



American Association of University Women
Capital Branch
March 5, 2019
Capital Branch Meeting

Members Present		
Nancy Bailey	Lynne Ballatore	Flo Bedrosian
Iris Blaisdell	JoAnn Carpenter	Shirley Hammon
Jill Harper	Jane Johnson	Carolyn Kellogg
Barbara LeBlanc	Beth Mancl	Marty McGarry
Mary Moffitt	Lin Nary	Mary Piper
Caroline Punches	Louise Seidel	Susan Sheehan
Kathy Steinle	Cindi Supko	Dorthiann Taylor
Judy Welch	Shirley Williams	Mary Wilson
Jill Doremus	Nancy Stiles	
Tera Bisbee (prospective)	Linda Bourgeois (prospective)	Patricia Seward (prospective)
Colleen Lyons (prospective)		

The March 5, 2019 membership 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 5:15 PM.

Fund Raisers: Pecan sales were \$4,626. FOC made \$3,342.19. Last year FOC made \$4,263.81. The profits were less because weather made for fewer attendees, resulting in lost raffle sales.

WNC was a good tour of the library, tech areas, nursing area and cadaver lab.

Jennifer got 20 sign ups at the leadership group on Saturday.

Mary Moffitt announced that scholarship applications have been distributed to the high schools. A sign-up sheet was distributed for members to note their interest in helping to evaluate the applications.

Lin has directories for \$3.50 or \$4.00.

Program Speaker Introduction: Judy Welch, Program co-chair, introduced the first speaker, Stacey Shinn with State Innovation Exchange (SiX), which is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to provide research in support of legislation that progressive legislators are looking to bring to the Assembly or Senate, in order to assist them in making their bills viable. Goals this legislative session include the Pay Equity bill, which our own Nancy Stiles is testifying in support of; an Earned Sick Pay bill, which Stacey feels has a good chance of something passing, maybe not the 10 days desired, but possibly 5 days, a minimum wage bill, which Stacey again feels has a good chance of passing, maybe at \$12. Others being supported through research include a bill to provide equal pay protection on employers of 5 or more, vs the federal law of 15 employees or more; a pre-existing conditions bill to codify the coverage requirement in state law; and the NARAL-advocated Trust Nevada Women bill, the purpose of which is to clean up statute language that has already been overturned by courts or by the abortion protection statue. Additional work is being done by SiX in support of Senator Ratti's affordable housing bill (tax incentive for providing), an eviction reform bill, plus payday lending reform - shockingly we learned that interest can now exceed 600% per day! We may also see success on doing away with the death penalty and passing same day voter registration.

JoAnn Carpenter, Program co-chair, introduced our second speaker, Michaela Tonking with Fund our Future, a coalition of parent, student, teacher and education partners determined to insure public schools have sufficient funds to provide all the appropriate and necessary resources that all students need to succeed. Senators Woodhouse and Denis have introduced the bill to fix our education funding formula so that we can increase funding for our k-12 public schools. Voters have passed the room tax and the marijuana tax, both of which generate funds that voters intended to go to education funding, but because of Nevada's existing funding formula, there is no way to allocate the increased funds to education because we're locked into an old funding formula.

Officer Nominations: After the speakers, President Panches reported officer nominations for 2019-2020 fiscal year: Jennifer Verive to Co-President with Caroline Panches; Lynne Balletore to serve as Co-Program Vice President with JoAnn Carpenter; Diane Koditek to serve as Co-Membership with Iris Blaisdell; Dorthiann Taylor to serve as Co-Treasurer with Barbara LeBlanc; Barbara Kuehner to serve as Co-Recording Secretary with Marty McGarry, and Shirley Williams to continue to serve as Corresponding Secretary.

Public Policy: President Panches then turned to Nancy Stiles, our Capital Branch public policy chair. Nancy asked the membership to join the League of Women Voters and support HR1 at the National level, a historic package of voting reforms that, if passed, will restore the Voting Rights Act as well as expand and modernize the voter registration process, end partisan gerrymandering, and prohibit voter roll purging. Also on the National level, AAUW is supporting the Paycheck Fairness Act, which Nancy reminded members they can advocate for easily by participating in the AAUW national Two Minute Advocate.

Nancy passed out information for members to sign up for Nevada Women's Lobby Grassroots Lobby Days to make the most of the 2019 legislative session. In addition, Nancy announced the

Legislative Committee for 2019, to goal of which is to inform capital branch members of legislative issues during the 2019 Legislative Session and encourage their legislative participation. Members of the committee are Nancy Stiles, Caroline PUNCHES, Marty McGarry, Judy Welch, JoAnn Carpenter and Tera Bisbee. The Committee met and decided to follow bills and report to members, including: **Educational Funding**, supporting “Fund Our Future” and SB 89, which Nancy Stiles will follow; **Pay Equity**, supporting Senator Pat Spearman’s SB166, creating an array of penalties for employers who pay women less than men for the same work, adding protections against discrimination during the hiring process, and providing an appeals process for employers; **Affordable Child Care**, the committee noted one year of child care costs more than one year of tuition at UNR, and infant care costs 18.3% of the median income; helping families pay for child care would make it easier for women to have careers and families; **Earned Sick Days**, BDR 55-888 from Senator Joyce Woodhouse to establish a paid leave policy to allow individuals to take paid time off for medical concerns instead of having to work while sick, or to care for family members, and to still have their job when they return to work; and **Minimum Wage Increase** with Nevada 28th in the nation at \$8.25 per hour, increasing the state minimum wage would mean fewer Nevadans would live in poverty.

In closing the meeting, President PUNCHES encouraged members to think about how they want to participate in the coming year, whether its legislative advocacy or working on our big fundraiser, Feast of Chocolate and Pecan Sales, participating in interest groups or helping with and attending meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 7:12 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marty McGarry
Co-Recording Secretary