

AAUW-BC Branch Meeting Minutes, October 13, 2022

Marcia Block, Co-Chair Programs, opened the meeting with the AAUW Mission Statement. Sandy Brody, Branch Co-Chair is home with Covid; **Sage Taber**, Branch Co-Chair is home recovering from heart surgery. Thank you to the October refreshment committee for providing a table full of goodies. The May Board meeting minutes were approved. Marcia announced two new appointees to the Board: Nancy Hutchins as co-director of Directory, and Yvonne Ward as c-chair of Spring Luncheon.

Jean Light, Finance Officer, provided the finance report for September month-end: Operating Fund - \$27,850.33; Dollars for Scholars - \$4,241.97; Contingency - \$841.83; and the CD - \$3,058.74 for a total balance of \$35,992.87. **Pat Shores** as chair of the Budget Committee, said that both the Budget Committee and the Ballwin-Chesterfield Board have approved the 2022-2023 proposed budget; every member has received via email or postal mail a copy of the proposed budget; and the Board presents the Proposed Budget to the membership for approval. The motion for approval of the 2022-2023 proposed budget as written was approved by show of hands.

April Walgren, Membership Co-chair, said that we have 145 paid members; she introduced Nancy Price as a new member, and Sue Truit as a guest. **Janet Sloey**, Co-Chair Programs, reminded members that details of next month's speaker, a Native American from the Cherokee Nation, is in the Directory.

Suzanne Couch, Funds Co-Chair, reminded us that November is our annual giving month for donations to Greatest Needs and encouraged every member to give something, if only a dollar, to support the important work of this fund. There is real power behind being in AAUW; the White House knows our name!

Angie Janik, Public Policy Co-Chair introduced Nancy Price from the League of Women Voters. Nancy pointed out that there is an "up or down" vote on the Missouri Constitution Amendment (Amendment No. 1), required by law. If passed (a "yes" vote), delegates can review everything in the constitution including all amendments and change it. Some hard-won amendments could therefore be lost. A meeting at Oak Bend Library 10/24 is to "meet the judges" since several County judges are up for consideration. The rule on unexpired ID photos says that if the ID expired AFTER 11/3/2020 (two-year window), it is still valid for this election. In answer to a question from Julie Triplett about "permanent absentee voting," Nancy said that it is required that the form be filled out for each election.

Mary Jermak, Barbara Lackritz Award, said the selection for this year's nominee must be made by the November Board meeting. Nominations must consider how the nominees uphold our AAUW mission through service and leadership for both AAUW and the community; they may be sent to **Mary Jermak, Barbara Kellums or Suzanne Couch**. Mary pointed out that **Julie Triplett, Pat Shores, and Karen Francis** had all been Lackritz award winners under the original rules; Mary herself was our Branch's first awardee under the new process of each Branch selecting its own winner.

Nancy Pierson, Dollars for Scholars co-chair, described the three events coming up (see Friday reminder for details) – Daniel Boone home in Defiance; Into the Woods performance; and another Jazz St. Louis

Coffee and said that \$10 from each attendee goes to Dollars for Scholars. She also reminded members to use the Honor Roll cards when making a donation to DFS. Details are on the Website.

Jan Horner, Winter Fundraiser, said that this year's December event will be celebratory -no selling of Stuff! \$25 box lunches from Genesis; entertainment by the Queens of Swing; games; opportunities to support the Branch's vital work with such as Science Fair, Girls of Promise, and other efforts that need additional finances. Bring your checkbooks and dollar bills! The internal support drive will last throughout the rest of the AAUW year.

Pat Shores reminded us of the ER Walk on Oct. 18, 10 AM at Des Peres City Park; all are welcome whether walking or not, just come to support; and the Oct. 15 event (see Newsletter for details) with an historical marker being placed to honor Virginia Miner.

Sue Shriver, : "Buy Beans, Buy Books!"

Julie Triplett and Doris Nislet shared important information about Munching Matters, which will meet at Mimi's Bistro in the Valley for lunch on the 2nd Wednesday of November, January, February and March. Each luncheon features a member of the branch; November is Ann Campion Riley.

Jean Light reminded those who mail checks that her new address is in the new directory. Karen Francis's research showed that all judges on the STL County ballot meet the criteria for retention.

The business meeting was adjourned. After the break, the Guest Speaker, Ariel Burgess from the International Institute, provided an interesting and information talk about Refugee Resettlement in St. Louis – Afghans and Others.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Wier, Secretary/Archivist