



**AAUW Morgan Hill Branch
Board Meeting Minutes
February 4, 2021 6:50pm Gather, 7:00 Start
Location: Zoom Conference Call**

Meeting was called to order by Marian Sacco at 7:02

Quorum was present: Yes

17 Voting Board Members Present on Zoom: Kim Gardener, Carol O'Hare, Barbara Palmer, Amy Whelan, Sherrie Wren, Janet McElroy, Elizabeth Mandel, Joy Safakish, Marian Sacco, Suman Ganapathy, Peggy Martin, Chris Hopwood, Donna Dicker, Yvonne Randolph, Pat Toombs, Tessy Albin, Joy Safakish.

Approval of January 2021 minutes:

- Minutes approved as written.

Announcements:

- City Council Letter (Suman Ganapathy)
 - Suman apprised the board about the reading of the AAUW member letter to City Council about the Jan 6 Capitol riots at the Jan 20 MH city council meeting.
- ISPF Update (Peggy Martin)
 - National acknowledged receipt of \$10,000 donation to the AAUW Fund, they thanked us very much. Recording is 12-29-2020, though we actually sent it in November. As Chair of AAUW National Fund Peggy will request a list of all the 2020 donors, and send a thank you email to each of them.
 - Susan Oldham-Fritts donation to the MH Branch of \$10,000 for a \$1,000 scholarship every year for ten years, our branch needs to send her a thank you letter. Marian and Peggy will work together to send Susan the letter from the branch, and put a thank you in the next newsletter.
 - Morgan Hill Historical Society sent us a thank you for \$1,000 donation for the benches.

Treasurer's Report (Tessy Albin):

- January 2021 ending balance \$21,508.63. Income was \$600 from a returned check from a videographer for work that had since been cancelled. Expenses were \$79 for dues paid to National.

Programs Report (Yvonne Randolph):

January 26th program on Covid:

- Major problem with getting the program set up. Was supposed to be a program in conjunction with the city and the county and AAUW. Covid 19 program was held, but the information presented was changed at the last minute. The presentation is still available through Facebook, and 60,000 people have access to it.

Spring Program Schedule:

- February 23rd: Speech Trek – 6 girls are participating.
- March 28th: Plan was to get something associated with running and exercise to celebrate the WFR, focusing on some Olympians or coaches to talk about training, etc. None are available right now, so we may be pivoting to do something on the new advances in bio-mechanics and the new types of running shoes. Shoes are being banned because they have an effect on results, trying to get someone from Nike, etc. Working on it. Another suggestion is Anne Marie Cody to talk about her Guinness book of World Record (10K triple stroller record).

Membership Report (Sherrie Wren):

Summary of membership changes:

- One member rejoined after leaving for a few years. One new member joined, Yvonne Martinez-Beltran (MH City Council member). Current membership total is about 159.
- Kathy Hansel (Membership co-chair) is managing, John was in the hospital, but is home now.

2021 Wildflower Run Update (Carol O'Hare, Elizabeth Mandel):

WFR Membership Giving Campaign report given by Carol O'Hare:

- Total \$7,669.00 donated so far, 48% of goal, less than 20% of membership has donated. 42% of board members have made a contribution.
- \$100 or more gets a 2020 t-shirt.
- Letters are going out in April to members that have not donated, waiting until after the run, save postage and give folks a chance to get something in now.

Update on WFR Team and Meeting by Elizabeth Mandel:

- Registration is at 112 right now, we're ahead of previous years, but don't expect to have that last huge increase during the last two weeks before the run as usual. We have 11 teams – 42 people on teams – about 38%
- We are now on a new email platform for communications with our runners, Mailerlite. This will cost us about \$250 a year, but we can send as many emails as we want to as many people as we want vs the two group emails we're sending out to runners now. Can be used for things other than just the run, overall cost increase was only about \$50.
- T-shirts will be ordered next week, trying to be very specific on what we order, runners and members need to let Maggie know what size they want now.
- Emails going out this week about prizes, check out the information on the WFR website.
 - Asking members to donate unused gift cards to us so we can use them for prizes (but not at the expense of member donations).
- MH Life is now monthly not weekly, so timing is a little off.
- MHUSD is including Run info in their Peach Jar email to parents this year.
- Pushing that we are a completely volunteer-run event, that is very rare.

- Mushroom Mardi Gras was cancelled, so now we will be one of the larger groups that donate scholarships to local students this year.
- Still working on social media, it is a work in progress. Should we focus on Facebook rather than Instagram? Still deciding.
- Videos, trying to add in our sponsor videos. The sponsor videos are not that compelling, so it's tough to position them to get people to watch them. Where to post? On website, branch Facebook page, etc.
- Next WFR meeting is February 18th.

2021 Wildflower Run Sponsors Report (Barbara Palmer, Amy Whelan):

Barbara on numbers:

- Total from 17 corporate sponsors so far is \$14,350.00.
- There are at least 7 additional sponsors that have promised an additional \$4,000.00.

Amy Whelan on Videos:

- We have about six sponsor videos that can be rotated into social media – most are doing it on their own, and they just don't seem to be that interesting. We promised we'd run their videos, no guarantees on how many people watch them. Luckily no one is expecting increase business due to the videos.
- Three videos are posted, and as new ones come in we'll add those in.

