

AAUW MISSOURI BOARD MINUTES

Saturday, January 22, 2022

Zoom Call 10 a.m.

See officer and committee reports emailed in advance of the meeting and stored on Google Docs for details.

Attendees (bolded names are voting members)

Susan Barley, Linda Berube, Jane Biers, **Patt Braley**, Teri Brecht, Shirley Breeze, **Karen Francis**, **Marianne Fues**, Nancy Hutchins, **Mary Jermak**, Joyce Katz, **Alice Kitchen**, **Marsha Koch**, Pam Kulp, **Diane Ludwig**, **Debra McArthur**, Deb McWard, Kay Meyer, Sandra Murdock, **Sue Shineman**, Pat Shores

Call to Order and Welcome: Sue Shineman

Sue called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. and welcomed guest Susie Watson from KC Northland branch. Sue asked everyone to introduce themselves including positions they hold on state and branch boards. She announced that we will take a 20-minute lunch break and a 5-minute break each hour. Sue asked everyone to report only highlights or action items of their written reports or new information.

AAUW MO was established November 3, 1921; we will celebrate the 100th anniversary through November 2022. Sue is excited for all we have accomplished and thanked everyone for what they do for AAUW. Sue's focus is communication, transparency, inclusion, and collaboration. Pat Shores has compiled a list of 44 organizations that we collaborate with.

Quorum: Linda Berube

We have a quorum. Ten of the 10 voting board members, 11 non-voting board members, and 1 guest are present for a total of 22. Linda reminded everyone that only voting members may make and vote on motions; everyone else may voice opinions.

Agenda: Sue Shineman

There is one addition to the agenda: STEM (after the Historian report)

The agenda was approved with this addition. Pat Shores and Karen Francis volunteered to be readers of the minutes from today's meeting.

Minutes: Marsha Koch

There was one typo correction to the October 23, 2021, board minutes. The minutes were accepted as corrected.

Finance: Patt Braley

Patt reviewed the second quarter financial report and reminded us that most of our dues money from National is received in the spring when members renew. Patt pointed out that Black Rock has been paying us dividends. Although expenses for Historian and Directory will be higher than budgeted this year, there has been no money spent on board travel. Overall, we are in good shape. Patt asked that board members submit expenses to her by email. This report will be filed for review.

Patt also asked that requests for changes to next year's budget be made as soon as possible. The budget needs to be ready for the April board meeting for presentation at the May state business meeting.

President: Sue Shineman

Sue shared a letter she sent to National about the lack of timely notification of events that we could have participated in. Her letter was sent January 12; she has not received a response.

There will not be a vote this spring on changing the degree requirement for membership; there will be a couple of bylaw changes to update wording. Changes are online and comments can be made by February 2.

Sue urged everyone to ask branch members to go to the Membership database to update their contact information and identify their email preferences. There is an option to limit the number of emails you get from National, but please opt in for Action Alerts and the Washington Update. The secure link to check your contact information and email preferences is <https://aauw.us/emailoptions>; please share this in your branch newsletters.

National wants all members of the state to “Ask Us First” going to their state leadership first instead of straight to national for information. “Ask Us First” was started in California.

The new member database named NIMBLE will be implemented soon; training will be available.

Sue asked the 19th Amendment Task Force and its leaders to continue in that capacity through 2022; they have agreed to do so.

Sue thanked everyone for their diligence, dedication, and energy.

Missouri Action Plan – Pat Shores

As a way of tracking progress toward the Missouri Action Plan, Pat will be asking each presenter if they have interacted with branch leaders.

Pat also asked:

1. Are we aware of any branches doing the National star award? *None that we know about.*
2. Who is responsible for knowing the latest research? Marsha Koch and Jeanne Webdell are preparing a presentation about AAUW research for branch presidents at their February monthly meeting.
3. Does anyone have a plan to participate in anything happening at the state legislature?

National Liaison: Karen Francis

Karen also wrote National about lack of communication and about seemingly always asking for a donation. She will share the letter with anyone who would like it. She received an auto response from Kate Nielson who is on parental leave until June. In National’s latest webinar they did talk about improving communication with state leaders.

Karen also noted that:

- Text 66866 to MOVPC to join their weekly Monday 10:00 am call. (Missouri Voter Protection Coalition)
- The Missouri Women’s Network Legislative Day will be Saturday, February 19, at 9 am. Most of last year’s participants will participate.
- Today is the 49th anniversary of Roe v Wade.
- MO is 47th in public education funding.

