

## **AAUW Littleton-South Metro Branch Minutes of the Board Meeting February 12, 2020**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 2:00 by President Donna Zimmerman. In attendance were Susan Brodie, Rose Getty, Peggy Hammersmith, Jane Miller, Ginny Sherr, Stacey Spaulding, Mary Ann Travis, Gail Welde and Donna Zimmerman. Absent were, Mary Lynn Korch, Hayden Pigott, Jill Smith, and Diane Steen.

**SECRETARY:** There were no corrections to the minutes of the January 11, 2020 board meeting. The January Board Meeting minutes were filed.

### **TREASURER:**

- The deposit to the Lakewood Cultural Center isn't shown on the Distribution to Budget sheet because it is being done outside the budget. The deposit will be taken from the fundraiser's proceeds.
- Susan Brodie will look into offering gratuities to upcoming speakers at \$25.00 each.
- Donna needs to organize a Budget Committee for the May board meeting. Donna will send a request to all Board members regarding their funding needs.

### **MEMBERSHIP:**

- There are 98 members and four considering joining.
- If women join by March 16<sup>th</sup> they pay for 12 a month membership, but actually get 15 months.
- A new member coffee has been successful in past years. Peggy Hammersmith intends to set a coffee date in March. She'll write something for TWIGS.

### **PROGRAM:**

- Saturday, March 14 Branch Meeting – Southglenn Library – 12:30 – 3:00. The speaker is Iswari Natarajan, principal of St. Mary's Academy high school. That day is "Pi Day" so Susan will get pies to serve along with refreshments at the meeting.
- Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> (the 11<sup>th</sup> is Easter weekend) – Koelbel Library. The speaker is the Colorado State Demographer, Elizabeth Garner, who will talk about the 2020 Census. The Branch Annual Business meeting will also be conducted. We discussed bringing a (boxed) lunch in from a vendor. Members would need to RSVP and pay a charge.

### **COMMUNICATION:**

- Maybe a template would be helpful for new members completing a brief bio for TWIGS.

### **AAUW Funds:**

- Our branch was #2 in Colorado (after Colorado Springs) in contributing to AAUW Funds for the calendar year 2019.
- Since the last meeting, checks of \$298.13 from King Soopers and \$12.00 from Safeway have been received from grocery card programs

### **PUBLIC POLICY:**

- Stacey Spaulding will write an article for TWIGS about Public Policy Day which was held on Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>. At 152 participants, it was the largest attendance to that event ever.

### **INTEREST GROUPS:**

- There is no specific leader for Art Appreciation, but events have been planned for the next two months.

### **BOOK BAGS:**

- The school has had an increase in Arabic speaking students. Mary Ann will explore putting together a few Arabic books bags for next year. These books are more expensive - \$8 - \$9 each. There was discussion about increasing the book bag budget by \$100 next year or passing the hat at a meeting. Donna suggested Mary Ann do some research and come up with an approximate dollar value that will cover the cost of the books. Then we can discuss how to address the need at the budget meeting.

### **OLD BUSINESS: Athena Project Fundraiser**

- Scheduled for Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>. Lakewood's *Bravo Magazine* will have an ad about the event. Tickets will be available through the Cultural Center's website.
- The program is about 40 minutes long and has no intermission. Then the actor does a wrap-up and a historian does a talk-back.
- Board members discussed having a social time from 6:30 – 7:30 with concessions before the performance. Should it be just for AAUW members and their guests or open to the general attendance? We could promote AAUW at the social hour.
- We should start promoting the event in TWIGS.
- Hayden should also send email blasts to members announcing that tickets are on sale and encouraging members to invite friends, neighbors, yoga buddies, etc.
- Donna explained that Athena would like to do an "ask" at the event to solicit donations. Board members were opposed to the idea. Members shared that this type of "ask" is typically done when attendees know in advance that there will be such requests. Also, it can be awkward both for those who do raise their hands to contribute and those who don't raise their hands. Board members felt more comfortable having donation baskets available at the end of the evening. Would we need double baskets so people could choose to donate to AAUW or Athena Project? Or put all donations into the same basket and divide the donations 50/50? It's complicated because Athena is a 501C3 but our branch is not. Another possibility is giving people the option to contribute online when they order their tickets. Donna will ask the Cultural Center if the box office can offer a donation option.

### **OLD BUSINESS: Colorado State Convention**

- Kim Churches and Julia Brown are both coming from AAUW National

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Changes to the branch bylaws and operating policies will be sent to Board members two weeks ahead of the March board meeting and then included in the April TWIGS.
- Donna handed out draft brochure for handing out at the March 10<sup>th</sup> Women Powering Change tabling event during the Week of Women. Board members are asked to review it and send Donna any edits.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- The next board meeting will be March 11, 2:00 – 3:30 pm at Koelbel Library in the Living Room.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Jane Miller, Recording Secretary