



FINAL MINUTES

Wheaton-Glen Ellyn AAUW Board Meeting

January 8, 2020

IN ATTENDANCE: Donna Jean Simon, Janet Arden, Frankie Robinson, Karen Schulz, Elaine Nissen, Mary Sue Brown, Suzanne Gagner, Carolyn Oesterle, Patricia Spence, Fran Kravitz, Patricia Bernhold

CALL TO ORDER

Co-President Donna Jean Simon called the meeting to order at 7:16 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Co-President Simon called for approval of Minutes and explained the rationale behind the Addendum to the Minutes. Elaine Nissen thanked the Board for its e-vote approving sending \$2500 to AAUW Greatest Needs Fund for 2019. Carolyn Oesterle moved to approve the November 13, 2019 minutes and Addendum. Mary Sue Brown seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

OFFICER AND CHAIR REPORTS

Treasurer Elaine Nissen reported that some Banquet funds are still outstanding. She note that \$1,070 had been transferred from LAF to EOF, and that she had distributed \$2500 to AAUW for the Greatest Needs Fund.

Membership Vice-President Karen Schulz reported that the Branch currently has 137 members and noted there is a potential new member. She spoke of the difficulty for younger women to attend regular Branch meetings due to other evening commitments. Co-President Simon noted that there are other ways to be involved in the Branch than attendance on Wednesday evenings.

Program Vice-President Frankie Robinson reported that members have been sending ideas for future programs. She will give her final report on the Winter Banquet at the February Board meeting. Members in attendance commented on how well run the banquet was and on the positive comments received from other branch members. There was general agreement that Reserve 22 has been very accommodating and that next year's banquet should be held there.

Co-President Simon announced that she would be looking for new Winter Banquet Chairs. Carolyn Oesterle volunteered to serve in that capacity. Karen Schulz shared that she would consider helping as well.

In relation to the banquet, a discussion arose regarding the possibility of providing members a way to pay online. It was the consensus of the group that using Square for the Book Sale and LUNAFEST might make sense but not for the banquet.

Mary Sue Brown reported on behalf of Book Sale Chair Ewa Bacon. She stated Ewa is pleased with collections and the number of people who have been showing up on Tuesdays and Wednesday to sort. To date 20 boxes have been filled. Suzanne Gagner recommended sending out an all branch email when more sorting help is needed.

Community Relations Chair Mary Sue Brown reported that she has spoken about AAUW and the Branch to Lions and Kiwanis in Glen Ellyn and will soon be speaking to those groups in Wheaton. She said that the groups have been happy to put AAUW announcements in their newsletters. She also noted that she will be addressing the Rotary at the Glen Ellyn Library at the end of the month. Mary Sue will continue to speak at local AAUW branches. Suzanne Gagner expressed interest in hearing Mary Sue's presentation.

Suzanne Gagner raised a question about reciprocity and Co-President Simon reminded the Board that National does not allow promotion of other groups' fundraising or philanthropic actions. Fran Kravitz raised the issue of supporting the Jane Addams Branch Tech Savvy event. Co-President Arden noted that we tend not to fund other branches.

Co-President Simon noted that the League of Women Voters is hosting a meeting on the State of the Village on January 16 at the Glen Ellyn Police Station. She encouraged those planning to attend to network with Village officials and others.

Co-President Simon presented questions on behalf of EOF Chair Susan Levy-Creed. Susan wanted to know: 1, if the Branch will continue to provide scholarships for students attending the 4 Wheaton and Glen Ellyn High Schools; 2, whether the current criteria are sufficient; and 3, what the amount of the scholarships will be. Members agreed to the first two questions. In response to the amount of the scholarships, Karen Schulz moved to raise the Scholarship to \$2,000 per student per school. Patricia Spence seconded the motion. After discussion, Suzanne Gagner moved to amend the motion to specify that the raise will apply to the current year only. Frankie Robinson seconded the motion to amend and the amended motion passed unanimously.

In further discussion Fran Kravitz recommended starting an endowment fund, rather than relying on Book Sale and LUNAFEST receipts. Elaine Nissen committed to looking into it; Fran will provide her with a contact.

LAF Chair Carolyn Oesterle reported that the LAF Walk in October was a great event but noted that since LAF is now fully funded, the Branch will be looking for another beneficiary of the walk. She further noted that National no longer requires the donation of \$5/person for LAF. Co-

President Simon recommended considering the AAUW National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) as a walk beneficiary. Carolyn will look into it. Co-President Simon noted that since there is no need for an LAF Chair, the position might change to Fund Raising Chair. This will be discussed later.

LUNAFEST Chair Suzanne Gagner distributed LUNAFEST flyers and a newsletter insert. She is still looking for sponsors and gift cards.

Public Policy Chair Patricia Spence hopes to talk with U.S. Representative Sean Casten regarding the 5 National AAUW Priorities. She shared that there was nothing new to report due to a lack of activity after the winter break. With regard to social media, she has posted LUNAFEST and Book Sale reminders on Facebook.

STEM Chair Fran Kravitz reported that she will work with the Glen Ellyn Library in the fall on the library's Chemistry Day for 4 to 7-year olds. On March 21 Tech Savvy will be held at Triton College. Fran will not be able to attend but will have a substitute there. Board members will be given an opportunity to volunteer at the event.

OLD BUSINESS

Co-President Simon shared that she will be sending online a review of the Board Policy Handbook after she has received additions or changes from Board members regarding their duties. The Goal is to conduct an email vote approving changes before the next Board meeting.

At 9:04 pm Patricia Spence moved to adjourn, Karen Schulz seconded and the meeting was adjourned.

Next Board Meeting: February 12, 2020 at Janet Arden's home