

AAUW Morgan Hill Board Meeting

May 3, 2017

Morgan Hill Community and Cultural Center, Madrone Room

Present:

Board members

Barbara Palmer, Donna Dicker, Janet McElroy, Joy Safakish, Judy Kinker, Maggie Leininger, Margaret McCann, Mary Cox, Peggy Martin, Sandy Stoob, Suman Ganapathy, Susan Oldham-Fritts

AAUW members

Gretchen Merrick, Margo Hinnenkamp, Robin Bean

Call to Order/Announcements/Acknowledgments – President Mary Cox called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm. Judy Kinker confirmed a quorum.

Announcements

Mary Cox reminded the board that National AAUW elections are open until June 15 and to be sure to vote. The big election issue is whether women without degrees can join AAUW. If you don't have a degree, you can join as an advocate. Advocates can't serve as an officer or vote.

National dues are increasing \$10 next year.

Our branch received a Certificate of Achievement for programs at the April AAUW-CA meeting, which Mary passed around. AAUW-CA posted the photo and write up for “Women in Religion – A Life of Simplicity” as a noteworthy program. The meeting also included the Speech Trek contest. Our Morgan Hill branch Speech Trek winner (Nikhita Gopisetty) competed and won 1st place in California. Her speech “Is it time to pass the ERA” was superb.

Minutes – The board meeting minutes of April 5, 2017 were accepted.

Financial Report

CFO Peggy Martin reported that we have \$14,563.82 in the operating account. The newsletter category was corrected. Peggy paid the MH Cellars rental for the Spring brunch/installation of officers. Peggy has started sending out emails for categories she thinks might have outstanding expenses.

Membership Report:

Maggie Leininger reported that we have 167 members. We are getting one or two new members at every program. The membership VP is going to have more privilege in the future, processing payments for membership dues instead of the treasurer.

We should soon be receiving an email blast to renew AAUW National and branch membership with one click. Jenny will take membership renewal checks and deposit them in the bank. Only the treasurer will have access to the debit card.

Jenny Redfern emailed her part of the membership report, since she was unable to attend the meeting. Jenny asks us to welcome Dianna Yang-Dininno, who joined at our Women In Art program, and thus is

part of the Shape The Future campaign. Dianna is willing to open her home for special events, and willing to help with Membership, AAUW Fund, and One-time events. She is interested in Afternoon Books, Out To Lunch, Friday Writers, Hiking, Pilgrim's process, Wine&Whine, Smart eGals, Travel Tips, and (other) Music. Dianna is a friend of Margaret McCann's. Please look at the updated meet-greet-signup form in Dropbox - if you haven't already done so, let Jenny know if your name is associated with the correct month, and more importantly, whom you have met with! Joan Ensign recently had a great visit with Jennifer Hamilton. This process is working well at integrating new members with our activities. Please look at the NewMembers-help with table in Dropbox for names of new members who might be willing to help with upcoming events. We are getting such a good turnout of the public as well as of our members at our monthly library talks (thank you, Janet and Margaret), and are picking up at least one or two new members from each of those talks. Good stuff! The national MSD shows we have 165 total members - we have at least two more than that, yet to be added to MSD. Jenny now has branch "Co-finance officer" status with National, meaning she can now accept and deposit checks in Morgan Hill, and then manage the member information in MSD. Peggy Martin (and then Katie Scanlon) will continue to make the membership \$ available to National and will also have full access to MSD. We hope this will make it easier for Peggy and Katie in 2017-18.

Programs Report:

Margaret McCann and Janet McElroy reported that we are having the program "Women in Law" with Laura Perry on May 23.

Margo Hinnenkamp reported that everything is set up for our Spring brunch, where we install our new officers and meet our scholarship winners. The notice will be in next week's email blast. The brunch is on May 21, 11-2, at Morgan Hill Cellars. They have a lovely, outdoor venue. They setup and take down chairs for us, and will let us use their tablecloths. The brunch is a potluck, with a cash bar. We may not bring our own alcohol. RSVPs should go to Margo. Please bring goodie bag items for the Tech Trek girls.

