

AAUW-BC Hybrid Branch meeting 11/11/21

Jan Horner, Co-President, opened the meeting with the mission statement. She said we owe Sage Taber, Co-President a big thank you for arranging and setting up all the tech equipment and process we need to conduct hybrid meetings and to have speakers over Zoom. She asked that we support the Fund drive either through the envelopes on the chair or on-line; said that the nominating committee needs us to nominations for the six elective positions; and asked for a moment of silence to remember two former Branch presidents whom we lost recently, - Pat Jennings and Linda Tinker.

Sage Taber, Co-President, asked that we support the Fund drive either through the envelopes on the chairs or on-line; reminded us of the 40th Birthday Party next month; and said that the nominating committee needs us to turn in nominations for the six elective positions.

Pat Shores, member of the NCCWSL committee, introduced Nicole Caldwell, the student leader we chose two years ago to attend the Washington, DC conference as our representative. Covid cancelled the 2020 Conference, but she was able to attend the 2021 Spring Zoom conference. Nicole shared her “incredible conference opportunity” with us. She participated in Student government conflict resolution and volunteers for Gateway Human Trafficking. Nicole thought the Zoom was well organized, and she attended a variety of sessions – building resumes, becoming politically active (incredibly inspiring), how to create a non-profit organization (which was very helpful), and a session with a professional storyteller. She thanked us for the opportunity to participate.

Pat Shores, Finance Officer, shared the October Asset report: Operating Fund - \$36,064.77; Dollars for Scholars - \$7,051.13; Contingency - \$836.62, and CD - \$3,058.74 for a total of \$47,011.26.

Judy Stagoski and Linda Roberson, Membership: Judy acknowledged Nicole Caldwell as our guest and reminded us to bring guests to the meetings.

Marian Bauer and Eileen Krahman, AAUW FUND: Marian acknowledged the 140th anniversary of AAUW, thanked us for our generosity last year, and asked that we either use the envelopes to give by check or go on-line to contribute as part of our November Giving Month campaign. The newsletter contained an article listing the five funds we support, with Greatest Need fund providing AAUW flexibility in where the money can be used. All gifts are being matched by National AAUW this month; all are tax-deductible for the 2021 tax year. Mary Kay Wolfe and Marian will collect the checks at the end of the meeting.

Angela Janik and Ann Riley, Public Policy: the Fall report of Missouri in Motion was sent via email; please open it and read about the 6 initiatives for the year, which align with the 5 Star Award.

Ann Patrice O’Shaughnessy, Directory: She has 43 directories left, all ordered by members, so please pick up yours or one of a member you will see before the next meeting. She is getting ready to prepare the December supplement and is looking for a helper to “learn the ropes.” Please send her any corrections or changed information.

Janet Sloey and Nancy Pierson, Dollars for Scholars: Janet reflected on her grade school experience of standing, facing east with hand on heart, for a minute of silence to honor service men during Armistice Day, named for the Armistice ending WWI. Virtual events are still on-going, with the Tip Jar for change on the back table. The only open event is the Webster Conservatory performance on 11/14. We need more in-person events planned; win a candy bar by meeting the challenge!

Mary Jermak, Sandy Brody, and Jean Light, Newsletter: The editors asked that we celebrate all the people who contribute to the newsletter. She first named those who regularly contribute columns, including the elected officers, appointed group leads, and special group chairs. Special thanks to all those who provide proofreading for each edition, and to Bette Bude and Mary Kay Wolfe for the Friday notes. The three editors agree that it truly takes the whole village to provide a monthly newsletter!

Jan Horner, Winter Fundraiser: This year's Branch fundraiser is our branch's 40th Birthday Party. Sign up for lunch, buy a candle, purchase raffle tickets. Dues do not take care of all our expenses, so this is the one big chance to raise money for additional Branch support.

Susie Teicher, International Relations: The four month series starts in January at the Ethical Society, with speakers on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. January's speaker, Dr. Julie Blase, head of the Political Science Department at Principia College, will discuss the growth of Chinese Power in "Eating the Dragon." February will cover Climate Change, March – Welcoming Refugees to St. Louis, and April – Winning and Waning of Democracy Around the World.

Mary Jermak, IBC: This year, each branch chooses its own winner of the Barbara Lackritz Service Award, which recognizes a member's contribution to AAUW. The winner for AAUW-BC is Joyce Katz.

The Nominating Committee – Judy Stagoski, Liz Maher and Yvonne Ward – ask, What can you do for your Branch? Nominations forms are on line and at the back table. You need to ask the person you wish to nominate first, then return the form to any of the committee members.

Meeting was adjourned prior to the morning's speaker, Bryan Jack.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Wier, Secretary-Archivist