

AAUW Littleton-South Metro Branch Meeting

April 13, 2019

The spring AAUW Littleton-South Metro Branch Meeting was held on April 13 at the home of member Barb McDaniel. President Jill Smith opened the meeting at 1:00 with a welcome to attendees. Twenty-six members attended, so a quorum (at least 15% of the membership) was met. Two guests were introduced.

Membership Renewal: Mary Korch explained the process for AAUW online membership renewal. An email was sent on 4-1-19 to all members. Each member received a unique link for online renewal. Reminder emails will be sent May 1st and June 1st. The renewal period is April to June.

Treasurer's Report: The bank balance as of 2-28-19 is \$9,240.89. All budget items came within their allowances so no board approvals have been required.

Jill described a new budget item, Memorials, that is to honor branch members when they die. After considering donating to the Bemis Library in Littleton and realizing that there are several libraries that our members use, our board proposed to give those memorial donations instead to the state NCCWSL fund. NCCWSL, sponsored by AAUW, is the National Conference of College Women Student Leaders, which is held annually. This year our state will send two Colorado women to the conference (cost is \$1500 each for registration and transportation). Discussion was held. Gail Wilson moved that funds in the Memorial Funds account be contributed to the State NCCWSL fund. Donna Carmack seconded the motion. A voice vote was held and the motion passed. (There were no "no" votes.)

Changes to Bylaws and Operating Policies: Jill explained the proposed changes to branch Bylaws and Operating policies, as printed on the back of the Annual Meeting agenda. The president called for approval of the proposed changes. A voice vote was held and the members approved the changes. (There were no "no" votes.)

New Officers: Barb McDaniel (head of the nominating committee) introduced members nominated for board positions – Susan Brodie for Programs Vice President, and Hayden Pigott for Communications Secretary. Barb nominated Donna Zimmerman for branch President from the floor. Jill called for a vote to accept the nominations. A voice vote was held and the members approved the nominations. (There were no "no" votes.) Jill passed the gavel to the new President.

Community Projects:

1) Sheridan High School donations: Jill said the branch will continue to collect personal hygiene items to donate to Sheridan High School. Barb McDaniel has offered to drop the donations to the school.

2) Grocery Card changes: Gail Welde explained new options. Branch members can now purchase Safeway gift cards for \$5.00. When branch spending at Safeway reaches \$5,000, Safeway sends the branch a check.

King Soopers has modified its program. The gift cards are no longer tied to our AAUW Branch account. Gail explained how members must create an online account tied to their King Soopers loyalty card and select our branch (code EN136) in the Community Rewards section of the app or website. Carolyn McNee emailed all branch members with instructions. Mimi Iverson will include an article in the next TWIGS newsletter explaining the process.

Our branch passes all funds earned from grocery store purchases to AAUW National.

Jackson National Lawsuit Update: Nancy Kneipple reported the status of the Jackson National Lawsuit. There have been delays. She will keep us posted when a trial date is set.

GESTEM: Jill described the GESTEM conference to be held May 21st from 8am to 3pm for middle-school girls. Diane Steen is coordinating light rail transportation for members to the Auraria Campus. Sign-up sheets were passed around for members who are interested in guiding groups of girls around the conference or volunteering at GESTEM in other ways.

State Convention: Susan Brodie reminded members of the AAUW State Convention on April 26-27 at the OUR center in Longmont. Tuesday, April 16 is the last date to register.

Women Empowering Change fair: Stormy McDonald shared that our branch had a booth at this fair. We handed out business cards with the links to our website.

AAUW National Elections: Jill reminded branch members to vote in the AAUW National elections. There are no national bylaws changes, just public policy priorities and candidates for the Board of Directors.

Donated Painting: Jill showed members a painting donated to the branch by a friend. The painting will be put in the silent auction at the Mother-Daughter Tea fundraiser in June.

Special Announcement: Jill presented three Named Gift Honoree certificates to members who have contributed significant amounts of time, talent, and treasure to AAUW. The first three recipients from our branch-are Marybelle Menzel, Barb McDaniel, and Carolyn Cooley.

Adjournment: The president adjourned the meeting at 2:00 pm.

Jane Miller, Recording Secretary