The first program of the next year will be in July. We plan to drop the branch update as part of the program, because it is a lot to coordinate and interest is low.

Committee Reports

Wildflower Run Sponsors

Barbara Palmer reported that the total sponsor donations are \$27,700, larger than last year. She is still awaiting a check from PG&E.

Barbara passed around the Wildflower Run thank you card that we send to sponsors.

Wildflower Fund (ISPF) - Board & Member Donations

Barbara Palmer reported on behalf of Carol O'Hare, Tammy Parker and Lee Hagan. We received \$9,960 in member donations. 46.8% of our members made a donation. 3 members made substantial donations for 40% of the total. They sent letters to people who donated last year but did not contribute this year, but only received 2 checks from that effort. They intended to send letters to people who had not contributed, but they did not have enough time. A suggestion for next time is to clarify that we are looking for any kind of participation. Perhaps we can include suggested dollar amounts, starting as low as \$3.50 (for our 35th Wildflower Run) or \$5, in \$5 increments. We could try new ideas to encourage participation, such as a participation thermometer (not a dollar amount).

GEMS

Susan Oldham-Fritts reported that all of the 2016-2017 GEMS field trips have been completed. Excluding the initial outing this year (which occurred on a school night), GEMS averaged 11 attendees per field trip. There was a higher rate of no-shows and/or cancellations this year (about 5 girls per field trip) than previous years. While GEMS attendance is in line with previous years (averages of 10-13 GEMS per field trip), there were more schedule conflicts from the girls trying to balance their school, sports, jobs (for our 11th-12th graders), and other extracurricular workloads. At the Wildflower Run, GEMS picked up several new members from Sobratos's CSF; two accompanied GEMS to the Monterey Bay Museum field trip (while another 2 expressed interest, but had conflicts). Four new members joined from the Lauren Jenkins workshop.

Susan is still looking for a committee co-chair. Meanwhile, she has formed a GEMS subcommittee consisting of Ann Clearkin (who will provide field trip leads that others follow up), Marian Sacco, Charlotte Garcia, and Lori Mains. Members will share in the 2017-2018 program planning process, arranging 1 field trip yearly (or starting the process for our long term leads). The committee will convene during the summer to start planning for the following school year. Ann Clearkin will assist with the end of year GEMS school and activity surveys. Susan will meet with Ann this month to finalize the platform (unlikely to be Survey Monkey) and make any content modifications. Susan plans to distribute the surveys by the end of May, before the girls and their families begin their summer activities. The goal is to generate a higher rate of survey return (65%-97%) than the 2015-2016 school years' rate of 50%.

Leadership Development Team

Janet McElroy reported on behalf of Joan Ensign. The leadership workshop with Diana Wood will be on June 24 at La Quinta Inn, starting at 8:30 am. The theme is being a person of influence. Everyone is invited. The board retreat follows the workshop. The current idea for lunch is to collect \$10 and get sandwiches from Safeway. The leadership workshop/board retreat ends 5-5:30 pm.

July 4 Coordinator

Barbara Palmer will try arranging cars for the parade with the 2 people she had contacted. We'd like Tech Trek girls and/or scholarship winners to ride in cars. We need to find out how many girls can participate. Donna and Susan will send emails to the girls.

Tech Trek

Joy Safakish reported that Tech Trek is on schedule. Campers will receive a huge package at the end of this week. It includes the document "What to expect at Tech Trek" like dorms, security, etc. The ice cream social for campers and their families is on June 4. This is another way to get info to these families. Goodie bags will be distributed to the campers at the ice cream social.

Joy also discussed the future changes for Tech Trek. Donna Mertens, AAUW-CA president, sent out information to the branches and asked for comments by June 1. Tech Trek was initially a California program, then National took it over (on a two year pilot basis) and expanded it to other states. Now National is giving it back. It was noted two of our branch members (Carol Holzgrafe and Barbara Palmer) were instrumental in the early formation of the Tech Trek camps, and camp Directors. Joy will collect our branch comments and send them to Donna Mertens.

