**FINAL MINUTES**

**Wheaton-Glen Ellyn AAUW Board Meeting**

**February 9, 2022**

**Location: Zoom**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mary Sue Brown, Carolyn Oesterle, Lillian Sorensen, Ellen Mc Gowan, Kathy Wessel, Mary Mossman, Patricia Spence, Fran Kravitz, Karen Bondy, Jane Palmer, Maureen Sheehan, Suzanne Gagner

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Co-President Mary Sue Brown called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. and thanked everyone for zooming in.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Committee Chair Patricia Spence made a motion to approve January 12, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes as written, the motion was seconded by Committee Chair Suzanne Gagner and unanimously approved.

**PRESIDENTS’ REMARKS/DISCUSSION**

Co-President Mary Sue Brown reported that the school boards continue to face challenges about both masks and books. Several branch members are attending school board meetings for Districts 41, 89, 87 and Unit District 200.

Co-President Carolyn Oesterle stated that our Branch By-Laws have been approved by the State and will be voted in our March Branch Meeting.

Co-President Carolyn Oesterle also shared that Policy Manual Revisions will be ready in March-April. Committee Chair Jane Palmer has made this great accomplishment possible.

Co-President Carolyn Oesterle was also very pleased to share that Committee Chair Laura Desmarais will be our new Lunafest Committee Chair.

**OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Treasurer:**

Treasurer Maureen Sheehan reported that our budget is satisfactory. The two last speakers have waived their fees and the next speaker will do so too. The amount assigned to each speaker is $ 150.

**Spring Banquet:**

After considering several outdoor and indoor options, Karen Bondy proposed that we plan on having the Spring Banquet on Saturday May 21 at Adelle’s in Wheaton. It would be a lunch. They would give us the patio area. If there are weather concerns we could move to the indoor dining room where the air is carefully filtered and sanitized by a newly installed system. They offer cash bar with no bartender fee. There would be one entrée (we could pick from 2) with salad or soup. Total price, including tax and gratuity, would add up to $ 35 per person. No deposit is needed. No minimum number of guests is required. A reservation has been made. A confirmation will be needed later on. Some concerns were shared as to the number of members that would actually attend.

**Membership:**

Co-President Carolyn Oesterle reported that we have a new member, Heidi Fraser, who used to be a member of the ex-Lombard Branch. Our Branch now totals 107 members.

**Programs:**

Co-Vice President Kathy Wessel reported that the presentation by Anne Hanley scheduled for the March Branch Meeting will be a hybrid.

**Book Sale:**

Committee Chair Suzanne Gagner reported that several branch members have joined the committee. They will start tracking inventory. More help is still needed. Karen Schultz will secure student volunteers for extra help.

**Diversity:**

Committee Chair Marilyn Mauritz was unable to attend the Board Meeting. She shared the following report:

“The Glen Ellyn Village Community Resource Commission continues to meet most often the first Thursday of the month. This very multicultural commission is in the process of very specifically defining DEI preparatory to create a measuring scale against which those elements of Glen Ellyn can be gauged.

The Wheaton Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a 3-part discourse on DEI and the first one had three interesting components which included: David Roth, Executive Director of Du Page Federation who provided statistics to show the growing evidence of multicultural representation in the community to underscore the importance of DEI “in getting along with your neighbors.” Jacob Kniep, Founder of the nonprofit Outspoken who delineated the specific aspects of LGBTQ1A2+?and brought to the attention of the Chamber that this community is growing and the importance not only of inclusion but lending a sense of belonging is profit potential for business owners. Carlos Johnson, Job Placement Specialist, and Kate Beck, Program Coordinator of the physical or mental impairment disabilities with the same importance underscored for hiring and again with inclusion and a sense of belonging.

AAUW provides multilayered information on DEI including toolkit and plug and plays and other podcasts to further explain the very specific element of terminology in DEI. Monthly zooms of the various state’s DEI folk are extremely useful in idea gathering. Currently I am l planning to work together with the “new” (even newer than I!) diversity chair of Downers Grove at my invitation in order to partner up for leaning and idea sharing.

Finally, and very important to me as a former educator, I am planning to support in any way the eradication of the Disinformers of truth in public education and access to free information for all in the public libraries.

Two important thoughts support the intensity of this need:

A small vocal minority can win over a complacent majority.

And most everyone has had a seat in a dentist’s chair as most everyone has sat in a classroom seat. Seldom do I hear someone telling the dental professional how to do his/her job and I feel the same should apply to the educational professional.

Complaints and criticisms should be handled by the normal chain of command. Thanks. M. Mauritz.”

**Lunafest:**

Committee Chair Suzanne Gagner reported that Lunafest is scheduled for October 8, a Saturday evening. Contracts have been signed. Maximum audience capacity will be 100. Laura Desmarais will be the new Lunafest Committee Chair.

**Public Policy:**

Committee Chair Patricia Spence reported that all relevant and timely information will appear in the March Twigs.

**Publicity:**

Committee Chair Mary Mossman had no reports.

**STEM:**

Committee Chair Fran Kravitz reported that there will be a new experiment this month.

**AOL Online Website:**

Committee Chair Jane Palmer had nothing new to report. Everything is going well. Tracy Kline continues to do the updates.

**Facebook:**

Committee Chair Patricia Spence reported that the latest used book sale posting is Valentine-themed and focuses on book donations. A link to our Branch website page is included in the posting.

**New Business:**

State Spring Conference will be May 6-7, 2022.

At 8 p.m. Co-President Mary Sue Brown adjourned the meeting.

Next Board Meeting will be Wednesday March 9 at 7 p.m. It will be a hybrid meeting at Mary Sue Brown’s home.