

AAUW Ashland

Board of Directors Meeting

February 27, 2023

Present: Peggy Audibert, Regina Ayars, Bessie Azari, Mary Coombs, Jean Conger, Sandra Coyner, Gail Engblom, Christine Fernlund, Catherine Greenspan, Susan Hollandsworth, Catherine Lutes, Liz Murphy, Mimi Pippel, Susan Gunn Schaefer, Lisa Verner

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

Catherine Lutes led the board in an EDI activity designed to demonstrate that how the way we see ourselves effects how we respond to other people. All those present listed ways they identified themselves. The results included age, heritage, career, gender, education, etc.

MINUTES: The minutes of the October meeting were summarized and approved by consensus, without changes.

REPORTS:

MEMBERSHIP – The Fall new member orientation will be held at Karen Spence’s house in Talent. The wine “cellar” that remains after Celebration of Scholars will be served along with appetizers and snacks. The board agreed to designate the \$200 in “miscellaneous” for the Membership Committee which will provide \$100 per orientation meeting for food and non-alcoholic drinks.

PUBLIC POLICY – The Committee will be hosting the January branch meeting, “Newly Elected City Councilors Forum”. Their projects for this year are Childcare programs and legislation, and one of the Branch’s strategic plan goals of increasing the number of women in leadership positions within local government .

WEBSITE – Gail Engblom will contact Grants Pass and AAUW Oregon regarding assistance with the software. No one, past or present, can make changes to the on-line calendar and the a list of upcoming meetings needs to be added to the home page.

FINANCES: Jean Conger

1. Provided copies of the YTD actuals, through October 31st.
2. Created a committee that includes Gail Engblom and Christine Fernlund to review Vanguard funds for investing the \$11,618 “rainy day fund”. They will return to the Board with recommendations for investments and suggestions for what to do with the \$18,000 currently sitting in the checking account.
3. Changed the passwords at Vanguard. Catherine Lutes, Susan Schafer, and Jean Conger now have access to that account.

STRATEGIC PLAN: The suggested changes to the Plan were made after the October meeting. The latest version is dated 10/31/2022, and saved as v.6. The revised version 6 will be sent to all Board members along with this month’s minutes.

BREAKING BARRIERS NOMINATION:

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Catherine Lutes spoke with Kathy Keesee-Morales (UNETE) about the award, but Kathy is hesitant to be in the spotlight. Catherine will return and discuss other alternatives for recognizing UNETE's work.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION:

Sandra Coyner questioned why we are focusing on our membership's understanding of societal issues. Are there concrete actions we (individual members and the Ashland Branch as a whole) can take to assist existing organizations further their efforts fighting injustice?

Positive action has been taken by AAUW Ashland. This year, the Branch meetings will include overviews of three such organizations: UNETE, Truth to Power, and OHRA.

For the January meeting, Mimi Pippel will provide a recap of OHRA and inform members of ways they can help that organization.

Training opportunities for members were discussed and suggestions included webinars, Indivisible, Susan Moen, and role playing. Each Board member will bring one idea to the next Board meeting.

PRESS RELATIONS:

ASHLAND.NEWS –

COMMUNICATIONS:

FACEBOOK –

TWITTER –

VISION –

WEBSITE –

NEW BUSINESS:

NEXT MEETINGS

Branch Meeting on

Board Meeting on

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05pm.

Respectfully submitted by Christine Fernlund