

AAUW-Morgan Hill Board Meeting  
Thursday, January 6, 2011  
Granary Program Room

Present: Elizabeth Mandel, Betsy Ding, Peggy Martin, Judy Kinker, Elaine Reimer, Donna Weisblatt, Margo Hinnenkamp, Karen Anderson, Donna Dicker, Janet McElroy, Yvonne Duckett, Carol O'Hare, Linda Withrow, Patricia Kindred, Peggy Pinarbasi, Joan Ensign, Kathy Sullivan, Patty Crone. A quorum of voting board members was present.

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by President Elizabeth Mandel. The December minutes were approved as presented.

**Treasurer** Peggy Martin presented her report, noting that the footnote on the financial statement is designed to reconcile the budget year versus calendar year. The figures in each category are accurate through January 6, 2011. \$17,742.11 is currently in the checking account. Peggy has not yet received a report reflecting contributions to ISPF.

**Program** Co-Vice President Betsy Ding reported that the next event will be the screening of the film *Autumn Gem* at the Villa Mira Monte on January 19. Announcements will be in the *Morgan Hill Times* and have already appeared in *Out and About*.

- Elizabeth Mandel will put a flyer into pdf form for distribution and posting on the website.
- Membership will make sure that there are membership information materials at the event.
- Margo Hinnenkamp will coordinate refreshments.
- Karen Anderson will send out an email requesting contributions to the refreshments.

On February 10, Michelle Richmond, the author of *The Year of Fog* will be in Morgan Hill as part of the Silicon Valley Reads program. Normally 100 people attend this event.

- AAUW will provide a bookmark as part of a gift to the author.
- Margo Hinnenkamp will coordinate refreshments.
- Karen Anderson will send out an email requesting contributions to the refreshments.

Betsy also stated that we need a date for the summer barbecue, which will be at the home of Mary and Mike Cox and which is organized by one or two past presidents. The three dates available are July 16, July 23, and August 6. It was decided that we should determine who will chair this and then settle on a date.

- Carol O'Hare will email past presidents to see who might chair the event.
- Joan Ensign and Carol are meeting next Tuesday to finalize the binder from the past year.

March 19 will be the date for the celebration of California Women's Suffrage, co-sponsored with Friends of the Library.

- It was recommended that we purchase a Costco cake from the Hospitality budget

**Membership** Co-Vice President Peggy Pinarbasi reported that membership in the Morgan Hill Branch stands at 136.

On February 16 from 5:30 to 7 p.m., the purpose of the Wine and Whine event (at Ragoot's) will be to welcome new and prospective members. A flyer was distributed. The cost of appetizers may be in the

neighborhood of \$150. There will be door prizes for new members, guests and for members who bring guests.

- Peggy will put out a request for door prize items.
- Peggy and Patricia will negotiate with Ragoot's on the cost of the event.
- Peggy will send the final version of the flyer to Emily, to be posted on the website.
- It was decided to promote mid-March memberships, with the dues for one year covering 1¼ years of membership benefits.

Chair Yvonne Duckett reported on the progress of the **Wildflower Run**, displaying drafts of a poster, registration forms and post cards. Joan Ensign reported that the total sponsorships currently would be between \$1750 and \$1800. Carol O'Hare reported that thus far 16 members have donated, representing 11% of the membership.

Suggestions to increase member donations were as follows:

- Allow members to donate in honor of someone.
  - Send a mailer with self-addressed envelope to members.
  - Create levels of donorship.
  - Consider online donations via Paypal. (There is a fee for this option.)
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- Barbara Palmer will send an email reminding members that it is time to make contributions to the Wildflower Run.
  - Yvonne will be setting up the next Run meeting in January, when Greg Richards from South Valley Endurance is available. At that meeting, the team will determine what roles Greg will take on versus what our volunteers will continue to do. Following that, Yvonne will be able to finalize a contract with SVE.

### **Unfinished Business**

Carol O'Hare reported on the **Newsletter survey**, stating that 50% of the membership had responded. Elizabeth shared comparable information from other branches regarding the numbers of members who took the newsletter online versus receiving hard copies by mail, versus other methods such as a Yahoo Group or as an attachment. The annual cost for mailing a monthly newsletter to a single member (including printing and postage) is approximately \$10. Morgan Hill currently mails newsletters to 17 members, which is a relatively low number.

Discussion followed as to how to sensitively reach out to members who are less comfortable accessing the newsletter electronically, including offering to go to members' homes to show them how to set up their computers to easily access the link. It was decided that we would not charge for mailing or increase dues at this time to cover mailing costs. It was also decided that we continue sending the newsletter as a link, rather than as an attachment for reasons of practicality and safety (e.g. viruses).

- Elizabeth and Carol will work together to provide both an email to the membership (including survey results, decisions re: newsletter distribution, and details on how to save logon information for quick access) and a summary of survey results for the next newsletter.
- Monday, January 10 is the deadline for February's newsletter.

### **New Business**

Carol O'Hare announced that the **State Convention** in Irvine is at the same time as the Wildflower Run. Since there is \$200 in the budget to help defray the cost of attending, however, it was suggested that

perhaps someone who had completed her duties for the Run might be available to attend. (Carol Holzgrafe will attend.) Branches have the opportunity to be recognized in two areas:

- Historic photographs of branch events, which will be displayed during the Saturday night gala as part of a PowerPoint presentation
- Submittal of mission-based programs

Carol has more information on these options.

It was decided that we should wait until next year when the convention is geographically closer and when more of the membership would be able to attend.

- Elizabeth will include in her newsletter article something regarding the Convention and the need to send someone to represent the Branch, as well as the \$200 budget to help cover the costs.

Karen Anderson introduced the subject of **term limits for non-Board positions**. It is possible that some Interest Group programs or committees can become less effective over time when some long-time leaders are relying on the same approach, rather than allowing new members to take a more active role. After some discussion, the conclusions were as follows:

- Groups should be run by people who have a passion for the activity, and they would be difficult to replace.
- Groups should place the emphasis on the process/activity, rather than on the group leader.
- Allow more new members to take leadership by sharing responsibility.
- Have the Interest Groups Coordinator contact the leaders each year to confirm their interest in continuing in a leadership role.

#### **Committee/Board Reports**

Donna Dicker reported that two of the 16 **Gavilan Scholarship** recipients completed and returned the **survey**. Both expressed gratitude for the assistance and gave reports on their progress.

- Donna will compose an article on the two respondents for the newsletter.

The Nominating Committee consists of Peggy Martin, Joanne Rife, Donna Weisblatt, and Janet McElroy. Elizabeth Mandel appointed Janet as a non-Board member.

Other notes:

The quilt was discovered to be with the t-shirts.

Peggy Pinarbasi will provide refreshments for the February meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted.

Patty Crone, Secretary