



American Association of University Women
 Capital Branch
 August 7, 2019
 Board Meeting

Members Present		
Caroline Punches	Lynne Ballatore	Iris Blaisdel
JoAnn Carpenter	Barbara LeBlanc	Lin Nary
Chris Perdomo	Kathy Steinle	Dorthiann Taylor
Jennifer Verive	Judy Welch	

The meeting was held at Partnership Carson City, 1925 N. Carson St., Carson City and was called to order at 1:00 PM, by President Caroline Punches. Lynne Ballatore agreed to take minutes.

Minutes: Minutes from the previous board meeting with no corrections were moved to be accepted by Jennifer, 2nd by Barbara, and all approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Treasurer Barbara LeBlanc reviewed the 2018-19 budget and explained items where the budget did not agree with the actuals. This included bad weather for FOC led to less attending and fewer raffle tickets sold; some money given back from the League of Women’s Voters; return of a scholarship for the recipient not making the qualifying grades; and receiving money from Linda Hiebert-Sekiguchi’s estate to pay for past lunches. That put us ahead \$2,408 for the year.

We have received \$731 from 32 members for the membership brunch. \$132 was donated for operating expenses. Thank yous will be sent to those who donated. Iris moved and Chris 2nd to accept the treasurer’s report and it was approved.

Board Roles & Responsibilities: Caroline discussed the handout which outlined the duties and responsibilities of the Board of Directors as outlined in our Bylaws. It was noted that National only requires two mandated positions - President and Treasurer. The board must meet a minimum of three times a year (Fiscal year: July to June). Our meetings are August, January and June, and sometimes in October to talk about Pecans and FOC.

Caroline noted that we are a 501 (c)4 (EIN 47-5132225). Charitable donations made to us are not tax-deductible; but donations by businesses to our Feast of Chocolate can be qualified as a “business expense” and can be deductible. Our National AAUW is a 501 (c)3, so money sent through National can be deducted. It was noted that a portion of our membership dues (\$56 of the \$59) are tax deductible. Our branch tax reports are sent to National and they file our taxes as part of the National package. We do not have a state sales tax exemption and it was lightly discussed as to the difficulty level of obtaining an exemption with no action to be taken.

Committee Chairs: Social Media addition: Cindy White volunteered to manage our Facebook page. For printing Caroline is going to Ian of High Sierra Printing, who will help design as well as print. Jennifer pointed out that there is a lot of good information on the AAUW website that can be used, and it is good to stay consistent with National.

2019-20FY Strategic Plan Development: Jennifer led the discussion to finalize goals and objectives for our strategic plan. Jennifer shared information about National’s Five Star Recognition program and encouraged

the board to adopt the achievement of a Five Star rating as our branch goal. All agreed that we already do many of the requirements towards this goal and should attempt to get the rating.

Membership: Iris feels the diversity we need to seek first is age. All agreed to invited Scholarship recipients to the Membership Brunch. Jennifer will talk to the PolkaDot Powerhouse group at WNC. It was also noted that orientation about AAUW can be integrated into our monthly meetings and other activities.

Programs: JoAnn would like to change the way we ask for member evaluation of the programs. The survey is good and should be continued. Handing out evaluations with member identification at the end of the meeting is not helping. We may opt for providing cards and a suggestion box to encourage anonymous reviews.

Public Policy: Judy feels voter education materials should be expanded to include voter registration. She feels we need to include a voter registration drive and there are opportunities for us to help other groups' registration drives. August 26 is National Voter Registration Day. We should engage elected officials to discuss AAUW issues.

Philanthropy: Branch will support AAUW's "Greatest Need" areas rather than fellowships and grants in the future. Additionally, we will continue scholarships and community projects such as Work Smart and other STEM related options. Promotion of Pecans and FOC will continue.

Operating Budget: Barbara proposed taking 10% of our fund-raisers for the operating budget so we could cover the Membership Brunch without asking members to donate. Barbara motioned but it was pointed out that possible fund raisers had been discussed before but no actions have been taken. Lin suggested a 50/50 at all meetings might be enough. It was agreed that we need a committee for increasing operating funds. Jennifer, Barbara and Iris volunteered, and it will be opened to members.

Feast of Chocolate: Chris proposed that making change for the \$15 FOC pre-event tickets made making change more difficult and we should raise the fee to \$20 and \$25 at the door. Chris moved, Lin 2nd, approved. The Plaza has been reserved for February. Chris & Jan will meet with Flo to review the planning calendar. Jane Johnson has volunteered to handle ticket distribution. Members have volunteered for a number of activities according to the Volunteer Survey conducted.

Pecan Sales: Kathy Steinle would like to do Facebook and Twitter for Pecans. Barbara pointed out that NextDoor may be a good site for advertising. Already have three tables at the Carson High Craft Fair in November. The price from Schermer will be confirmed soon so our prices can be set.

Volunteer Survey Results: Caroline reported that 71 members were conducted – 67 by email and 4 by USPS mail. The response was lower than expected with only 27 responses. It was suggested that printed surveys be distributed at our September brunch allowing those who did not respond to respond.

Membership Brunch: The brunch is September 14 from 10 to 12. Iris got some bids for catering: Blue Café has a French menu for \$17; Joannie's Creekside has a quiche lunch for \$16. Catered Affair are not available. There was a suggestion to check with Mitch who caters events at WNC.

Since 2020 is the 100th anniversary of Women's Suffrage, this will be integrated into our branch program. Suffrage questions have been developed and decorations are using suffrage colors of purple, yellow and white. Tablecloths, dishes and other items are being provided.

It was decided to use Caroline's Evite account in order to send out Evites to our members. Caroline agreed to update the membership names and emails and look at giving access to additional members. It was noted that the branch could try using Evite for the monthly meetings as well.

2019-20 Program Calendar: March is Women's History month. The Scholarship lunch will be May 2. Judy Welch noted that the Nevada Commission on Women has developed a calendar of 2020 Suffrage activities. Mary Piper has participated in the monthly conference calls. A specific website is being developed to track all suffrage activities. AAUW Nevada's logo and link to the state website will be included. The NV State March will be March 20 and 21.

Programs: The October 1 speaker needs to be set and a bio in by the end of August to get into the September newsletter. The membership would like more tours and program chairs will tie in the speakers with a tour

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during the same month. For example, consider a guided tour of Stewart Indian School in the spring and a speaker on the same subject for a regular meeting.

WorkSmart: A meet-up was held at the Carson City Library July 30th. Jennifer indicated it was a great trial run and thanked our members who attended. The next meet-up will be held at WNC Library August 14 3:30 to 5:30. The Polkadot Powerhouse (a group of women entrepreneurs) are promoting as well. A full workshop will be held on September 28th at the Sheriff's Office.

Other Announcements:

Linda Hiebert Sekuguchi Memorial Fund has been established at National with a \$3,000 contribution from our branch. Additional donations will be encouraged to reach \$10,000 by June 30, 2021.

Tech Trek: Barbara Kuehner and Lynne Ballatore attended Visitor's Day at UC Davis. It was very impressive and a lot of work for the AAUW Branch Members. Math Camp at UNR and other STEM opportunities should be evaluated.

Next BOD meeting: The board will meet in October pending availability of the Partnership room.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15

Respectfully Submitted,
Lynne Ballatore
Temporary Recording Secretary