

AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield Board Meeting

October 3, 2024

West County EMS & Fire Protection District Station 1, 223 Henry Avenue, Manchester

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by **Co-president Carol Anthony**, 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, Carol Anthony

VP Program Kathy Brown

VP Membership April Walgren & Susie Tiecher

FO Jean Light

Secretary/Archivist Mary Jermak

Past President not present

Elected Directors

AAUW Fund Karen Francis

Public Policy Marian Bauer

Appointed Directors

Branch Fundraising Sage Taber & Carol Anthony

Governance not present

Newsletter Editors Pat Shores & Joyce Katz

University Liaison Karen Francis, Mary Jermak

STEM not present

Spring Luncheon Jane Hemer

International Relations Susie Teicher

Hospitality Carol Derington, Janet Sloey

Webmaster not present

Winter Party not present

The September 2024 board minutes were approved.

Sage Taber stated that nominations for the **Barbara Lackritz** award are due by October 11. Sage and **Co-president Carol Anthony** will review the nominations and make the selection.

Finance Officer Jean Light gave the finance report. As of September 30, there is \$23,816.65 in the checking account, plus two CD's. The first CD in the amount of \$3069 matures on October 15. Jean recommended that funds go into the checking account. The board voted to approve. A second CD, \$3034.60, matures in Jan. 2025.

Sage Taber and **Carol Anthony** asked if there were any FUNdraising questions. **Janet Sloey** asked about a best day to hold a Dollars for Scholars event? Several replied that Fridays are good and the fifth week of the month. Nancy Pierson is the best person to contact for questions about setting up a DFS event.

Pat Shores reported on recent **Eleanor Roosevelt Walk** to benefit the DFS scholarship fund. There were 12 walkers and 10 supporters present. To date \$1020 was raised. **Jean Light** stated that she received a donation check of \$365. Pat said that it was a good idea to direct these donations to support scholarships.

Mary Jermak reported for **Marcia Block** on the **Winter Fundraising Party**. The committee strongly recommended that the reservation price be raised to \$30 (from \$25.) They thought that it was important to emphasize the donation aspect. The menu is in place, but entertainment has not yet been determined. Later in the meeting, **Janet Sloey** received a phone call from a representative from the **River Blenders**, a local female singing group. The board agreed that they would be a good choice and gave Janet approval to plan with them.

Program VP Kathy Brown stated the survey results regarding topic choice for the FBI presentation in February. The top two topics are the spread of dis/misinformation and/or cybersecurity.

Membership vice-president Susie Teicher said that the committee meets later in October. They will discuss ways to make membership the focus of the Summer Picnic. Susie announced a probable new member, but we are waiting for dues payment to occur before recognizing her in the newsletter.

Public Policy Director Marian Bauer commented the GOTV mailing went well with positive responses from members. Marian and **co VP Angie Janik** will hold a meeting on October 15 from 1:30 –2:30 p.m. at the Daniel Boone Library. They will offer information on Missouri amendments and propositions on the November ballot. All local branch presidents and their members have been invited. Attendees may continue the conversation at Salt & Smoke restaurant afterwards.

Representatives from the public policy committee set up tables with voter registration materials at seven area independent living communities and a local church.

Karen Francis offered information from the League of Women Voters on voting assistance for other-abled persons.

AAUW Fund Chair Karen Francis stated that records from AAUW list 23 members who donated to the Greatest Needs Fund. Karen and **co-chair Suzanne Couch** will publicize the November donation campaign. They will emphasize support for national AAUW and that member donations count toward recognition annually at the AAUW MO spring conference. Grants and fellowships are funded by the interest from the Educational Foundation Fund, which predated the Greatest Needs Fund. NCCWSL attendees provide glowing statements from the June 2024 conference.

On the national level, staff has been reduced to 40 with additional staff in the public policy area. **Jean Light** suggested a short article on what AAUW does.

The recent Atlantic Regional conference replicated much of the components of the AAUW MO regional conference in October 2023.

University Liaison Director Mary Jermak announced the naming of two senior nursing students at **Maryville University** as recipients of our annual scholarship. **Latosha Aytch and Nicole Zugmaier** each receives \$1000 funding for the fall 2024 and spring 2025 semesters for a total of \$4000. As of this date, UMSL has not yet named its two scholarship recipients.

Directory chair Joyce Katz stated that she will again be distributing printed Directories at the October branch meeting. Eventually, **Membership VP April Walgren** will hold unclaimed directories. Going forward, the Directory will be in a simpler format.

Sage Taber stated that branch members will vote on two things at the October general meeting:

The proposed 2024-25 budget

The change of the name fundraising to FUNraising.

Before the meeting concluded, Sage polled the board to know how many tables are needed for set up at the October 10 branch meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary/Archivist Mary Jermak