

**AAUW Littleton-South Metro Branch
Minutes of the Board Meeting
Nov 11, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was conducted virtually on Zoom and called to order at 2:06 by President Donna Zimmerman. In attendance: Susan Brodie, Peggy Hammersmith, Mary Lynn Korch, Jane Miller, Ginny Sherr, Stacey Spaulding, Diane Steen and Donna Zimmerman. Absent: Hayden Pigott, Barb McDaniel and Mary Ann Travis.

SECRETARY: There were no corrections to the October 2, 2021 board meeting minutes. The October Board Meeting minutes were accepted and filed.

TREASURER:

- The board reviewed the financial documents. There were no question or corrections.

MEMBERSHIP:

- The state membership meeting is next week. Per Mary, will talk about removing members as of 9/30 at the branch level. They will also talk about how to increase membership and increase awareness of AAUW.
- We currently have 100 members. We've lost several members due to illness. Mary continues to reach out to them with letters.
- AAUW National continues to run behind in converting their new software. Anticipated completion date is now November 30.

PROGRAM:

- Saturday, Nov. 13th. The branch meeting will be virtual on Zoom starting at 10:30. The speaker is Louise Myrland from The Women's Foundation of Colorado. She will speak on COVID's impact on women in our state. The board authorized \$40 to record the session. Donna will let Carolyn know and she will send out a reminder to members.
- Saturday, Dec. 11th.
 - The program will be virtual on Zoom starting at 12:30. We'll get a link that Carolyn Cooley can use to show a video from Living Voices. The video is *The New American*, an in-depth depiction of a woman's immigration to the US through Ellis Island. Rachel McClinton, Co-Founder and Artistic Director at Living Voices, will conduct a post-video discussion. Donna has offered the program to other branches in Colorado. We'll have access to the link for 30 days after the December showing.
 - The cost for the program is \$400. Our program budget is \$300. Susan moved that the board pay an extra \$100 above the budgeted amount to pay for the Living Voices program. Ginny seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously.

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- The December meeting will be a fundraiser. Members will mail checks to Ginny.
- Branch Happy Hour is Thursday, Dec 9th.

COMMUNICATION:

- Due date for the December TWIGS is Saturday, November 20th.

AAUW Funds:

- Contribution are down, per Barb McDaniel. She is looking into it as she knows of some checks still coming in. Barb is now sending King Sooper checks directly to AAUW National instead of sending to Ginny.

PUBLIC POLICY:

- Public Policy Day is February 5th, 2022 and will be conducted virtually. The state planning group met yesterday, but Stacey couldn't attend. Speakers have been identified. Nothing is posted yet on the State website.
- Donna suggested a Save-the-Date notice in TWIGS.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI):

- The group's 3rd meeting is Nov. 18th. Carolyn Cooley is facilitating.

INTEREST GROUPS:

- Interest groups are running well.

BOOK BAGS:

- Mary Ann emailed previous members about resuming the project. This year the project will serve seven classrooms (previously it was 10). The members assembled seven crates with 10 book bags per crate.
- Mary Ann will buy some new books soon.

OLD BUSINESS:

- We are trying to recruit members to serve on the board.
 - Donna asked Mary if we could hold a new member coffee in person at a local restaurant. We'd include members who have joined in 2020 and 2021. We could invite Interest Group leaders.
 - Peggy offered to host a new member coffee in her home. She can accommodate 12-15 people. She suggests a Saturday since some new members work Mon-Fri.
- Sheridan High School (SHS) – Felicia, the Family Liaison, expresses gratitude to the branch for our donations.
 - Donna mentioned that Barb has seven Safeway gift cards, each with \$5 pre-loaded. She suggested we add money to each gift card and let SHS administrators decide which families could use some help and receive a gift card. When the cards are used our branch will get the usual rate of reimbursement from Safeway to use for our AAUW Funds donation. The board supported the idea.

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- The Community Projects fund has \$3200. Mary moved that we add \$70 to the pre-loaded \$5 on each card for a total of \$490 from the Community Projects fund. Susan seconded the motion. During discussion, Diane Steen offered to donate \$200 toward this gift card effort. She will send a check to Ginny. Jane moved that the branch add \$70 to the cards, with \$200 funded by Diane's donation and \$290 funded from the branch's Community Projects fund. Mary seconded the new motion. The board passed the motion unanimously.
- Donna suggested the board have a social get-together with SHS teachers after the new year to talk about AAUW and see if there are ways we could help them. Stacey noted that teachers appreciate gifts of classroom supplies.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Spring fundraiser. Donna talked with Pam Houston, author of *Deep Creek*, a memoir of her moving to Colorado and buying a ranch. Ms. Houston is very personable. The book won a Colorado Book Award in 2020. Ms. Houston has COVID hesitancy so prefers a virtual book talk. Virtually, our cost would be less because there is no need for travel, meals, hotel, etc.
- Donna proposed a fee of \$500 and Pam accepted it. That amount is already in our budget so no further board action was needed.
- Pam is available on Saturday, March 26th. She'll do a 20-30 minute talk, present a slide show, and read excerpts from her book.
- Pam suggests we partner with a local bookstore.
- Peggy noted that Carolyn can set up a registration process.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 pm.

Jane Miller, Recording Secretary

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