

MINUTES

Wheaton-Glen Ellyn AAUW Branch Board Meeting

October 12, 2022

Location: Nancy Possinger's home and via Zoom

CONTENTS OF BOARD PACKET

The following items were distributed by Co-President Oesterle to the Branch Leadership team prior to the meeting: Agenda, Zoom link and the Board Meeting Minutes from Sept. 14. Separately, the Secretary sent a Summary of Policy Handbook Changes and the Final Draft of the Policy Handbook.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Voting Officers and Chairs: Carolyn Oesterle, Mary Sue Brown, Nancy Possinger, Jane Palmer, Marilyn Mauritz, Fran Kravitz*, Ellen McGowan*, Patricia Spence*

Other Attendees: Karen Schulz*, Marilyn Wiedemann*,

* via Zoom

CALL TO ORDER:

Co-President Oesterle called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm and welcomed everybody. She thanked Nancy Possinger for hosting and co-hosting the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Co-President Oesterle called for approval of the September 14, 2022 Board Meeting minutes. Diversity Chair Mauritz moved to approve the minutes and Membership VP Possinger seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

CO-PRESIDENTS' REMARKS/DISCUSSION:

Co-President Oesterle reported that AAUW of Illinois hosted a Fall Conference via Zoom for all Branches on September 24. Three items of note:

1. AAUW-Illinois President Simon explained how Branches can get information from State and National through the Community Hub.
2. AAUW-Illinois is planning to compile a directory of good speakers and programs. This information will be available to all branches.
3. There was a workshop on Artificial Intelligence.

Other announcements:

- The Branch is still looking for a Book Sale coordinator for 2023.
- Co-Presidents Oesterle and Brown have been asked to recommend any Branch members who may be willing to serve as AAUW of Illinois officers or chairs.
- On Oct. 21, the Naperville Branch is sponsoring a Walk for Abortion Rights (in Naperville). Let Carolyn know if you are interested in this event.
- On Oct. 19, national AAUW is providing a webinar on Voting.

Co-President Brown reported that she will be running for a Glen Ellyn Library Board position in April. As for school districts, Ewa Bacon has been appointed to the Wheaton District 200 Citizens Advisory Board. Co-

Presidents Oesterle and Brown are continuing to monitor the Glen Ellyn School District meetings, both 41 (Oesterle) and 89 (Brown).

OFFICER REPORTS:

Program Vice President Report:

Acting Program VP Oesterle reminded Board members that our speaker for the November 2 meeting (hybrid format) will be Deanie Brown who serves as the Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer for the Illinois Supreme Court and Judicial Branches. The topic will be *Implicit Bias and How it Affects Diversity, Equity and Inclusion*. The meeting will be held in the Community Room of the Glen Ellyn Police Department.

Membership Vice President:

Co-Vice President Possinger shared that the branch has 107 members. To date, 12 members have not yet renewed. (This is a correction to last month's report of 8 non-renewals.) A new member orientation event is planned for October 20. Four of the invitees have already RSVP'd.

Treasurer:

No Report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Cultural Arts

Chair Desmarais was not in attendance but Co-President Oesterle reported that she wished to extend special thanks to Mary Mossman and her husband for their presentation on Beekeeping. About 20 members attended. She also reported that about 18 members attended the gathering prior to the Buffalo Theatre Ensemble's presentation of *Clybourne Park*.

Fall Fundraising Walk:

Chair Spence reported that the Fall Fundraising Walk was successfully held on September 23 with about 28 members attending. She estimated that about \$1,700 was raised for the Opportunities Fund. Special thanks to Member M. McGrath for co-chairing the event.

Historian

Chair Mayer Wiedemann is still in the planning stage of her future initiatives as Historian. She hopes to establish on the website an archive of photos from past events.

LunaFest Film Festival

Chair Desmarais was not in attendance but Co-President Oesterle read from her report.

- Currently about \$1,000 in donations and about 70 tickets sold. She is estimating about \$1,500 in profits.
- Publicity efforts are ongoing in local newspapers and online event listings as well as the Branch's Facebook page.
- Many restaurant and cooking class gift cards have been secured for the raffle as well as a handmade necklace made by Member Winifred Creamer.

- Although most attendees will be members, Membership VP Possinger will set up a table with the Membership “Tri-fold” that was displayed at the Book Sale.

Policy Handbook

Chair Palmer presented a summary of the final changes to the 2022 Policy Handbook. These included:

- AAUW Fundraising Guidelines were moved from the Appendix to the body of the document. They are now available through an internet link to aauw.org. This reduced the manual by 22 pages.
- The former Educational Opportunities Fund has been renamed the Opportunities Fund (so named because such funds are reserved for funding educational and other opportunities for women and girls).
- The Conflict of Interest Policy’s wording was changed to include all Opportunities Fund distributions not just those related to distributions for the Higher Education Incentive Awards.
- The “Branch Organization” topic has been reworded to include the suggestion that Board members review the IRS Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Organizations and the Illinois Guide for Organizing Not-for-Profit Corporations. This wording is not new but has been moved from the Appendix to the body of the Handbook.

Two motions were enacted regarding the Policy Handbook changes.

1. Co-President Brown moved to change the name of the Educational Opportunities Fund (also previously called the Branch Gender Equity Fund or Mission-Based Fund) to the Opportunities Fund. DEI Chair Mauritz seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
2. Membership VP Possinger moved to accept the 10/12 draft of the Policy Handbook as the Final 2022 Policy Handbook. Opportunities Fund Chair McGowan seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Public Policy

Public Policy Chair Spence reminded all Board members to VOTE.

STEM

STEM Coordinator Kravitz requested help putting together new kits for the Science Girls on the Go[®] boxes. Watch for an email with further details.

Twigs Newsletter

Articles are due Saturday, October 15 by 5 pm.

Winter Banquet

Banquet Chair Schulz reported that the Winter Banquet will be a luncheon at Reserve 22 on Saturday, December 10. The cost will be approximately \$38 (including tax and tip) for a plated entrée with salad. She believes we will be able to break even if about 30-35 members attend. She noted that Reserve 22 requires a \$1,200 minimum for the use of the banquet room. She noted that purchases at the cash bar also count towards the minimum. Dessert was briefly discussed. Banquet Chair Schulz will explore all options, including purchasing cupcakes similar to those served at the 2021 Spring Banquet. Online payment options were briefly discussed. It was decided to stay with payments by check this year.

COMMITTEES NOT REPORTING

AAUW Online
Book Sale
Branch Buddy
Community Relations
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
Opportunities Fund
Publicity
Spring Banquet

NEW BUSINESS

Opportunities Fund Chair McGowan noted that the fundraising results for the Fall Walk and possibly LunaFest may be less than in prior years. She asked if the budgeted amount \$8,000 for the 2023 Higher Education Incentive Awards was still appropriate. Co-President Oesterle that the amount available for the 2023 Awards is in the bank and is still appropriate.

CLOSING REMARKS

Co-President Oesterle announced that the Board will next meet on November 9, 2022, 7 PM, at Patricia Spence's home, 192 East Road, Glen Ellyn.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:30 pm, Co-President Brown moved to adjourn the meeting. Membership VP Possinger seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.