

## AAUW Ashland Board Meeting

May 19, 2025

Present: Susan Jain, Gail Engblom, Diane Toth, Christine Westland, Penny Little, Susan Hollandsworth, Bessie Azari, Susan Schaefer, Barbara Cervone

Meeting began at 4:00 p.m.

April meeting minutes approved.

### DEBRIEF AND UPDATES: All

- Branch meeting received good feedback from membership. The Farm to School program presentation was interesting and informative. Bessie complimented Susan on her meeting leadership.

### AHS SCHOLARSHIP 2025: Barbara Cervone

- Barbara reviewed the decision process involved in selecting the top candidates; she also explained how all of the awards to the applicants are calculated before the final selection of candidates and amounts awarded is determined. The final decision for our AHS Scholarship was to award two students: \$2000 for one and \$2500 to the other.
- Susan Jain spoke about needing more transparency in the process of awarding the funds.
- Barbara has agreed to continue to work on the AHS Scholarship for next year.

### GALLERY FUNDRAISING EVENT: Susan Jain

- The AAUW fundraising event is June 8, 2025, at 3p.m.at the Langford Gallery in Phoenix. It will features the work of Irene Kai and includes an artist's talk and hospitality.
- Many arrangements have already been made and Susan will let us know closer to the event if more help is needed.
- This event will raise money for the AAUW Ashland Branch mission.

### CELEBRATION OF SCHOLARS: Susan Jain

- The date will be Oct. 22 or 23 in the Rogue River Room. Rick Bailey has indicated that he will be in attendance.
- Bessie suggests using the coming retreat to enlist volunteers for the COS.

#### DIRECTORY PASSWORD COMPROMISE: Susan

- It was brought to Susan's attention by a member that she received a warning that the Directory PW had been compromised.
- After some discussion it was decided that since the directory doesn't include any financial information that changing the PW would not be needed and would cause unnecessary confusion for members.

#### LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT: Bessie Azari

- So far a permanent replacement for Financial Chair has not been found. Regina may have a candidate but nothing is definite yet. Gail will continue in the position if necessary.
- No one has volunteered for the Interest Group Chair position. Susan Schaefer has been asked to bring sign up sheets for the Interest Groups to the September meeting if no one takes on the position before then.
- DEI position status:
  - There is currently no DEI chair or active committee. It was suggested that we should look into how State is handling DEI at this time and maybe ask Catherine Lutes to clarify. Susan Jain will investigate.

#### FINANCIAL UPDATE: Gail Engblom

- There is currently enough money in the budget to pay incoming and outstanding bills.
- More money is still coming in for the AHS Scholarship and will be carried over for next year. Susan Hollandsworth suggested putting the AHS funds into a separate savings account and designating that account for AHS Scholarship. The Board agreed with this suggestion and Gail will do so.

#### JUNE BOARD RETREAT: Susan Jain

- The retreat is scheduled for June 21, 2025 from 10a.m.-1p.m.
- All members are welcome to attend and it will also be a lunch potluck.

- Please give any suggestions to Susan for activities including ideas for participatory, small group activities, and an icebreaker.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Submitted by Diane Toth