



American Association of University Women
Capital Branch
June 29, 2017
Board Meeting

Members Present		
Jane Johnson	Judy Welch	Caroline Punches
JoAnn Carpenter	Mary Castro-Wilson	Nancy Stiles
Phyllis Tirado	Marty McGarry	Louise Seidel
Diane Koditek	Barbara LeBlanc	Lin Nary
Flo Bedrosian	Shirley Williams	Lynne Ballatore
Carolyn Kellogg	Jennifer Verive	

The meeting was held at Adams Hub in Carson City and was called to order at 1:03 PM, by President Caroline Punches.

AAUW National Convention: Caroline Punches, Jane Johnson, Mary Castro-Wilson, and Nancy Stiles attended the conference in Washington D.C. earlier this month. They each described several highlights of the conference. The consensus was that the new AAUW CEO, Kimberly Churches appeared very capable, the workshops were good, fellowship recipient Dr. Trent was an inspirational speaker, and the closing speaker, Sonia Sotomayor was exceptional. The next conference will be in three years instead of the current pattern of every two years. All participated in Lobby Day and met with our legislators or members of their staff.

Review of 2016-17: Goals were reviewed and those in attendance listed both what the branch had done very well and items that could be improved. The list of positive accomplishments included: increased membership, excellent programs, strong member involvement, a new venue for meetings, a record fundraising year, strong interest groups, public policy efforts, Grass Roots Lobby, ERA, Work Smart collaboration with Partnership Carson City and Western Nevada College, outstanding high school scholarship recipients, and an outstanding newsletter. The items the group felt could be done better included: more tracking of member involvement in public policy efforts, increased member involvement in meetings, lack of timely RSVP's for meetings, more interaction with new members to help them become more involved in our chapter (e.g. icebreakers, add a biography of new members in the membership directory, highlight members at meetings, a Founder's Day meeting), and find a member willing to act as Publicity Chair so our efforts are better known within the community.

Planning for 2017-18: Barbara LeBlanc, incoming Treasurer looked into the possibility of changing our financial institution, but could not find one that provided services at a better rate than our current provider. However, it was suggested that we revise the branch Banking

Resolution to make it more generic in the event that we decide to make a change. President Punches provided a possible replacement. Carolyn Kellogg moved to adopt the updated Banking Resolution, Phyllis Tirado seconded the motion and all approved. Carolyn Kellogg asked Barbara LeBlanc about the possibility the branch could get an account that would accept credit cards for our two annual fundraisers. Barbara will review that possibility. The next Board meeting was scheduled for August 15th at 1:00 to finalize plans for the year.

Membership Program Survey Results: Surveys were sent to 60 members via email and 4 members through snail mail. We received 36 responses. The results were mainly positive with some issues surrounding date and time of chapter meetings.

Scholarship Program Report: Scholarship Chair, Mary Piper was unable to attend the meeting, but provided a written follow-up for 2016-17. Monies for all three high school scholarships have been distributed. One scholarship remains available for the WNC selection committee. Mary will follow up in August to find out more about the WNC recipient. Mary also felt that there could be more students applying for our scholarships at some of the local high schools and she will try to improve the process at schools with the fewest applicants in the upcoming fiscal year.

Branch Goals – 2017-18: After reviewing 2016-17 goals, it was determined that they would remain the same for the upcoming year, with small tweaks and an emphasis on increasing membership and member participation. Lin Nary asked about including more information on the general web page instead of placing it under the Members Only tab, everyone agreed with this change. President Punches indicated as part of some of the workshops they attended at the National AAUW Convention they heard of chapters that have co-chairs elected in different years to allow for an easier transition from one board to the next. Members went over the Branch Planning Calendar and Lin Nary will post it on our website. Jennifer Verive spoke briefly about our partnership with WNC. She indicated they are looking at another Work Smart session targeting specific groups. The strategy will be to present the information to those in charge of personnel at local businesses and non-profits. Jennifer also indicated she would prepare a draft evaluation form to be distributed at meetings so we can ensure member follow-up after program presentations. There was also a discussion about reviewing other types of interest groups to see if we could attract a younger cohort.

Miscellaneous: Nancy Stiles indicated there will be a presentation at the Carson Valley Inn by Richard Kimball on “Facts Matter”. The Vote Smart group is attempting to educate the public on how to insure they are getting factual information when voting. Flo Bedrosian indicated she would like to retire from chairing the Feast of Chocolate Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
JoAnn Carpenter
Secretary