New Business

2017-2018 Elected Officers

Judy Kinker reported that we officially elected our officers. Peggy Martin is president, Maggie Leininger is president-elect, Buffie Colloton and Margaret McCann are program co-VPs, Jenny Redfern is membership VP, Katie Scanlon is treasurer, Joanne Rooney is secretary, and Janet Wright is AAUW Fund VP.

Draft of new Bylaws

Judy Kinker reported that AAUW National sent us mandatory language to include in our bylaws, having to do with the IRS. We reviewed the new bylaws draft. We want to eliminate the executive committee, which National says is optional. We don't need an executive committee, because we have our bylaws amendment 4, which allows our branch to make decisions by email, with 2 days of discussion and 2 days of voting. We complied with all the bylaws changes National requires, except for the executive committee.

Judy moved that we approve the new bylaws.

The motion passed.

After our board meeting, Judy learned from Sandy Kirkpatrick, our northern California bylaws guru, that we need a vote of the membership to make the executive committee optional for our branch. The Bylaws Committee erred in thinking that the Executive Committee was optional this year. We would have to have an election next April when we elect officers to eliminate the Executive Committee. Our annual meeting is in April, when we elect officers. We would have had to have the membership vote on eliminating the executive committee at that time. We can do that at our annual meeting next April, if we so choose.

AAUW Morgan Hill Polo shirts

We discussed branch polo shirt designs, so we can order a polo shirt to wear when representing the branch, such as to Morgan Hill Chamber of Commerce mixers, AAUW-CA annual meetings, etc. We agreed on polo shirt #3. We will place an order for those interested in buying a polo shirt.

Contacts from L-J Workshop; request for speaker, booth

Mary Cox reported that the Lauren Jenkins workshop was successful. The evaluations were very good. They simplified things since the first workshop, and addressed all evaluation comments from the first workshop. Sobrato High School posted a workshop photo on the MHUSD Facebook page.

One participant from Gilroy told workshop facilitators about her STEAM, a youth-led organization of high school girls dedicated to introducing girls and under-represented minorities to Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math subjects. This year, the STEAM team is looking to expand to Morgan Hill schools.

After the workshop, facilitators learned of the MissCEO Networking Fair on May 20 in Morgan Hill. MissCEO offers world-class leadership education, mentorship, and career exploration opportunities to empower young women and inspire them to become great leaders. Mary asked if someone could help staff a Morgan Hill AAUW table at the fair. Margaret McCann, Peggy Martin, and Barbara Palmer volunteered. Donna Dicker volunteered to write something about AAUW scholarships to say at the

fair.

Margaret updated us on the Women's Advocacy Club at Sobrato High School. Their activities are complete for the year. She connected the girls with the MissCEO group, which really excited them. Margaret asked if they would be willing to take over the voter registration at the high schools. They are considering it. Margaret is looking at getting Toastmasters in there in the Fall.

Other Business

Facebook posting (follow-up from March meeting)

Robin Bean reported on adding some board members as editors/posters to our Morgan Hill AAUW Facebook account. Some of next year's board members are now authorized as editors, including president, publicity, program VP, membership VP, and public policy. There have been some problems caused by technology differences between people's computers, but the problems have been worked out. Robin remains the administrator. Robin created a document in DropBox with Facebook guidelines and tips for what to post. We do have a Twitter account that is tied to our Facebook account, so our Facebook posts will be tweeted.

Upcoming Dates/Events

5-13-17 Meditation Workshop, St. John the Divine Episcopal Church, 177 40 Peak Ave, Morgan Hill, CA 95037
5-21-17 Spring Brunch, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm, Morgan Hill Cellars, Installation 2017-18 Board, Meet Scholarship Winners
5-23-17 May Program: MH Library, 7 pm Women in Law, Laura Perry, 6:30 pm Branch Update: Scholarships
6-14 thru 17 AAUW National Convention, Washington DC <http://convention.aauw.org/register/>
6-24-17 AAUW-MH Annual Retreat & Leadership Workshop by Diana Woods, LaQuinta Inn, 17043 Condit Rd,
8:00 am – 4:00 pm
8-5-17 AAUW-MH Annual BBQ, 5:00 – 8:00 pm

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm

Sandy Stoob, Secretary