



American Association of University Women
 Capital Branch
 September 10, 2016
 Member Saturday Brunch Minutes

Members Attending			
Gail Aldrich	Diane Koditek	Louise Seidel	Arlene Seibert
Flo Bedrosian	Barbara LeBlanc	Maureen Smith	Fabiola Mata-Garcia
JoAnn Carpenter	Marty Ann McGarry	Jennifer Verive	Janice Noble
Mary Castro-Wilson	Mary Moffitt	Judy Welch	Lynne Ballatore
Donna Curtis	Lin Nary	Peggy Wozniak	Cindy White
Jill Doremus	Mary Piper	Guests:	Gail Gunderson
Shirley Hammon	Caroline Punches	Nancy Bailey	Marianne Garvey
Carolyn Kellogg	Dorothy Ramsdell	Dorie Ruhe	Lorie Congress
Linda Kijanka	Nancy Scott	Mandy Heskett	Aster Girma
Susan Klekar			

This meeting was a brunch for members and guests who might be interested in joining AAUW. There were 24 members in attendance and 12 prospective members. It was held at the home of Mary Wilson in Dayton.

After the buffet brunch President, Caroline Punches led a session dedicated to a history of the organization. The American Association of University Women (AAUW) was started in 1881 by a group of college educated women who wanted to support other women who had completed their college degrees as well as encourage other women to pursue their educational goals. Caroline indicated what an incredible feat this was at the time. She showed a short film provided by National AAUW describing the various causes that are part of the organization's mission. Caroline introduced Mary Castro Wilson, the new membership chair who welcomed everyone to her home and reiterated AAUW values and indicated that the branch facilitates implementing those values in many ways.

Caroline indicated that the national AAUW organization has initiated a program to recognize long time members of the organization and she named several members in attendance with membership spans of 5 years to over 50. She also introduced one of our scholarship winners, Fabiola Mata Garcia from Carson High School. Fabiola is now attending WNC.

Caroline presented a report prepared by Nancy Stiles who has been named as the Branch Public Policy Chair and has been tasked with following state and local legislation as it relates to AAUW issues. Caroline also indicated that a coalition of Sierra Nevada Forums, League of Women Voters Election Forums, PFLAG, and AAUW will be presenting a candidate forum Oct. 11, 12, and 18th. These groups are all non-partisan, but strong on political public policy.

Marty McGarry and Judy Welch gave an overview of the mission based programs planned for this year. They also indicated that our group has outgrown the space we have been using for monthly meetings. The October meeting will be held at the Coop Extension, but from November through the end of the year we hope to have a larger site. This may necessitate changing our normal meeting day. Several sites were discussed, Judy and Marty will schedule each of them so we can determine which would best suit our needs.

Diane Koditek explained the breadth of interest groups enjoyed by members. She mentioned the Great Decisions Group, the Gourmet Group and the two Book Groups (Day and Evening). Diane further indicated that if anyone had an idea for an additional group they should contact her. Last year a bulletin board was created in the newsletter for members to post places, events, and activities they believe would be of interest as a group outing. That practice will continue. As a result of the bulletin board, a group of members gets together informally for lunch monthly.

Respectfully Submitted,
JoAnn Carpenter
Secretary