

**AAUW Littleton-South Metro Branch  
Minutes of the Board Meeting  
February 10, 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, and Donna Zimmerman. Absent: Stacey Spaulding, Diane Steen, Gail Welde and Mary Ann Travis.

**SECRETARY:** The amount of the Community Projects Fund restricted to scholarships as reported in the January Board Meeting minutes should be changed from \$6,225.12 to \$6,134.93. The minutes will be corrected and then filed.

**TREASURER:**

- The amount of funds raised by the holiday fundraiser is now \$1,788.00 because another \$50.00 was received.

**MEMBERSHIP:**

- The new member get together is Friday the 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 on Zoom. Eight new members will participate.
- If a person joins the branch before March 15<sup>th</sup>, they pay the old dues rate and their membership is good until June 30, 2021. If they join on March 16<sup>th</sup> or thereafter, they pay the new dues rate and their membership is good until June 30, 2022.
- The branch operating policies have the old dues rate of \$59, which should be changed to the new dues rate of \$62. TWIGS announced the new dues rate once. We'll put a second notice in the April TWIGS.
- Mary explained the Shape the Future member acquisition/retention initiative expanded by AAUW national due to the COVID pandemic. New members and former members who have lapsed for two years can join at half price for national dues. Mary will offer this deal to two new members.
- Our branch is the only one in Colorado that gained members in 2020.
- Three branch members – Susan Jenkins, Donna Hickey, and Hayden Pigott have submitted pieces to the AAUW art competition. Voting closes on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**PROGRAM:**

- Saturday, March 13. A speaker from the AAUW national office will speak on the Equity Network.
- Saturday, April 10 – Annual Meeting. Members will vote for officer elections and on the changes to the bylaws. Susan is still planning the branch meeting program.
- State Convention is Saturday, April 24, 9:00 – 12:30. Kim Churches, AAUW CEO will speak on AAUW's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Toolkit.
- May branch meeting will be on the 8<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup>.

**COMMUNICATION:**

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- The Bylaws must be sent to members for their review two weeks prior to voting at the Annual Meeting.
- Articles are due to TWIGS Feb 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Donna has links to the Smithsonian Institution website for virtual exhibits honoring Equal Pay Day March 24<sup>th</sup>.

### **AAUW Funds:**

- The branch sent \$599.50 to AAUW national in December 2020. Our branch's 2020 total donation of \$4,610.26 puts our branch at #1 of all Colorado branches for most dollars contributed and should earn a star in National's Five Star Recognition program again for per-capita contributions.
- A check from Kroger (King Sooper) for \$232.86 was received in January.

### **PUBLIC POLICY:**

- 180 attendees participated in last week's Public Policy Day hosted on Zoom. Everyone praised the choice of speakers and the flawless technical management via Zoom.

### **INTEREST GROUPS:**

- In March or April, Peggy will reach out to the Interest Group leaders to ask if/how they plan to convene their groups over the summer.

### **BOOK BAGS:**

- No activity since the school is closed to volunteers due to COVID.
- Jane proposed that we drop this item from future Board meeting agendas until the book bag program resumes.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- The board reviewed the section of the Operating Policies with the new Bereavement Communication policy. Mary moved that the board approve the Operating Policies with the inclusion of the Bereavement Communication policy. Susan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The revised policies document will be posted on the branch website. A vote of branch members is not required.
- Scholarships update.
  - Donna talked with counselors at Littleton High School (LHS) and Sheridan High School (SHS). Both are very grateful about our plan to give scholarships. LHS – two \$1,000 scholarships. LHS administration is happy to select the recipients, since they know the students and can hone in on STEM students that need extra support. They confirmed that our check is written to LHS and they know the means to get it to the students' post-secondary institutions. LHS doesn't yet know if an awards ceremony will be in person or virtual. Either way, 1 or 2 board members could attend. Possibly, their STEM scholarship winners could attend our branch Zoom meeting in April or May to describe their college plans.

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- Donna spoke with Jill Bialecki the counselor at SHS. Donna told Jill the plan for two \$500 scholarships. Donna asked Jill if the branch should specify that the scholarships be used at Arapahoe Community College (ACC). Jill indicated that SHS students aspire to attend Metro State College, so Donna and Jill dropped the ACC requirement. Donna told Jill that the branch is not opposed to awarding the scholarships to undocumented students. Jill said their staff would choose the student recipients. Their winners could possibly appear at one of our branch meetings – April or May.
- Jill Bialecki also said she is grateful for branch members' donations of personal care items. Ruth, who was the SHS family liaison, left SHS and she has not been replaced. So currently there is no staff person to coordinate distribution of the personal care items. The school's food bank, coordinated through the Sheridan Recreation Center, currently is the priority. Jill will see if our donations could be distributed along with the food distribution.
- Jane and Susan had some names to offer Donna for possible branch officers for next year. Mary hopes some of the new members might want to be on the board.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Board members are asked to search for documentaries regarding Equal Pay Day to show the branch on a Saturday morning.
- Donna mentioned the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) toolkit on AAUW National website. Branches need to do their own diversity work. We could form a DEI committee to review the toolkit and see what we could use in our branch. Susan said that DEI work might be led at the state level, so we could wait to see what actions or recommendations the State takes.
- Donna proposed an in-person picnic in June to wrap up this year's AAUW. It could be a Sterne Park or Clement Park. It could have a fundraising element.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- The next board meeting will be March 10, 2:00 – 3:30 pm using Zoom

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Jane Miller, Recording Secretary