

September 12, 2024, Branch Meeting Minutes
Welcome Back Brunch

When members arrived, they were invited to enjoy the breakfast buffet prepared by the September

Hospitality Hostesses:

Marcia Block, Kathy Brown, Carol Derington, Bette Bude, Karen Francis, Carol Davis McDonald, Myra Morse, Susan Shriver, Pam Bowman, Linda Robeson, Jan Horner, and Janet Sloey.

Fifty-seven members and guests attended.

President Carol Anthony called the meeting to order at 9:55 a.m. with the recitation of the AAUW Mission statement.

Karen Francis introduced **Shanley Windish**, recipient of the 2024 IBC scholarship to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) conference in June 2024. Shanley thanked us for making it possible for her to attend this important conference. She also thanked her professor, **Elizabeth Hoover, Webster University**, for submitting her as an applicant. Shanley said that her NCCWSL experience gave her the opportunity to interact with young women nationwide.

The minutes from the April 11, 2024, branch meeting were approved.

Carol engaged the group in an AAUW B-C Bingo game with a specialized edition of Bingo using thirty-seven activities, offices, and mission-based ideals that describe our branch. Winners were rewarded with gourmet cupcakes.

Finance Officer Jean Light gave the August asset report: the checking balance is \$23907.65 and we hold two CDs in the amount of \$6080. Members will vote on the 2024-25 proposed budget at the October branch meeting.

Program VP Marcia Block announced that **Vivian Gibson**, author of *The Last Children of Mill Creek*, will speak in October.

Membership VP Susie Teicher introduced two guests, **Gloria Perry** and **Nancy Dyer**, and invited them to join.

Public Policy Director Marian Bauer reminded us that the push is on for “Get Out the Vote” and a surprise letter will arrive in our mailboxes next week. She stated that Missouri ballots will have Amendments 2 and 3 and the minimum wage proposition. She encouraged us to do our homework to make an informed decision.

Carol Anthony talked about the merging of Fundraising and Dollars for Scholars. The members of the fundraising committee may assist in planning your DFS event. **Judy Stagoski** reminded us that the bean soup mix is now available. **Pat Shores** gave details for the ER Walk: the proceeds of each support the scholarship fund.

Two DFS tours are planned for October. **Erlaine Eltomi** invited us to visit The Weldon Spring Site Interpretive Tour and **Bette Bude** described the Bellefontaine Cemetery Private Tour. Lunch will follow both events.

Winter Party Director Marcia Block announced that plans are underway for this major branch fundraiser on December 12 and invited all interested to stay after for a planning meeting.

Directory chair Joyce Katz asked members to pick up their *Directory*.

Hospitality chair Carol Derrington thanked the hosts for today's excellent brunch and encouraged sign-ups for hosting the upcoming meetings.

Spring Luncheon chair Jane Hemer said plans are underway and the venue will remain the Marriott.

Interest Groups Chairs of several interest groups described their group and invited members to join: Literature I and II, Reading Reality, Out to Lunch (**Mary Biggs** distributed lists of all the restaurants for the 2024–25 year), Munching Matters, and Social Bridge. Ellen Friedman invited members to participate in branch bridge groups.

STEM chair Barb McQuitty reviewed our STEM Girls of Promise program and invited more to become involved.

Ann Riley invited new members to join Movie Group for lunch and conversation about shows.

Kay Meyer invited us to join Expressions for its first meeting in October.

Suzanne Couch informed us to check the newsletter for lists of needed items for St. Martha's Hall.

The meeting concluded at 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jermak

Secretary/Archivist