



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

Meeting was called to order by Marian Sacco at 7:00

Quorum was present: Yes

Board members present in person: Marian, Suman, Yvonne, Tessy, Pat, Elizabeth, Carol, Janet McElroy, Krisse.

Board members Present via zoom: Kathy, Sherrie, Peggy, Jenny, Donna, Joy, Janet Wright, Amy Whelan.

Non-board members present in person: Caroline Rackowski, Sue Koepp-Baker, Margaret McCann.

Non-board members via zoom: Robin Shepherd, Patrice Lyn [had some connectivity issues].

Approval of October 2021 Board Meeting minutes:

- Minutes approved as amended.

Announcements:

- November 7th Fund Fellows Presentation (Zoom) 1-3 pm.
- November 12th MH Community Foundation Gala.
- December 5th Anniversary/Holiday Party. Wine glasses will be given out, Elizabeth Mandel did the design.
- IBC Meeting 11/15.

Update (Robin Shepherd, Jennifer Tate):

- Update, Sue Berghoff is at Loma Clara Memory Care Center, she is doing well.
- South County Dementia Awareness Project:
 - Significant challenge, dementia is the costliest chronic disease that affects families and individuals.
 - October 28th was a Zoom presentation about dementia, and how we can make communities more aware and dementia-friendly.
 - Several AAUW members are on the advisory group, Jennifer Tate, Marian Sacco, Peggy Martin.

Treasurer's Report (Tessy Albin):

- October 2021 ending balance \$22,927.95. See Treasurer's Spreadsheet for additional details.
- MailerLite cost will be split between the WFR and the branch, that starts in February 2022.

- Discussion on budget for 40th Branch Party on December 5th. Ordering 120 glasses, a glass will be included in the ticket price for the holiday party. Decided to add additional glasses on order to have enough for all the branch members.
- Audio system discussion. Lightweight, transportable, separate lapel and hand-held microphones.
 - Costs is less than \$200, Elizabeth and Peter Mandel evaluated and picked one. Motion made by Elizabeth Mandel to approve the purchase of the audio system, not to exceed \$200. Carol O'Hare seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Programs Report (Yvonne Randolph):

- November Program:
 - Janice Nimura is the author of "The Doctors Blackwell", a book about the Elizabeth Blackwell, the first woman doctor in the US. Janice is on east coast, so we're changing the time to 4-6 on November 15th. Zoom Webinar.
 - Monday night book club is supposed to be reviewing "The Doctors Blackwell" later when the book is out in paperback. They would normally meet on this Monday night, so they are switching the book scheduled for this day to a later date and will watch the webinar instead.
- December Program:
 - December 14th, Dr. Omar Reda, will be a Zoom webinar about family trauma and how to heal the resulting dysfunction.
- January Program:
 - January 25th, will be Jennifer Dore, a leading researcher in the use of psychedelic drugs to enhance the effectiveness of psychotherapy to treat depression and anxiety. Zoom Webinar.
 - Moved Michelle Nijhuis, author of "Beloved Beasts", to April.
- February Program:
 - February 22, Mark Knowles is an internationally recognized choreographer and dance historian. He will talk about how American tap dancing evolved from African tribal, Irish step and English clog dancing and is connected to dance forms in ancient India. Zoom Webinar.
- April Program:
 - April 26th, possible program on climate change impacting women's fertility. Want to highlight something for Earth Day on April 22d. Would love to have a face-to-face meeting, non-Zoom, or a public meeting with the speaker on Zoom.

Master Calendar (All):

Master Calendar discussion, we need to have an online one so that we can offload Sandy and Elizabeth from having to update our website. If we have a master calendar, group chairs (scholarships, community grants, etc) could put their dates on the calendar so they and everyone else knows when things need to be done. This way the timelines are out there, should help groups stay on top of their own schedules.

Membership Report (Sherrie Wren, Kathy Hansell):

Membership report:

- Currently we have 163 members including 2 who have not yet renewed: Sharon Duncan and Noemi Schambach. Sherrie has emailed and called both of them. National has moved the October 31 deadline for renewal to November 30.
- Our newest member is Desiree Michel who will be working with us on WFR, handling course entertainment.
- Any thoughts on when we do new member W&W? Should we continue in February? Decision that we should, and will reserve our branch W&W for that month as the new member event.

