

# AAUW Ashland

## Board of Directors Meeting

October 31, 2022

Present: Peggy Audibert, Regina Ayars, Bessie Azari, Jean Conger, Sandra Coyner, Gail Engblom, Christine Fernlund, Catherine Greenspan, Catherine Lutes, Lisa Verner

The meeting was called to order at 3:30pm.

MINUTES: The minutes of the April, 2022 and September 26, 2022 meetings were approved by consensus, without changes.

REPORTS: Monthly report from Public Policy, Membership, Communications, HUB (National website), and Interest Groups were submitted prior to the meeting and/or were available online. No changes or modifications were required.

BUDGET: Jean Conger provided copies of the Proposed Budget (09/01/2022 - 08/31/2023) and a YTD Report (through October, 2022).

- \$5059 from the Upscale Sale are included in Revenue for operating expenses. The Board agreed that any unused portion that remains at the end of the FY will be deposited in the Annual Funds for scholarships at RCC and SOU.
- Previously, the Ashland Branch donated \$2000, divided between the Endowment Funds at RCC and SOU. That transaction does not appear on the Proposed Budget.
- The "Special Needs" category will be called "Greatest Needs" in all future versions of the reports. Susan Schafer will be asked to release the \$1000 donated by the Ashland Branch to the National Program.
- The Board agreed to keep the "rainy day fund" in Vanguard, however the balance of \$11,522 will be moved to investment accounts that generate greater earnings than the current money market account. Next month the Board will discuss possible mutual funds for those monies.
- The question was raised why we have \$18,870 sitting in the checkbook. This requires further discussion regarding whether to spend the money or move it to investment accounts.
- The YTD Actuals Report indicates that the Branch has spent over half of the allotted budget as of 10/31. The largest percentage of YTD expenses was an annual payment for rent at the Methodist Church for meeting rooms. The only remaining major expense is \$1000 for Celebration of Scholars.

The reports were approved by consensus with the minor changes and stipulations noted above.

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STRATEGIC PLAN: Catherine Lutes reviewed the Plan adopted in October, 2022.

- The “Owners” column will be renamed “Responsible Party”.
- Goal 1-D will be deleted.
- Goal 2-A (economic inequities): Sandra reported anything easy is already being done and the “tough stuff” needs major resources. The team of Peggy Audibert, Sandra Coyner, and Shirley Malcom will provide the Board with a status of actions completed last FY. No additional steps are recommended at this time.  
For FY 2023-24, the Board would like recommendations of education activities regarding economic inequities in the Rogue Valley that AAUW could sponsor.
- Goal 3-B will be modified for more clarity to “senior-level staff in leadership roles”.
- Measurements for Success will be added to Goals 4-A and 4-B.
- As of 10/31/2022, Goals 5 and 6 have been completed.

The Plan was approved by consensus with the changes noted above.

### BREAKING BARRIERS NOMINATION:

Regina Ayars provided copies of the nominating guidelines to the Board. The nomination requires research; Catherine Lutes will ask some member to assist by preparing a nominating application for Kathy Keesee-Morales (UNETE). Marilyn Hawkins, Gretchen King, and Kathy Brandon were suggested as possible writers.

WOMEN ENTREPRENDURS OF SOUTHERN OREGON (WESO): Regina Ayars will be attending a WESO convention in Ashland on November 5<sup>th</sup>. AAUW was offered space for a table and Regina asked if any Board members are available to help. (No one opted to volunteer.) Catherine Greenspan will pick up AAUW bookmarks for the goodie bags. The intent is to heighten AAUW Ashland’s visibility in the community and solicit new members.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION: A member wrote a Position Statement and requested that AAUW Ashland publish it. The position was edited and the Board unanimously agreed to publish it in the Vision. Members will be given an opportunity to comment and those who are interested, will be encouraged to join the DEI Committee.

Sandra Coyner recommended the Branch provide training, similar to what we did for bullying. If we train our members to react, they will be prepared to say something and do something when they witness instances of threats, violence, or harassment of any kind.

### NEW BUSINESS:

- Brochure – Volunteers will be recruited to help create a new brochure for the AAUW Ashland Branch.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:33pm.

Respectfully submitted by Christine Fernlund