

AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield Board Meeting

May 1, 2024

Ballwin Golf Course Events Center, 333 Holloway Road, Ballwin, MO 63011

Prior to the business meeting, the board enjoyed a year-end celebration breakfast hosted by the co-presidents **Sage Taber** and **Sandy Brody**.

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. by **Co-president Sage Taber**, who led the recitation of the AAUW Mission Statement, *AAUW advances gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy*. Board members in attendance:

Elected Officers

Co-Presidents Sage Taber & Sandy Brody

VP Program Janet Sloey & Kathy Brown

VP Membership April Walgren

FO Jean Light

Secretary/Archivist Mary Jermak

Past President Jan Horner

Elected Directors

AAUW Fund Karen Francis

Public Policy Angie Janik

Appointed Directors

Branch Fundraising Sage Taber & Sandy Brody

Dollars for Scholars Nancy Pierson

Bylaws Marsha Weppleman

Newsletter Editors Mary Jermak & Joyce Katz

University Liaison Susan Shriver

STEM Marcia Block

Spring Luncheon Carol Anthony

International Relations

Hospitality Carol Derington

Webmaster Joyce Katz & Carolyn Brown

Co-president Sandy Brody thanked the board for a wonderful year. She reminded the board that job descriptions and reports are due May 15. The budget request for your area should be sent to **Finance Officer Jean Light**.

The April board minutes were approved to be posted on the web by **Carolyn Brown**, webmaster.

National AAUW voting is underway, and inquiries were made regarding the status of voting. **AAUW MO President Karen Francis** commented about voting in Missouri. There were minimal bounce backs of AAUW emails with links to vote. In some cases, a second email was sent by National. Karen spoke to Missouri members who needed technical assistance to vote.

Sage read the list of newly appointed directors who needed board approval.

They are as follows:

Hospitality Janet Sloey

Newsletter Beth Ann Murphy

STEM Barb McQuitty

University Liaison Karen Francis and Mary Jermak

All appointees were approved by the board.

The following appointed director positions are currently open:

Branch Fundraising

Dollars for Scholars

Fall Brunch

Spring Luncheon

The Eleanor Roosevelt Walk needs a chairperson.

Bylaws Chair Marsha Weppleman stated that a vote was needed to approve publishing the bylaws and policies of the Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch of AAUW on the branch website and not publish them in the annual Directory. **Directory Chair Joyce Katz** stated that printing costs have increased considerably.

A motion was made that the Directory distributed to members digitally, and as a printed copy by request, would not include branch bylaws and policies. A link to the website for bylaws/policies would be included in the Directory.

The motion was passed.

Finance Officer Jean Light reported as follows: as of the end of March 2024, the checking account balance is \$21,423.38. The operation fund total, including two CD's is \$27,669.73

Jan Horner, past president and branch IBC chair reported on the IBC Spring Luncheon held March 23, 2024. There were 83 registrations, 69 attendees, and 41 completed evaluations. Event evaluations and registration were B-C's responsibilities. There were negative comments about the location of the venue, Catering to You, in Florissant, MO. Other information was that IBC bookmarks would be updated, the amount of money raised was indeterminate, and there was a mix-up in communication with the speaker about length of time available for her presentation. Ideas are needed for future speakers and/or entertainment. **Sandy Brody** will do the publicity flyers for the 2025 event.

Nancy Pierson, Dollars for Scholars Director, reported that three coffee concert events were held in April with two more to come. The bridge party has 24 teams signed up for the May 30 event at the Hearth Room Restaurant. Events are needed for June and the summer. In 2023–24, 23 DFS events were held; however, attendance was not robust. The two biggest fund raisers were the donations for the **Eleanor Roosevelt Walk** and the upcoming bridge party. There will be a Zoom meeting on Wednesday May 8 to discuss the DFS program.

An extensive discussion followed about scholarship funding. Will changes be needed because of a decline in funds raised through DFS? Should branch scholarships for non-traditional women students be limited to those universities that are AAUW College/University Partners? UMSL, though not currently a C/U partner, has a long relationship with our branch scholarship program, and it is a public university. **Jan Horner** stated that the branch may award a scholarship(s) to any school of our choice.

A motion was made:

Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch can give branch scholarships to any school of our choice.

The motion passed.

Kathy Brown asked what is the procedure to sponsor a DFS event in the summer? **Nancy Pierson** stated that the forms are posted on the branch website; members need to be reminded of this through branch communications.

Program vice-president Kathy Brown named the speakers currently booked for 2024–25. They are as follows:

October 10 Vivian Gibson, topic Millcreek Neighborhood

November 14 Carol Davit, topic Why Prairies Matter

January 9 open, may try for Joe Ragenberger

February 13 open, FBI tentatively

March 13 Susan Colangelo, topic Story Stitchers

April 10 Jamie Grandinette, topic Art Museum Exhibits

Public Policy Director Angie Janik says that the public policy committee supported two initiative petitions. They are the minimum wage and the MO for Constitutional Freedom. Missouri may be experiencing an influx of Illinois residents moving to MO because of our conservative views.

Hospitality Director Carol Derington reported details for the annual Summer Picnic. It will occur on July 11 from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Ballwin Golf Course Events Center. The theme is *Come Join Us in the Garden*.

Carol Anthony, Spring Luncheon chair, stated that there are 70 reservations to date. The luncheon will take place at the Marriott West on May 9.

STEM Director Marcia Block stated that all spring STEM events have taken place. Marcia asked that the board approve additional funding for STEM.

Motion: We approve the extra expenditure of up to \$500 for the STEM committee for 2023–24.

The motion was passed by the board.

In closing, **Karen Francis** thanked outgoing president **Sandy Brody** for her outstanding leadership during the past two years.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary/Archivist Mary Jermak