

**AAUW Littleton-South Metro Branch
Minutes of the Board Meeting
March 10, 2022**

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

SECRETARY: There were no corrections to the February 9th board meeting minutes. The February board meeting minutes were accepted and filed.

TREASURER:

- Ginny shared that we have raised \$511.00 so far from registrations for the Author Talk fundraiser. We have to file W-9 forms because the PayPal registrations will be taxed as income.
- Donna will put a notice in TWIGS to contact Ginny if the PayPal registration acts up when someone registers for the event.
- There were no changes to this month's financial documents.

MEMBERSHIP:

- Mary noted that branch-level membership chairpersons can't get into the AAUW National membership site to enter new members or change records of existing members. Members can modify/update their own records.
- Current members won't be switched to the individual anniversary date renewal method for another year, but as of July 1st, new/incoming members will use the anniversary date renewal method.
- The new member gathering in May will be at Peggy's house. Current and incoming board members will also be invited. Mary and Peggy will identify a date and bring it to the April board meeting.

PROGRAM:

- Saturday, April 9 – Annual Meeting and Program. Board members decided to resume an in-person meeting for April, if a meeting room can be found. Susan will check availability at Southglenn, Koelbel, James LaRue and Bemis libraries. Members will vote to elect new board members and on the proposed dues increase. We don't yet have a program topic or speaker. Board members are encouraged to send any suggestions to Donna.
- Saturday, May 14th. Susan is thinking about what our branch's DEI action plan should be going forward. She attended a DEI training in late February with Candice Smith of the Aurora branch. Susan will contact Ms. Smith about the possibility of presenting to our branch in May.
- Susan thinks we should transition soon to a DEI committee or task force, rather than an Interest Group.

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- June – the board agreed that a branch picnic would be fun. We could have it again at Progress Park. There is a \$72.00 registration fee.
- October is Banned Books Month. Barb has a contact at Bemis Library who might be able to do a presentation. She mentioned an initiative Books Unite Us, Censorship Divides Us.

COMMUNICATION:

- TWIGS content due date is March 18th. TWIGS must be delivered to members by March 25th in order for members to have the required two weeks to consider issues (new board members and dues increase) prior to voting at the Annual Meeting.
- Mary noted that we need to print bios from the candidates who are running for the board.
- Donna's President's Letter will remind members briefly about the proposed dues increase.
- TWIGS should include a link to the AAUW State website where members can register for the State Convention on April 23rd.
- Donna shared that State Treasurer Kathy Singer has resigned. State President Joan Brown has asked everyone to pass the word including sharing information in newsletters, to help find someone to take on that position.

AAUW Funds:

- Barb sent a check for \$255.76 today to AAUW National from the King Soopers and Safeway proceeds.
- Barb is concerned that there have been no recent donations of personal care products to Sheridan High School. It's more difficult to gather supplies since the branch has been meeting virtually, so members with donations have to make a special trip to Barb's house.

PUBLIC POLICY:

- Stacey will compile a list of Colorado legislation that Colorado AAUW supports. It can be put into TWIGS and posted on our website.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI):

- Next meeting of DEI interest group is March 17th.

INTEREST GROUPS:

- Interest groups are running smoothly.

BOOK BAGS:

- No report this month.

OLD BUSINESS:

COVID Policy: Donna was approached by an interest group leader asking about a policy update. Donna replied that the board would discuss. The board decided not to revamp the policy, but to let it remain as is. The consensus was that with the improvement in the

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COVID situation in Colorado and with public mandates being relaxed, our branch would set aside the policy until further notice. We'll trust members to do what they are comfortable with.

Nominating Committee: The committee is meeting on Zoom on Monday. Barb will add another member to the committee which currently has Barb, Peggy and Jill. Barb and Donna will ask candidates to write a brief bio for TWIGS.

Fundraiser: The event is posted on the Bookies book store website and the CO State AAUW website. The state newsletter Connects will mention the event so all the Colorado branches can participate. Donna has a list of State presidents in the region that Susan shared from when CO hosted the last regional conference. She sent emails to them about the Author Talk event.

Week of Women: Donna attended the Women Powering Change event on March 9th at McNichols Center downtown. She used our branch's "rollover fee" from the 2020 event which was canceled due to COVID. There was modest attendance. Donna promoted the Author Talk fundraiser. Eleven women signed our signup sheet. Some of them might be possible speakers for branch meetings.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dues increase: In February the board approved the proposed \$4.00 increase in branch dues beginning in June 2022.

Scholarships: Donna reached out to both high schools (Littleton and Sheridan). The schools will choose candidates for the scholarships.

State Convention: The theme is the future of inclusion and belongingness in AAUW branches. The convention is by Zoom on Saturday, April 23rd.

2022-2023 Budget Meeting: Ginny suggested we find a date in June or July.

TWIGS notices for member's parties: A member requested Donna send an email blast to branch membership with an invitation to a party at the member's home. Donna researched and found that TWIGS had included this invitation in prior years on the Interest Group Calendar. The member said she had been too late for TWIGS publication. Mary commented that it is not the responsibility of the board to promote personal events. Mary suggested telling the member that she can select members to invite from the branch roster and send an email that way.

Board members agreed that our communications – through email or TWIGS – should be mission-based, inclusive of all branch members and sponsored by the board/branch. If the board is having a gathering for members that includes a pot luck, that's OK because there is a mission-based program. If we send out emails for members' personal events, every

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member will want to use that service. Members can invite members to personal events on their own, using the contact information members provide in our roster.

Douglas County Library Program: Donna mentioned a program Douglas County Library is offering on March 17th – The Intellectual Development of Women’s Rights Materials. It was too late to put a promotion in TWIGS. The board decided not to send an email blast because this event is not sponsored by our branch.

Nat’l Conf for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL): Like last year, each branch in the state can choose a college student to participate in this May 24th conference at no cost. Each branch registers and pays for their student and submits to the State AAUW for reimbursement. The board decided Donna could contact Dan Balski at Arapahoe Community College for him to nominate a college woman, as we did last year.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The next board meetings are April 7th and May 12th, 2:00 – 3:30 pm using Zoom
- The annual summer retreat, including current board members and incoming members will be held in person. We’ll discuss a date at upcoming board meetings. One task of the retreat will be to set a program calendar for the next year.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 pm.

Jane Miller, Recording Secretary