

AAUW Ashland Board Meeting  
August 26, 2024

Present: Regina Ayars, Bessie Azari, Barbara Cervone, Gail Engblom,  
Susan Hollandsworth, Penny Little, Susan Schaefer, Lisa Verner,  
Christine Westlund, Sandra Coyner  
Absent: Susan Jain, Leslie Nilson, Diane Toth

Meeting called to order: 4pm by Regina

The new location for Board and Branch meetings was approved.

Calvin Hall

First Presbyterian Church of Ashland

1615 Clark Avenue at Walker

**ACTION:** Regina will invite members who are on the September Branch meeting agenda to do a walk thru prior to 9/28.

Debrief retreat:

The Four Main Themes survey results were reviewed. Progress toward the goals will be reviewed again in **January**.

- Mission: a program on redefining feminism is one of the offerings this year.
- Membership: to recruit new members, we will approach the Ashland Newcomers group and “bringing a potential member to a meeting day” were emphasized. Sandra suggested that we set a goal to increase membership by 10%. We need a baseline.
- Social significance: increase the number of interest groups, rotate seating at 2 branch meetings (by theme) to mix members, relocate the membership table and add greeters outside.
- Fundraising: An AHS Scholarship Committed was formed: Chair Barb Cervone, Regina, Bessie, Leslie. **ACTION:** Committee will draft a separate Campaign Letter for our AHS scholarship to be included in the solicitation mailing to members. **ACTION:** Regina will inform Fran Adams and Wanda Chin that there will be two letters in the Scholarship Solicitation mailing mid October. We will hold 2 raffles at branch meetings for the AHS Scholarship – wine and books.

Budget:

- Gail presented a draft budget. Edits were made and the Board will approve the final budget at the September meeting. **ACTION:** Submit any additional changes to Gail prior to the September board meeting. Generally, our income and expenses balance. This happened due to the reduced cost for our meeting location. At the end of the year, unspent “helping hand” monies will go to AHS scholarship funds.
- Thank you, Gail, for preparing our budget for 2024-5!

Program Schedule:

- The programs are listed on our website. Barbara will bring different voices, some of them, young women, among our speakers and panels.
- Thank you, Barbara, for preparing our programs for 2024-5!

Open positions:

- Susan Jain will continue as Membership Chair until the membership chair position is filled.
- Regina is actively recruiting a webmaster.
- A team will be formed to rework our celebration of scholars to be held Wednesday, October 16, Rogue River Room, SOU Campus, 5:30pm.

Updates and announcements:

- Susan Schaefer reported that there will be 3 or 4 new interest group offerings at the September Branch meeting. They are hiking group, international dining, lunch out, and maybe a fiction book group. Thank you, Susan for the Interest Group Calendar!
- The April Branch meeting date has been changed to April 12.
- Our branch and Ashland News are co-sponsoring a candidate forum on October 13, Sunday, at the AHS theatre.

Meeting adjourned: 5:48

Respectfully submitted: Bessie Azari