

**AAUW ASHLAND BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 28, 2022
ZOOM MEETING**

PRESENT: Catherine Lutes, Pam Shay, Susan Schaefer, Bessie Azari, Susan Hollingsworth, Sandra Coyner, Regina Ayers, Marilyn Hawkins, Ellen Fowler, Diane Toth, Peggy Audibert

Catherine called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm, and the following items were discussed:

The January meeting minutes were approved by consensus.

MEMBERSHIP

Susan stated that currently, there are 146 paid members. Susan suggested the membership application for new members includes a profile and interest survey which needs to be updated to reflect recruitment for leadership roles. She will discuss any changes at the next meeting. Also, branch ROBO calls will be initiated to the membership for the purpose of meeting reminders and important announcements. Opting out of these announcements will be offered to the members.

Susan and Ellen will investigate the new renewal option of Online sign-up for 2022-2023 from AAUW National, and will partner with other Branches to figure it out.

PROGRAMS

Marilyn commented on the excellent March Zoom Program regarding the plight of Farm Workers in the Rogue Valley and the work of UNETE, a local organization deeply involved in helping these people. It informed the membership of this extraordinary organization and the tremendous work they do.

The March 26, 2022 Program will be "Reshaping Philanthropy," given by Amy Cuddy, of the Sothern Oregon Community Foundation, and will be presented **in person** at the First Methodist Church in Ashland. An all-member email will announce that everyone attending must be vaccinated and boosted.

PRESIDENT'S MEETING

Catherine announced the speaker at the April 2022 President's Meeting will be Toya Cooper, SOU EDI Director. Also noted is that a Diversity Officer for AAUW branches will be required starting in 2023.

Also announced is that the Celebration of Scholars has once again been postponed and moved to September 28, 2022. SOU has not completed the selection process.

The May Branch and Board meetings are cancelled.

FINANCE

Jean reported the following: Income: \$7,304; Expense \$1,370; Checking - \$12,341; Savings - \$3,501; Money Market - \$11,513. It was noted that \$600 has been paid to the Grange for the Upscale Sale, and rent to the Methodist Church will be \$150//month.

This report was approved by consensus.

UPSCALE SALE

Bessie discussed the Upscale Sale to be held May 28-29, and the need for volunteers to help organize and work one or two 2-hour shifts. COVID safety will be discussed with the Steering Committee at their next meeting as well if it will be necessary to require masks for entry into the Sale.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Bessie Azari announced that the Nominating Committee, Bessie, Jean Conger Susan Hollingsworth, Mimi Pippel, and Chris Donchin, nominated the following persons for election to office:

- **Co-Presidents:** Catherine Lutes and Regina Ayers (for 1 year only)
- **Recording Secretary:** Christine Fernlund
- **Members at Large:** Mary Coombs and Catherine Greenspan

Mimi Pippel has accepted the position of Program Chair, Shirley Malcom has accepted the position of Hospitality Chair and still needed is an Interest Group Coordinator. It was discussed whether a third Member at Large should be chosen but as it was determined that a By-Laws change would need to be made, the idea was tabled.

Florence Schneider Award nominations are also being solicited from the membership.

FUNDS REPORT

Bessie announced that National has informed her that 8 Named Gift Honorees will be named by AAUW Ashland for service in 2021-2022. It will be a Board decision who these Named Honorees will be so nominations are now being solicited, which can be individuals or an outstanding Branch group.

Also discussed was AAUW Ashland's donation to AAUW National (see report). In 2020-2021, \$7,400 was donated to the Greatest Need Fund by individuals, but no donation was made by the Branch Board to AAUW National. It was moved and seconded that \$1,000 be donated for 2021-2022 to National, which was approved unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS (see report)

Ellen Fowler has announced that she is retiring as Communications Chair, and the Communications Team, Gail Engblom, Elaine Sweet, Chris Licata, Penny Little, will continue working on the newsletter and other communications outlets. Chris and Ellen are working to complete a detailed and comprehensive Team Manual to serve as a resource. Alice Mallory will not continue with the Facebook page, and the Board should decide whether to support this endeavor, or perhaps establish and maintain a Facebook *Group* which would require a moderator to supervise the content.

NEW BUSINESS

March is Women's History Month and March 8 is International Women's Day. In addition, March 15 is Equal Pay Day, the date women have to work into the following year to reach equity with Men's pay in the same positions.

Marilyn suggested that, as the March program was so successful, would like to investigate the possibility of partnering with UNETE in some way. She would be the liaison, if the activities would be feasible.

The AAUW State Meeting is to be held April 8-9, 2022, on ZOOM and voting attendees are needed from the AAUW Board. Regina Ayes, Peggy Audibert, Jean Conger, Diane Toth Susan Hollingsworth and Pam Shay have volunteered and will attend the State Business Meeting on Saturday, April 8, at 11:00 am.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Audibert, Recording Secretary