**AAUW BOARD RETREAT AND MEETING**

July 20, 2024

Trinity Presbyterian Church

Columbia, Missouri

**Attendees** (Bolded names are voting members)

**Su Bacon,** Carol Cox, **Lois Domsch,** Karen Francis, Marianne Fues, Mary Jermak, **Alice Kitchen,** Pam Kulp, **Diane Ludwig,** Corinne Mahaffey, **Pam Meyers (attended the retreat only), Diana Curry-McGuirk,** Karol Palmer, **Sue Shineman,** Pat Shores, **Sage Taber, Susie Watson.**

**Unable to Attend:** Jane Biers, Ellen Irons, **Debra McArthur,** April McArthur, Luna Mukherjee, Lynne Roney, Betty Takahashi.

**Motion Approved: To renew our CD at U. S. Bank at the best rate for the best amount of time when it comes due July 26, 2024.**

**Motion Approved: To accept the minutes of the May 3rd Board meeting with corrections.**

**Board Retreat Welcome and Introductions**

Each attendee introduced themselves with their name, branch, and Board position. Each shared a new, positive item about their branch. The group recited the Mission Statement and Vision Statement of AAUW. Sue Shineman stated we must change what we are doing to create growth through outreach opportunities. Branches must collaborate with other groups and rethink their purpose for success. Live the mission in the branches with a focus on action and advocacy.

Break out session followed. Each group planned two branch membership outreach activities, identified a collaborative partner, and shared one goal for the Board position held. The ideas were shared with the combined group. Sue Shineman will send to attendees the combined information from this exercise.

**Board Meeting Call to Order: Sue Shineman, President**

The meeting was called to order at 12:50 P.M.

**President’s Report - 2024 to 2025 Goals**

The goals this year include:

* In person Board retreat
* Creation of a social media presence.
* Promotion of voter education and registration.
* Establish the “AAUW Missouri Wisdom Council”.
* Rethink branch meetings and programs.
* Promote branch Incentive Grant use.
* Focus on STEM activities.
* Expand and promote the legislative retreat.
* Enhance communication at all levels.

All committees have a responsibility to assist in meeting the goals.

The 2024-2025 theme is “Action and Advocacy-Living the Mission of AAUW”. In 2024 the focus is collaboration. This will be the focus for membership outreach and branch programming. Susie Watson, Diane Ludwig, and Su Bacon will be of assistance to the branches. Collaboration will be a focus for past president Karen Francis in the next two years. She will send information to branches on AAUW state partners. The collaboration focus includes state, regional and national partners. She will chair the legislative retreat, and work with the DEI and STEM state committees. Sue Shineman will work with the Public Policy and College University state committees.

Another key focus is succession planning. This is essential to continue effectively.

There will be Action and Advocacy Leaders(formerly Branch President’s Focus Group) meetings monthly by Zoom. The meetings will focus on education, training, succession planning, membership outreach and fundraising.

AAUW Missouri has members on four National AAUW committees. Sue Barley is on the Advancement Committee-National Liaison. She will send a monthly report to Board members and Branch Presidents. Sue Shineman is on the Governance Committee. Luna Mukherjee and Karen Francis are on the DEI Committee. Alice Kitchen is on the Public Policy Committee. Refer questions to these members. AAUW National staff is limited.

**Quorum: Marianne Fues, Governance/Bylaws Chair**

Eight of ten voting members were present constituting a quorum. Sixteen position members were present.

**Secretary: Diana Curry-McGuirk**

The minutes of the May 3, 2024, meeting were presented with corrections. A discussion followed. Further corrections for accuracy were recommended. The secretary was given suggestions for enhancing the clarity of future minutes. Su Bacon moved to accept the minutes as presented with corrections. The motion carried. The two readers appointed for the July Board Meeting minutes are Su Bacon and Diane Ludwig. The proposed minutes will be posted to the Google Group website.

**Finance Officer: Lois Domsch**

A comprehensive review of steps and forms used for fiscal responsibility was given. The budget for 2024-2025 was reviewed. Quarterly and annual Profit and Loss forms were explained. As of July 1, 2024, total assets are $28,085.02. The cash balance is $13,715.21. Noncash balance is $14, 369.81. Reimbursement information forms and tax information forms were posted on the Google Group website. Information on the investments of AAUW Missouri was reviewed and discussed. Lois made the following motion: “I move that we renew our CD at U.S. Bank at the best rate for the best amount of time when it comes due July 26, 2024”. The motion was seconded and passed.

**BOARD REPORTS** Reports were submitted prior to the meeting and posted on the Google Group website.

**Programs: Su Bacon and Diane Ludwig, Co-Vice Presidents**

The revised 2024-2025 Star Awards and Branch Action plan form was presented and distributed to attendees. Goals for the year are to collect and share program topics and to promote the Star Awards as a branch action guide. The Vice Presidents hope all sixteen branches will participate. The Program Vice Presidents’ report was posted on July 19th to the Google Group website.

