop the web to include more Public Policy info; Ann will work with Joyce.

Directory – Ann Patrice O’Shaughnessy: instead of preparing separate update pages, Ann said she could actually send out a revised directory three times a year; she needs a co-director; right now she has requests for 76 print and 40 digital, so she needs to speak at luncheon. If you don’t ask for print, you won’t get one.

In closing, Joyce said that the IBC website has all relevant information regarding the Barb Lackritz award. Jan commented that there are no big changes when you review the State action plans and put them together with the 10 Star program. Jan’s request for three things about high school yielded many interesting and sometimes hilarious self revelations, and some reminders of how things actually have changed. Many members were involved with music – bands, choruses, glee clubs, choirs; quite a few were self-described “nerds”; some were already outside the mainstream, others’ activities must have helped them as they moved into their respective career choices later on. A few members have known each other since high school, and one duo since the age of 5!

Submitted by Leslie Wier, Secretary-Archivist