

AAUW MISSOURI BOARD Meeting
Saturday July 30, 2022
Court Street United Methodist Church
719 Court Street, Fulton, MO 65251
Zoom Call 9:30 am
MINUTES

Karen Francis called the meeting to order at 10:07 am. She thanked everyone for attending and also those who were absent. She asked everyone to introduce themselves, tell what branch they are with, what they do, and one word that describes them.

Marsha Koch is in the hospital due to a fall, but she still wanted to get the Vote signs out. Jeanne Webdell has them, and each branch gets 10. Jeanne will give them out at the state meeting today. If branches want more than 10 signs, the cost is \$4 each. Karen Francis made sure that everyone has their signs or has made arrangements to get them. Pam Kulp asked for clarification about signs and money for the incentive grants.

Diane Ludwig thanked everyone for coming and welcomed everyone to her church.

Karen talked about her reasons for having an in-person Town Hall meeting and the reason for picking Fulton, MO, for her first state board meeting.

Linda Berube brought "gifts" that her sister gave her that belonged to Sara Weddington. Sara was the 29-year-old lawyer that was on the Roe v Wade case. Everyone got a chance to pick a gift off the table.

Karen did her intro last. She stated that she loved hearing about how people perceive us. She welcomed the new members to the board. Jeanne Webdell introduced herself as well. She was our guest today from the Kirkwood Webster Groves Branch. Introductions were made by Pat Shores. Kay Meyer. Mable Davis, Sue Barley, Linda Berube, Debra McArthur, Susie Watson, Betty Takahashi, Pam Kulp, Diane Ludwig, Sandra Murdock and Alice Kitchen.

Linda Berube took attendance and stated that we had a Quorum. We have 14 board members and 1 guest.

Karen announced Mable Davis would take notes in Marsha Koch's absence. Kay volunteered to read the minutes of the meeting for the next board meeting. No motion was needed. Karen approved the minutes.

Karen gave the Finance Report for Lois Domsch. No motion was needed. The report will be filed for review. Karen introduced Sue Shineman who conducted the Inclusion Infusion activity, which began at 10:26 am.

Karen talked about the lesson plans, which should be 7-10 minutes to be used by the branches at their meetings. The DEI activity should begin the meeting and last no longer than 15 minutes.

Sue Shineman discussed the "Inclusion Infusion" worksheet. We had 5 minutes to complete our group work. Groups discussed inequity in their community. Karen Francis and Sue Shineman listened to the discussions. Each group chose a spokesperson for what their group discussed. Diane Ludwig, Deb McArthur, and Mable Davis reported for their group. The Inclusion Infusion activity took about 20 minutes. At 10:53 am, committee reports began. Pat Shores announced she would send the Missouri

Plan to everyone.

Sue Shineman announced AAUW has created new regions. Therefore, members suggested dropping the name Regional Conference and calling it an Area Conference. Deb McArthur suggested we call it a "Mid State" Conference. The "New Regions" are as follows:

 Southeast Central: Alabama, Kentucky, Louisiana

 Southwest Central: Mississippi, Tennessee, Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas

Karen Francis, stated that branch presidents are encouraged to attend the State Conference. Susie Watson suggested name tags; she discussed this idea when she gave her membership report. Sue Shineman also suggested AAUW business cards for AAUW Missouri members.

At 11:59 am Reports were put on hold for lunch.

Committee Reports:

DEI Kay Meyer

STEM Sandra Murdock

12:26 pm Appointed Directors' Reports (non-voting)

Pat Shores reported on Public Policy and the Women's Trail.

Mary Ruoff Byrum became the first woman to vote in Missouri in a special election for Hannibal City Council on August 31, 1920, five days after the 19th Amendment was ratified. She later found out she was the first woman in the U.S. to vote after the National Women's suffrage law was signed into law on August 26, 1920. Jeanne Webdell is researching this in more detail. There is also information on the national website.

Sue Shineman announced the Booneville Branch Scholarship Fundraiser Luncheon Celebrating Women's Suffrage. The cost is \$30.00.

Date: Saturday, September 10, 2022, at 12 Noon

Location: Nelson Memorial Methodist Church

Contact: Mary Ellen McVicker for reservations and tickets at 660-621-2105 or phd89@iland.net

Keynote Speaker: Missouri State Senator Lauren Arthur

Nelson Memorial Methodist Church was built in 1917 and is on the National Register. There was a motion to grant \$300 to Booneville Branch for their Fundraiser. Motion was scratched, and it will be emailed because we have voting members who are missing today.

MO History Report by Betty Takahashi

Missouri History Day is April 22, 2023. Branches can contact students who received an award from AAUW to present their topic at a branch meeting and talk about their experience at History Day. Deb McArthur will contact winners.

August 25, 2022, is the Women's Equality Day event in Kansas City at 6 pm.

News about the Facebook Report:

Suggestions—change name to Social Media Committee in order to add Tic Tok reports and Instagram Reports. Contact Katrina Breeze.

Karen stated that a President-Elect needs to be nominated for the 2023 year.

Possible Bylaws changes need to be reviewed. There was discussion about elected Missouri board officers being changed to six with President Elect and Past President having the vote. It was also discussed about giving other committee chairs such as DEI and STEM voting rights. Also having the

immediate Past President continue as a voting position.

Linda Berube, Sue Shineman, and Karen Francis led a discussion about Bylaws changes. Betty Takahasi asked, "Why can't everyone on the Board be a voting member?" Karen Francis also made comments concerning diversity, equity, and inclusion regarding our current reward system. She stated, "How do we recognize our members? In 38 years, we (AAUW) have only recognized 29 women for the Woman of Distinction Award. How can this change? or is there another way to recognize more women in this organization? Karen stated, "Respecting and honoring women and finding ways to do it should be considered. Are there other ways to recognize the outstanding women of AAUW? Some of Karen's key thoughts and ideas:

- *Branch Support
- *More Regional efforts
- *Work Smarter
- *Take care of each other
- *Start committee for Regional support and meetings
- *Look at things from a Regional Lens

There was much discussion about a regional meeting and connecting with the regions. A motion was made by Diane Ludwig to spearhead an area-wide conference with all states of our region. The time frame is for fall 2023, and the destination is TBA. Sue Barley seconded the Motion. There was a discussion on the Area Conference. Voting members all raised their hands in favor of the motion. Karen asked how many in attendance would like to have this conference. Everyone raised her hand in agreement. All voting and non-voting members said yes to the conference.

Linda Berube gave information about Ardy Pearson. She is moving to an assisted living facility. She is experiencing some memory issues. Please reach out to her. Ardy's situation sparked the discussion of having an emergency contact for our members and to remember to send care notes to our members.

Digital Directory

Diane Ludwig stated the ages have changed. Diane will not post the directory on the website until the Board approves it; however, privacy is a big issue and concern. The directory will be in a member-only area on the website. Diane says the plan is to put a members-only page on the website. Some members want it on the website. Other members are not so sure about posting it on the website. Conversation will continue on this at the next meeting.

Future Board Meetings:

October 22, 2022, Zoom Meeting

January 21, 2023, Zoom Meeting

Extra meetings concerning the conference will take place as well. February will be an area conference meeting.

No April meeting or we may meet in April only to discuss the Regional Area Conference.

May 5 and 6 will be the Board Meeting and State Conference. We will possibly do tributes again.

Kay Meyer's sister is making a quilt to be raffled at the State Conference.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mable Davis, Acting Secretary