**Missouri State and Branch Action Plan: Pat Shores, Chair**

The Missouri State and Branch Action Plan was posted July 11 on the Google Group website and the Missouri AAUW website. This document combines the National AAUW Strategic Plan 2021-2022, the Missouri State and Branch Action Plan 2024-2025, the National Five Star Recognition Program, and the Missouri Ten Star Award Program. The criteria for FY 2025 Five Star Program will be released in September 2024. A survey from National will be sent to all branch presidents to complete. Participation gives information to National AAUW about the work done and the resources needed.

In FY 2023 in the Five Star Recognition Program three stars were awarded to the Columbia and Kansas City Northland branches. Two stars were awarded to Canton, Kirkwood Webster Groves, and the St. Louis branches.

**Membership: Susie Watson, Vice President**

The Membership Report was posted July 18 to the Google Group website. Susie emphasized the use of signage, business cards and events to attract members. Publicity in all forms is useful. Personal calls and renewal reminders to members are effective.

**AAUW Fund: Sage Taber, Chair**

Last year the AAUW State Board met the 100% giving goal. The same challenge to Board members applies this year as well. This goal is based on a calendar year. The AAUW Fund Report 2023-2024 was posted July 16 to the Google Group website.

**Communications: Pam Meyers, Chair**

This is a new stand-alone position this year. The chair will gather information from branches, national AAUW and other sources. The communication team is Mary Jermak *Missouri in Motion*, Diane Ludwig directory, April McArthur social media and Lynne Rooney webmaster.

Mary Jermak reported on the *Missouri in Motion* newsletter. A report was posted July 12 on the Google Group website. The newsletter requests submissions concerning branch activities, projects, and interests. The submissions should be 250-300 words or less. The editing process is intensive. Before submission proof the articles rigorously. Style guidelines were posted with the Board Report. Adhere to the guidelines including font size Aptos 11. The deadline for submission this month is July 21.

**College/University: Sue Shineman reporting for Debra McArthur, Chair**

Debra McArthur created a handout “what AAUW supports” to be used at recruitment events on campuses and in the branches. The meeting dates for this committee have been changed. Members will be notified. The committee is working to gather information on the College/University Toolkit from National AAUW. A committee report was posted July 15 on the Google Group website.

**Public Policy Committee: Alice Kitchen, Chair**

Multiple ballot measures are being presented at state, local and national levels. Congress is threatening Title IX. State issues to note are expansion of childcare, law enforcement, ranked choice voting, reproductive choice, and gender wage equity. Specific information was posted on July 20 to the Google Group website.

**STANDING COMMITTEES REPORT**

**DEI: Sue Shineman for Luna Mukherjee, Chair**

The committee wishes to remind members to take the time and location of meetings into consideration. Younger members may be unintentionally excluded. This committee will continue doing what worked well, improve where needed and innovate. A report was posted July 18 on the Google Group website.

**STEM: Pam Kulp, Chair**

The committee is in the process of creating a STEM library. Information on STEM projects and implementation is on the state website. Branches are encouraged to send information on their projects to the webmaster for inclusion.

**Branch Incentive Grants: Carol Cox, Chair**

The grants have been underutilized by branches. Carol encouraged those in leadership roles to “think outside the box” when planning for the year. Request funding when it could be helpful for speakers or publicity for example.

**Interbranch Council: St. Louis Ellen Irons**

**Kansas City Diana Curry-McGuirk and Corinne Mahaffey**

Both councils are in the planning process for the next year. A ZOOM meeting between the two councils is being planned for idea sharing. A reported from the St. Louis IBC was posted on the Google Group website.

* **Next Board Meetings**
* September 21, 2024 Check- in
* October 19, 2024 Full Board Meeting
* November 16, 2024 Check- in
* January 19, 2025 Full Board Meeting
* February 15, 2025 Check- in
* March 15, 2025 Full Board Meeting
* April 19, 2025 Check- in
* May 3, 2025 Full Board Meeting
* July 19, 2025 Full Board Meeting

The full Board Meetings will be held from 9:30-12:30. The check-in meetings will be from 9:30 - 10:30. The full meetings will be for regular business and action. The check-ins will be for committee updates, brainstorming and national/state updates.

**Important Dates to Share**

* August 6, 2024 Primary and local election
* August 21, 2024 National Webinar “It’s My Vote! Leveraging Traditional and Social Media for Voter Education”
* August 26, 2024 Women’s Equality Day
* October 16, 2024 National Webinar “It’s My Vote!”
* November 5, 2024 National Election
* March 8, 2025 International Women’s Day

Meeting Adjourned at 3:35 PM by Sue Shineman, President.

Submitted by Diana Curry-McGuirk, Secretary