2022 Wildflower Run Update (Joy Safakish, Janet Wright):

Update:

- Recruiting going well, so far. Parking lot area is almost fully staffed, Course Marshal positions are on target so far. Working on staffing the in-kind chair committee, need members to get gift cards from local restaurants for runner prizes, 3-4 members.
- November 18th is first WFR meeting.
- Website updated, Active and registration are up.
- Water Truck is still on hold, we are confirmed for the date, but the water truck may not be running at that time.
- Live Oak High School contract is in the works.
- Sponsorship is on track, reaching out to businesses and new companies to donate.

Wine and Whine (Krisse Boursier)

Due to our rules about all attendees being vaccinated, it's hard to go to restaurants, where other people may not be vaccinated. Thinking about having W&W at people's homes, or Tessy's office? Canceling November W&W at 88 Keys.

Bylaws (Carol O'Hare)

Feedback on Interest Group Calendar Coordinator position: Two positions were combined, Susan Persing does the calendar, but not as an interest group coordinator. Need to get that position re-instated. Interest Group Chair Position will work with the interest group chairs, structure, ways to promote attendance, etc.

Scholarships (Donna Dicker):

Update:

- This is the time of year when scholarship winners are sending in their Verification of Enrollments which is the key to receiving their funds.
- Due to COVID and the various closures and adaptations made by the colleges and universities this year and last year's VOEs have been received a little later than usual. Currently there are two high school girls who have not sent in their VOEs for payment. Steps are being taken to determine if the winners have registered for classes.
- Several new members, Wan Chen, Ranjita Morton and Stacy Moeder are interested in becoming part of the Scholarship team. They will be contacted by the chairs of the High School and Re-entry committees.

Public Policy (Jenny Redfern):

Discussion on the roles of Interest Groups for two branch groups, Social Justice and Climate Action. Are these groups interest or action in nature? What role does education play in the group? Should they be combined under Public Policy because of the action role?

Proposal:

Both groups continue to be separate as branch groups, but they work together under Public Policy. Both of these groups are more active and educational in nature than our other interest groups, so it makes sense to rename them as action groups instead of interest groups, and put them under Public Policy. Public Policy Chair will be the voting member on the branch board for both groups. Patrice Lyn heads up the Social Justice Interest Group, Margaret heads up Climate action. Janet McElroy is part of the Public Policy committee. Jenny

Redfern heads up Public Policy as the chair. Both Margaret and Patrice will be part of the Public Policy committee as well.

Might want to add something into policies and procedures portion of bylaws to address action groups, different from interest groups.

Leadership (Janet McElroy):

- 5-Star Program: nothing new yet, meeting is tomorrow.
- Looking for Interest Group Chairperson, Co-chair for Mary Patterson with Young Women Leaders.
- Looking for publicity person.
- We have no monthly meetings for members that do not involve a board meeting or an interest group meeting. Suggestion made that we start a simple "topic" meeting at least once a quarter, so members can meet and get to know each other.

Board Business – DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) Branch Position (Marin Sacco, Suman Ganapathy):

Position is an appointed one, must be appointed by President with approval board. We are directed to have this position by National, this is different from other appointed positions because there are interactions with State and National that other positions don't have. Both National and State groups are working on putting together job descriptions and guidelines.

Patrice Lyn and Janet McElroy have both volunteered to be our Branch DEI person, and there may be other members interested. Patrice is currently on the CA state DEI committee. Decision is to let leadership decide how to go forward in terms of getting out the job description and requirements out to membership so that they can decide if they would like to apply for it. Possibly need a committee to combine different races, ages, interests, etc. Leadership will work on that.

Postcards (Caroline Rackowski, Sue Koepf-Baker):

Would like to figure out how to get the word out to members to solicit help sending out postcards for various partisan activities, nationwide. AAUW is a non-partisan group, so needs to be on an individual basis. Looking for help addressing and putting on postage.

- AAUW members as volunteers? Concern about not doing anything to jeopardize our non-profit status. Suggestion was made to work with Jenny Redfern (Public Policy) to discuss further.
- Address is provided, script is provided. Requirement is for individuals to write postcards by hand and then address and mail them (hopefully paying the postage).
- Anyone interested in joining the "Morgan Hill Postcard Posse" should contact Caroline Rackowski.

Save the Date Notices:

- Wine and Whine November 17th.
- November 12th MH Community Foundation Volunteer Gala.
- December 5th Holiday Party, 40th anniversary of the Morgan Hill Branch, will be held at Gilroy City Hall Venue. Tickets Available now. Discussion about sending out postcards to all members regarding the Holiday party. Marian and Elizabeth to talk with Margo Hinnenkamp about it quickly, cards need to go out soon.

Adjourn (9:12)

Respectfully Submitted by Pat Toombs, Secretary.