Report of Webinar: Kay Meyer

Gloria Blackwell, CEO, Julia Brown, Board Chair, and Malinda Gaul, Board Vice Chair, participated in a webinar titled "Member Gathering with AAUW CEO and Board Members - January 12, 2022" which was recorded and is available at <https://youtu.be/zxOrtE-LPAo>. There was a lot of Q&A, especially about governance. Malinda is planning to review bylaws and policies with a fine-tooth comb. Membership requirements will not be on the ballot this year. National will continue to work with Work Smart as part of the Coca-Cola grant, has been in calls with a coalition about ERA, and has been working with the Status of Women Committee. We can use any of the logos available on the website. The color change was made to accommodate those with sight disabilities. AAUW is still working with four or five LAF plaintiffs and is providing legal advice for free. The webinar is online. Mary Jermak has the branding information if anyone needs it.

Public Policy: Alice Kitchen

Alice reported that the committee continues to look for ways to help Universities/Colleges with Title IX, ways to keep and strengthen relationships and share AAUW Title IX information.

Alice reminded everyone about the virtual rally for ERA being held in Washington, D.C. on January 27.

Pat Shores noted that Equal Pay Advocates are ready to make appointments with local officials.

Karen Francis announced that the Missouri Women's Network Legislative Day will be held February 19 from 9-11 am. Sue Shineman is the Zoom host. Karen will be sending details.

As ERA ratification is being discussed, some states are cleaning up their state statutes. Alice asked Jill Schupp whether Missouri should be doing that; Jill replied that if the statutes are opened now, they will be open for anyone to make changes and that there are people ready to make the changes when needed.

Program Vice President: Diane Ludwig

Diane reminded the board that STAR Award applications are due April 1 and cover the period April 1, 2021-March 31, 2022. She noted that some branches have included information about the Star Award and their progress toward earning 10 stars in their newsletters. Due to so many questions, additional wording will be added to question #38 of the Star application to clarify the dates of giving.

Plans are to celebrate the state's 100th anniversary at the Friday night dinner. Rooms will cost \$136 a night which could be shared by up to four people. The contract with the hotel requires that we book a minimum of 18 rooms.

Diane will look into providing virtual access to the dinner and/or the conference and will consider whether proof of vaccination should be required of attendees.

Diane has received confirmation that Gloria Blackwell will speak at our conference Saturday morning by Zoom. She then reviewed plans for the state conference (included in her report) and entertained a discussion of ideas for sessions and speakers. After a lot of discussion about minimizing costs, it was agreed that it is important to bring members together to celebrate our 100th anniversary and share AAUW experiences. We haven't had an in-person meeting for two years. This is a good opportunity to celebrate branches as well as the state AAUW. We have money available since we haven't spent a lot of money in the past two years. We can continue to meet by Zoom, saving money in the future. We can encourage branches to give members a stipend, such as 50% of the registration fee, to attend. (Ballwin-Chesterfield branch pays the registration fee for their members who attend.) Diane suggested that we could also reduce the registration fee.

Diane moved and Susan Barley seconded that “AAUW MO assist with funding of the 100th Celebration Event and Conference on May 6 and 7, 2022, in the amount up to \$5,000 from the Contingency Fund.” The motion was carried unanimously.

Membership Vice President: Marianne Fues

Nevada has nine new members mostly from Cottey College.

AAUW Fund & Legacy Circle: Susan Barley

Susan is awaiting the final 2021 contribution report. Branches have until March 31 to make a 140th anniversary donation. The list of fellows in her report is a final list. Board members have until June 30 to make a donation in order for the board to meet its goal of 100% participation.

Sue Shineman noted that National’s year-end matching fund drive was at \$75,000, the largest amount ever received from members, and donations were still being counted.

Nominating Committee 2021-2023: Kay Meyer for Lynne Roney

Kay announced nominations for next year’s board officers. Kay thanked the committee for their work and the nominees for serving. The board approved the nominations, and they will be presented in the next issue of *Missouri in Motion* and voted upon at the May 7 meeting.

