AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch Meeting Minutes January 11, 2024 Ballwin Golf Course Events Center 333 Holloway Rd., Ballwin 63011

President Sage Tabor opened the meeting at 9:34 a.m. and led members in reciting the AAUW Mission statement. There were 55 members in attendance.

President Sandy Brody announced the names of the January Hospitality Hostesses and thanked them for the delicious breakfast buffet. The January hostesses were Nancy Pierson, Pam Bowman, Sue Shriver, Judy Schaefer-Piet, Janet Sloey, Susan Teicher, Kathy Brown.

Sandy reminded members of important upcoming events.

- In February, AAUW MO will again sponsor the **Legislative Retreat** on February 24 from 9–11:30 a.m.
- The **B-C Booster** annual branch fund raising campaign is underway. It runs through April; the total will be announced in April.
- The **IBC Spring Fling Luncheon** will take place March 23 from 11 a.m.–2 p.m. It will be held at Catering to You in Florissant. Highlights will be speaker **Bev Schuetz** and most especially recognition of the **Barbara Lackritz Award** winners designated by each branch.
- Sandy was honored to announce that **Doris Nistler** is the honoree of our branch. Doris' service over decades has been outstanding.

Finance Officer Jean Light reported branch assets at the end of December 2023. The operating fund contains \$25,112.84. The CD held by the branch is \$3210.57. The total assets are \$28,323.41.

Nominating Committee chair Marcia Block reminded members that the committee requests that members submit names of possible nominees for open branch elected positions. You must have the permission of those whose names are submitted for consideration. You may give names to Marcia, or committee members **Mary Biggs** and **Michele Magnall.**

Mary Biggs invited members to attend upcoming Out-to-Lunch gatherings. Spiro's in Chesterfield will be the venue for the January 17 lunch. On February 21, the luncheon will be at **Gulf Shores** at 11 a.m.

Roz Marx will announce the performers of upcoming Coffee Concert events. Check your Friday Reminder. See branch communications about upcoming events including a Succulent private party on March 1. Today's **Elegant Edible** raffle dessert item was donated by **Sue Shriver.**

Public Policy director Angie Janik says that 2024 will be a big year! GOTV is an extremely important issue. Research shows that the most disenfranchised are the young and those over 65. Angie is working with the League of Women Voters (LWV) on this issue and is developing a flyer.

Look for information updates on Missouri legislative issue in your Friday Reminder. You can find information provided by the MO Voter Protection Coalition at https://bit.ly/movotingbills.

International Relations Lecture Series chair Susie Tiecher said series began on January 9 with lecturer Tim McBride who spoke on the Rising Costs of Health Care in the US. The February 13 lecture will be on Generative Al–Dr. Anshuman Singh.

AAUW Fund Director Karen Francis thanked members for their donations to the **AAUW Greatest Needs Fund.** For 2023, the amount of donations credited to our branch was \$5407.50. She also invited members to attend, via Zoom, the Legislative Retreat on February 24. AAUW MO sponsors this event which will present information from varied speakers across the state on important legislative issues.

The **Elegant Edible** drawing had two winners: **Marian Bauer** and **Michele Magnall**. **Lorna Anderson** won the chocolate snowman.

The business meeting concluded, and members enjoyed social break time.

Program VP Janet Sloey brought the meeting back to order. She introduced the January speaker, **Dr. Erin Schulte**, coordinator of counseling and character education for the Parkway School District. Her topic was *Mental Health of Students Post-Pandemic*. Her interactive presentation was well received by those in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jermak Secretary/Archivist