Bylaws (Carol O'Hare):

Update on Weekly Email Guidelines, Addendum 7:

- This was carried over from the January Board meeting. Old guidelines from 2016 were updated by Bylaws and approved by current email team (Monica McClintock and Darcy Foster).
- Biggest change is max size of 75 words, and can include a link to blogs for access to additional material.
 - Blogs will have to be added in slowly, right now we only update the website where the blogs are on the weekends, and blogs tend to be something that we need to be able to update much more frequently.
- Hardest part will be to get people to follow the rules, 75 words is not that much.

Carol O'Hare from Bylaws makes motion to approve updated email guidelines Addendum 7 as updated. No second needed. Discussion. Vote taken, approval is unanimous.

Further discussion on use of blogs, we will have to work this out to coordinate with the weekly email dates. Can be done, just need to work out details. Elizabeth and Sandy will work on this. Maybe Chris Hopwood could help out? Discussion will be continued offline.

Scholarships (Donna Dicker):

Team Personnel:

- Tammy Parker and Joan Sullivan co-chair the High School Scholarships. Applications due in March.
- Mary Cox chairs the Lauren Jenkins Medical and the new Fritz Family STEM scholarships.
- Vicky Reader chairs the Re-Entry/ Deferred and Adult Ed scholarships. Applications due in May.
- Lori Mains chairs Keeping in Touch, our grant program for former scholarship winners. Applications due in February. Lori also does technical support for the group.

Recent changes in scholarships:

- Lori Mains has converted all scholarship applications into Google Docs to make it easy for applicants to apply for them.
- Two new scholarships have been added.
 - Fritts Family STEM scholarship was established by Susan Oldham-Fritts in memory of her husband David and her own commitment to support women in the STEM fields. The scholarship is a total of \$10,000, awarded as \$1,000 a year for 10 years.
 - New \$500 scholarship for women transitioning from adult education to college after completing their GED. Funding provided by our allocations committee.
- Donna asks that all of us go online and read the scholarships that are available, and then ask other organizations that we are a part of to either add them to their websites or newsletters, mention it to people we know, etc. We really need to network to increase the number of applicants, especially for the Lauren Jenkins scholarship. Most of those applicants came through Gavilan, and since they no longer publicize scholarships that target specific groups (like ours for women and girls) our potential applicants don't get this information from the school.

Tech Trek (Joy Safakish):

- Follow up on cost for campers, \$400 per camper is confirmed. Confirming 8-12 campers, may be tough to find more than 8, robotics is a very specific interest group.
- Agreements are to be filled out by campers and families, including forms requiring parent signatures that say that the 7th graders will not be disturbed while they are in virtual camp. May be tough since many of the families require their older girls to baby sit their younger siblings, but if they don't sign, their kids can't go to camp.
- Robotics is a tough one, 4 mornings out of 5 are dedicated to this, not many girls are interested in that.
- Agreements have to be signed before interviews can be done. Interviews have not started yet, lots of other documents to be signed by all participants, including AAUW and teachers.

Speech Trek (Joanne Rooney):

- February 13th will be coaching for students on technology, breakout rooms, lighting, etc.
- Speech Trek Contest is February 23rd.
- Application deadline isn't closed yet, but is supposed to be closed soon.
- Six contestants confirmed, all from Oakwood.
- So far have four judges, can't be AAUW people, looking for one more.
- Need timers, whoever said they'd do it please contact Joanne, need three- four people. Suman and Yvonne will help, still need a few more.
- Joy is ballot counter.
- Marian's daughter Nicolyna will be tech support for video conference.
- Elizabeth can edit video and post on line, also will take screenshot photos of contestants.

Allocations Update 2021:

Update by Elizabeth:

Allocation history: We held back about \$9,800.00 from allocations made last August 2020, and agreed to revisit things in January 2021. We thought that there might be a pressing need that materialized between then and now that we might really want to spend that money on.

- Example of things we might have spent this money on: 1) \$2000 additional donation we usually make as a branch to Stanford. This is not really being requested this year, and there is no clarification on what that might be spent on, Tech Trek might be really expensive if we return to Stanford live in 2022.
- 2) NCWSL, the conference is going to be virtual again in 2021, the value of this type of event is in the trip and event location, meeting new people, can't do that on a Zoom screen as well.

Decision reached by the committee to leave the money in the allocations pot for next year. We will not be having another meeting now and will revisit allocations at our usual allocations meeting this August 2021.

Newsletter (Kim Gardener):

- Kim Gardener, working on newsletter looking for articles, 250 words or less, due Monday February 22d.
- Maybe there could be an article on Speech Trek, since that's the 23rd of February.
- As articles come in, Kim deals with
- Publishing 27th and 28th of February.

Interbranch Council (Suman Ganapathy):

Suman participated on January 25th video conference.

- Talked about California public policy is being changed in priorities, reduce and simplify our AAUW statement.
- Comments on support for statements against Jan 6th insurrection.
- March 24th webinar on equal pay, need to register for that.
- Pay equity for women in traditionally male fields – including Art, Writing, other fields other than those you would expect. Looking for people to staff a panel for discussion on this topic.
- Suman updated the council on our 2021 Wild flower Run.

Events (Various):

- February Program is Speech Trek.
- March 4th is next board meeting.

New Business:

No other business.

Adjourn (9:04)

Respectfully Submitted by Pat Toombs, Secretary.