

**AAUW Littleton-South Metro Branch
Minutes of the Board Meeting
August 12, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was conducted virtually using the Zoom platform and called to order at 2:00 by President Donna Zimmerman. In attendance: Susan Brodie, Peggy Hammersmith, Mary Lynn Korch, Jane Miller, Hayden Pigott, Ginny Sherr, Stacey Spaulding, and Donna Zimmerman. Absent:, Gail Welde, Diane Steen and Mary Ann Travis.

SECRETARY: There was one typo in the May 12, 2021 board meeting minutes. The May Board Meeting minutes were accepted as corrected.

TREASURER:

- There were no corrections to the June or Year End financial documents. Board members thanked Ginny for the Reserve Funds report. Donna asked if we should put the financials in TWIGS. Mary said to put them on our website so interested members can go there.
- Board members reviewed the Operating Budget. There were no comments. The board unanimously approved the budget.
- Last year, the branch didn't spend the budgeted money from member dues.
- The board should discuss increasing branch dues later this year.
- Donna will contact the State board regarding the \$500 Virginia McClure grant monies. Since they were not used for Start Smart, Donna will ask if the branch should give the \$500 back or use it for a different project.

MEMBERSHIP:

- Board members are contacting non-renewed members with encouragement to renew. The branch currently is at 85% renewal.
- Mary reported that the new cut-off date for including a member's name in the Roster is September 30th, not November 30th. AAUW National made this change unexpectedly.
- On January 1, 2022, member renewals will move from Fiscal Year renewal to Anniversary Date renewal. Mary believes this policy change will make renewals more complicated as there will be as many renewal dates as there are members instead of one renewal period for all members.

PROGRAM:

- Donna emailed the board a branch meeting Program Calendar chart for review. Board members are to consider possible programs for each month. Members should refer to the Strategic Plan, as each section of the plan includes ideas for branch programs.
- Board members gave feedback to Susan about having the fall State Conference in person at a hotel in Aurora or via zoom.

AAUW Littleton-South Metro Branch

- Peggy noted that more people attend conferences and branch meetings when they are held virtually using zoom.
- Board members decided to hold the September branch meeting in a public park. Donna will check park sites in Littleton. At the meeting, Interest Group leaders will each describe their group and encourage members to join.
- Susan will check with Koelbel Library about their meeting room availability for the 2021-2022 meetings.
- The topic for the October 16th meeting could be about the Redistricting Commissions who are working to redraw electoral maps in Colorado. Jane will look into it.
- During the meeting, Hayden resent an email blast for members to complete Susan's survey regarding preferences for branch meeting arrangements.
- Donna has contacted Sheridan High School to see if they have a new family liaison. If they do, she'll see if branch members can resume toiletries donations to the high school.

COMMUNICATION:

- August 23rd is the deadline for the September TWIGS articles.
- Carolyn Cooley has offered to help Hayden keep the branch website and Facebook page updated.

AAUW Funds:

- Year end donations from grocery store cards: Safeway: \$42.30. King Soopers: \$1049.10. Checks to AAUW National: Dec 2020: \$599.50. June 2021: \$499.90

PUBLIC POLICY:

- Stacey reported that Public Policy Day in Feb 2022 will be conducted virtually. The planning group is meeting in two weeks. The tentative topic is the economic impact of the COVID Pandemic on women in Colorado. Donna shared that she has been trying to connect with the Administrative Assistant to Women's Foundation of Colorado CEO Lauren Castel about presenting at one of our fall programs on that subject. Donna suggested that Lauren would also be great for Public Policy Day and noted that, when she is able to speak with her admin, she could also inquire about her (Lauren's) availability for Public Policy Day 2022. Stacey agreed with Donna doing this.

INTEREST GROUPS:

- Mary moved that the board approve the inclusion of two new interest groups - Mah Jongg and Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) – in member activities. Jane seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously.
- Susan Brodie has agreed to be the branch Diversity officer and to lead the new interest group. Peggy will assist. Susan plans for members to view one video and read one article for each of nine topics through the year. This group will meet the 3rd Thursday at 1:30. The first meeting is Sept 16th. We'll need to send an email blast before the first meeting.
- No update regarding the Book Bag project.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Members enjoyed seeing each other at the branch picnic in June. The raffle quilt earned \$1,250 in tickets and there were cash donations of \$340 for a total of \$1,590 toward the 2022 scholarships.
- Board members reviewed the branch's 2021-22 Strategic Plan. Board members approved unanimously the Strategic Plan, as updated in recent board meetings.
- A member proposed that the branch sponsor a young working woman for the Social Change Ambassador Certificate program from AAUW National.
- Donna will put the Strategic Plan on the branch website.
- Mary proposed that board members describe their positions to the members as we try to recruit for upcoming available positions. This could occur at the November branch meeting, in-person.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Susan described the program for the Fall Leadership Conference to be held Saturday, August 21st via zoom.
- Board members decided to continue meeting by zoom.
- Board members would like to do a pot-luck social event in-person sometime in the fall.
- Jane proposed that members of the branch's two Literature interest groups put together the Author's Talks fundraiser. Lin Rutland is Donna's contact about authors. Lin is a member of Evening Literature group. Peggy will reach out to Lin. The March branch meeting would be conducive. The board will discuss the delivery mode – in person or by zoom.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The next board meeting will be Thursday, September 9, 2:00 – 3:30 pm using Zoom

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Jane Miller, Recording Secretary