Membership Vice President: Susie Watson, Kansas City Northland Branch

Finance Officer: Lois Domsch, Independence Branch

Bylaws/Governance: Linda Berube

The Communications team, after much review and research, suggested changes to the job descriptions for secretary, communications chair, newsletter editor, and web manager. These changes are detailed in Linda’s report and will be voted upon at the May meeting.

19th Amendment Task Force: Sue Shineman for Ellen Irons

Ellen offered to chair the task force through 2022.

Votes for Women Trail: Pat Shores

This program has been launched across the state, and training has been conducted with 11 of the branches.

AAUW branch members are encouraged to join the dedication of markers at these locations: St. Louis—Virginia Minor and the Golden Lane at the location of Schlafly’s Tap Room in the city; Kansas City—Anna Jones, an African-American suffragist; and Maryville—a band of women who played in Washington, D.C., and continued playing. New AAUW submissions will not be designated with a marker.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Branch Incentive Grants: Teri Brecht

Teri Brecht encouraged people to apply for incentive grants. Linda Berube asked for a 30-minute Zoom meeting to review the Incentive program. The incentive grant committee will review wording about using funds for food with Karen Francis, Patt Braley, and Sue Shineman.

College University Relations: Debra McArthur

We have several new CU members this year, but the number of e-student memberships is dismal. One of the goals is to work with partners to get their students to be e-members. NCCWSL being virtual is a good opportunity to ask schools to engage students. She will be scheduling the next meeting of the CU committee. Deb is aware of the student group at Missouri State University in Springfield that uses the AAUW name even though the school is not a CU member.

Communications: Mary Jermak, Chair

Mary reminded everyone that the deadline for submitting articles is not later than the end of day on Sunday, January 30. This is a change from the deadline published in the state Directory. Anticipated distribution will be not later than February 10, 2022.

Webmaster Joyce Katz reported that she has added a new menu item on the website for DEI materials and information.

Facebook administrator Nancy Hutchins reported that she and Mable Davis continue to post information about events honoring sheros and share inspirational and uplifting words.

Historian: Jane Biers

Jane expects to have the 2010–2020 history of AAUW MO compiled by the end of February. Whether to add this history to Volume 2 or make it a stand-alone volume was discussed with the idea that it could be sold at conferences. Jane will investigate the cost to have it printed. It was suggested that the entire history, including printed copies that will need to be scanned, be put on the website. Joyce and Marsha offered to help with this project.

STEM: Sandra Murdoch

Barbara McQuitty has had to drop off the committee. Goals include learning from National about branch STEM responsibilities, sharing that information and branch STEM programs with branches, and getting branches to appoint a STEM chair. The committee wants to be a source of ideas for STEM programs and projects.

DEI (Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion): Kay Meyer

The committee continues to meet on the third Thursday of the month. The new plug and play named Allyship rolls out January 27. Karen Francis, Sue Shineman, and Lois Domsch attended Maryland AAUW's virtual meeting on critical race theory. Karen noted that we should consider sharing our DEI presentations on Facebook.

Missouri History Day: Betty Takahashi

The event will be held virtually again this year at University of Missouri in Columbia in April. The theme is Debate and Diplomacy.

Kansas City IBC: Debra McArthur

The 2022 Reentry Awards Scholarship Program is now open for applications. We expect to award five \$1,000 scholarships this year. Awardees will be celebrated at a planned in-person brunch event on April 9 at Trezo Mare Restaurant. Kansas City Northland's program on January 23 will be about the work done by Kansas City Stem Alliance, and their CEO will be the speaker. On February 19 Parkville branch is having an in-person brunch with Nancy Roe Pimm, author of two books about women in aviation: Fly, Girl, Fly! Shaesta Waiz Flies Around the World and The Jerrie Mock Story: The First Woman to Fly Solo Around the World.

St. Louis IBC: Deb McWard

The spring luncheon will be on March 26 in person where they will honor the Barbara Lackritz awardees and listen to the music of The Queens of Swing.

Announcements

January 30 *MO in MOTION* deadline
February 19 MO Women's Network Legislative Retreat via Zoom 9:00 - 11:00
April 1 Star Award Submission Deadline
April 30 State Board Meeting via Zoom 10:00 – 3:00
May 6 Reception, Dinner and Celebration – Columbia
May 7 State Meeting - Columbia

The meeting adjourned at 3:05.

Respectfully submitted,
Marsha Koch
Marsha Koch

Proposed