November 14, 2024, Branch Meeting Minutes Ballwin Recreational Center, Ballwin, MO

Co-president Sage Taber opened the meeting at 9:35 a.m. She led members in the recitation of the AAUW Mission statement. There were 61 members in attendance.

Sage thanked the November hostesses: Darlene Harris, Sue Shriver, Cay Noble, Nancy Pierson, Marian Bauer, Lorna Andersen, Mary Jermak, Myra Morse, Joyce Katz, and Susan Fenwick.

Co-president Carol Anthony announced the members of the nominating committee: **Bette Bude, Jayne Kasten, Jan Horner, and Marge Andersen.** The positions to be filled are co-president, secretary/archivist, vice-president program, and vice-president membership. December 31 is the deadline to submit a nomination.

The minutes from the October 10, 2024, branch meeting was approved.

Ann Hansen encouraged members and guests to attend the November Out-to-Lunch event at Sugar Fire.

Finance Officer Jean Light gave the asset report. Since July 2024, branch income and expenses are in line with this year's budget. As of October 31, there is \$31,905.35 in the Operating Fund checking account. The first CD in the amount of \$3069 matured on October 15 and was rolled into the checking account. A second CD, \$3034.60, matures in January 2025.

AAUW Fund Directors Karen Francis and **Suzanne Couch** encouraged all to donate to the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund. Packets of Lifesavers were a gift for being a lifesaver for AAUW.

Membership VP Susie Teicher introduced new member **Nancy Dyer** and guest **Lois LeBloch** (of **Margaret Andersen** and **Darlene Harris.**)

Public Policy Director Marian Bauer recounted the work of the committee prior to the election: a public educational forum on the propositions and Amendments and how they align with the AAUW priorities.

Marcia Block, chair of the Winter Party, December 12, 10 a.m.–1 p.m., invited members to attend. The Art of Entertainment will provide box lunches. **Sandy Kalin** is taking reservations (\$30). If you don't have your checkbook, you may mail your reservation and lunch choice to Sandy before the December 2 deadline. The entertainment will be by the Parkway West Jazz Choir.

Dollars for Scholars events were promoted.

The business meeting adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

Program VP Kathy Brown resumed meeting and introduced the speaker **Carol Davit** of the MO Prairie Foundation. The topic was Why Prairies Matters–New Relevancies of a Vanishing Landscape.

The meeting concluded at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, **Mary Jermak** Secretary/Archivist