

**AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2024
Ballwin Golf Course Events Center
333 Holloway Rd., Ballwin 63011**

President Sandy Brody opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. and led members in reciting the AAUW Mission statement. There were 55 members in attendance.

Sandy announced the names of the February Hospitality Hostesses—**Bette Bude, Erlaine Eltomi, Susan Fenwick, Marilyn Fletcher, Jane Hemer, Michele Mangnall, Barb McQuitty,** and **Sue Shriver**—and thanked them for the delicious breakfast buffet.

Sandy spoke about the upcoming OpenUp AAUW bylaws proposal to be voted on from April 3–May 15.

Finance Officer Jean Light reported branch assets at the end of January 2024. The operating fund contains \$22,748.19. The CD held by the branch is \$3210.57. The total assets are \$25,958.76.

University Liaison Susan Shriver informed members that scholarship checks have been issued to Maryville University and UMSL in the amount of \$8000. She asked for volunteer(s) for the UL position starting July 1.

Mary Biggs said that the next Out-to-Lunch gathering is on February 21 at **Gulf Shores** at 11 a.m.

Dollars for Scholars chair Nancy Pierson invited members to stop by the DFS table and/or the branch website to sign up for events. Events are also posted in the branch newsletter and included in the Friday Reminder. Nancy said that outings for April and through the summer are needed.

Membership vice-president Susie Teicher introduced guest and new member **Rachel Canis** and new member **Kathy Last**.

Program vice-president Janet Sloey said that March speaker will be **Rebeka McIntosh, vice president of MNEA (Missouri National Education Association)**. The program committee will meet after the March 14 branch meeting.

Public Policy director Angie Janik reminded members of the upcoming Legislative Retreat, sponsored by AAUW MO the morning of February 24. She stated that the municipal election is April 2. You can be pulled from the voter list if you haven't voted in a certain period of time.

Karen Francis, chair of the AAUW Greatest Need Fund, said that donations totaled \$5417.50. She stated there is a grant funded by Ballwin-Chesterfield called the Silver Anniversary Grant in honor of the branch's 25th anniversary.

Jan Horner spoke on behalf of **IBC: the Spring Fling** will be on **March 23 at Catering to You in Florissant**. She described it as a 'fun-raising' event, with great food, and the honoring of **the Barbara Lackritz Honorees**, including **Doris Nistler** for our branch.

International Relations Lecture Series chair Susie Tiecher said the February 13 lecture will be on **Generative AI—Dr. Anshuman Singh** and he will be introduced by **Marge Andersen**.

Hospitality chair Carol Derington said that the hospitality buffet table adds a 'nice touch' to our meetings. Volunteers are needed for the April meeting. Hospitality also is in charge of the September meeting and the Summer Picnic in July.

Carol Anthony, Spring Luncheon chair, promoted the event themed *Encircling All Women*. It will take place on May 9 at the Marriott West in Chesterfield: 11 a.m. social time and lunch at noon. Entrée choices are salmon, roasted chicken, and vegetable penne pasta. You may reserve a spot with your \$45 check at the March and April meetings. One person at every table will win an attendance prize.

Sandy reminded members about the B-C Booster campaign in progress. Donations support the branch operating fund.

The business meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m., and members enjoyed social break time.

After break, **Program VP Kathy Brown** introduced speaker **Ellen Irons, president of the St. Louis AAUW branch**. Her topic was Unconscious Bias and Microaggressions. Her interactive presentation was well received by those in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jermak
Secretary/Archivist