



American Association of University Women
Capital Branch
January 3, 2017
Capital Branch Meeting

Members Present		
Jane Johnson	Marty McGarry	Aster Girma
Nancy Bailey	Lin Nary	Mary Moffitt
JoAnn Carpenter	Iris Blaisdell	Nancy Stiles
Caroline Punches	Carolyn Kellogg	Christine Perdomo
Barbara LeBlanc	Diane Koditek	Louise Seidel
Lynne Ballatore	Linda Sekiguchi	Mary Piper
Mary Castro-Wilson	Flo Bedrosian	Judy Welch
Holly Van Valkenburgh	Shirley Williams	Betty Young

The January meeting was held at the Carson City Sheriff's Office located at 911 E. Musser St, Carson City. President Caroline Punches called the meeting to order at 5:45 PM.

Program Speaker Introduction: President Punches asked Marty McGarry introduce the speaker for the evening program. The topic was "The Process Required for International Refugees Entering the US". The speaker was Carina Black, Executive Director of Northern Nevada International Center and Visitor Exchange Programs at UNR. Dr. Black also covered the Refugee Assistance program as it operates in Reno. A sign up form was circulated and given to Dr. Black so members could keep informed about how the program is progressing. At the end of the presentation, we had a brief break before continuing with the remainder of the business portion of the meeting.

Feast of Chocolate: President Punches asked Flo Bedrosian to update the group on our Feast of Chocolate fundraiser which will take place on February 11, 2017 at the Plaza Hotel and Event Center from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM. Flo passed out flyers and indicated that Jane Johnson would be in charge of distributing tickets to those members who would volunteer to sell them. Carolyn Kellogg asked about whether we would have sugar-free and gluten-free treats. She indicated that was an often asked question at previous Feast of Chocolate events. There was an additional question about ticket prices. Advance tickets will be \$15 each for adults and \$12 for seniors aged at least 65. Tickets at the door will be \$18 each. Linda Sekiguchi asked about the source for the chocolate. Flo indicated we would be working with the Carson High School

Culinary Arts Department, Red's Bar BQ, Raley's, Grandma Hattie's and hopefully Fandango to provide a wide array of chocolate items.

President Punches then asked Nancy Stiles to provide a quick demonstration of how to complete a raffle basket for the event. Nancy demonstrated with several types of items and different baskets. She needs the completed baskets from members who volunteered to provide them by February 3. Members who volunteered to provide a basket were asked to indicate what type of basket they were planning to provide so we would not have duplicates.

Flo reminded everyone to get contact information for any donations by local businesses of dinners, lodging, etc. Barbara LeBlanc needs the information to send thank you notes to those who donate. Flo also indicated she has a letter that members can take to businesses they feel might be interested in our fundraiser and she will send that to those who would like one.

Membership: President Punches asked Mary Castro-Wilson to report on membership. We had 6 guests and 2 new members at this meeting.

Public Policy: President Punches then introduced Nancy Stiles, our Public Policy Chair. Nancy discussed the Woman's March scheduled for January 21st and indicated that that National AAUW will be taking part in the Washington D.C. march. She further indicated there will be a march in Reno on that date and that Marty McGarry has made arrangements for a bus from Carson City to Reno on that day. Nancy also reported that there will be a training session on January 30th entitled "How to Advocate" for those interested in learning how to lobby our local legislators about AAUW platform issues.

Reminders: President Punches then reminded members about the National AAUW Convention in Washington D.C. in June, 2017. January 14th is the deadline for early bird registration. She indicated there will be a Board of Directors meeting for our chapter on Wednesday, January 18th from 11:30am -1:00pm at the studio at The Hub. She also wanted to note that there was an item in the newsletter regarding volunteers needed to review options available to AAUW branches for supporting educational goals for women and girls in Northern Nevada. President Punches asked Diane Koditek to announce the informal luncheon for January. It will be at The Bleu Café in Carson City. Linda Hiebert-Sekiguchi indicated there will be a meeting of the Great Decisions Group on January 25th.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
JoAnn Carpenter
Secretary