**AAUW MISSOURI STATE BOARD MEETING**

October 19, 2024

Zoom Meeting

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

**Su Bacon,** Jane Biers, Carol Cox, **Lois Domsch,** Karen Francis, Marianne Fues, **Alice Kitchen,** Pam Kulp, **Diane Ludwig,** April McArthur, **Debra McArthur, Diana Curry-McGuirk,** Luna Mukherjee, Karol Palmer, **Sue Shineman,** Pat Shores, **Sage Taber, Susie Watson.**

**Unable to attend:** Ellen Irons, Mary Jermak, **Pam Meyers**, Lynne Roney, Betty Takahashi.

**Motion Log From Past Meeting**

**Motion Approved: To change the name of the Branch Incentive Grant to the Branch Opportunity Grant.**

**Motion Approved: To accept the minutes of the July 20, 2024, meeting as presented.**

**Welcome and Announcements: Sue Shineman, President**

The death of Lilly Ledbetter, a leader in the fight for equal pay, was noted. Sue expressed the hope members of the branches will soon be able to see the movie of her life and role in women’s equality. Sue led a discussion on ways to improve/change the affiliates to increase participation in the branches. Recommendations included: collaboration with other organizations for meetings, shortened and fewer meetings, speaker with small group discussion following, creation of specific roles for a branch with a mission focus for example Stem and statewide programing.

**BOARD MEETING**

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

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 A.M.

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

Nine voting members are present constituting a quorum. Eighteen position members are present.

**President’s Report: Sue Shineman, President**

State Leader Liaison Support Calls are available November 14,2024 at 6:00 P.M. This provides timely answers to questions leaders may have. The President attended the AAUW Atlantic States Conference with Diane Ludwig, Sue Barley, and Karen Francis. This conference used the Missouri model from the 2023 regional conference in St. Louis. A highlight of the meeting was a group session on social media which encouraged expanded use of this medium for all branches. Another session focused on “keeping small branches afloat.” The limitations of each branch regardless of size should guide planning without stopping projects. Change and resilience are keys to branch success.

**Past President’s Report: Karen Francis**

Information was sent to branch leaders on upcoming National AAUW webinars. Karen will continue to send information to leaders, as necessary. Another “Legislative Briefing” formerly the Legislative Retreat is being planned. All ideas are welcome. The event will be held February 22, 2025, by Zoom. The “Woman of Distinction” award forms are being updated. Branch leaders are encouraged to consider potential nominees. The applications will be due in April 2025.

**Secretary: Diana Curry-McGuirk**

The minutes of the July 20, 2024, meeting were presented on the Google Group Website. Sue Shineman moved to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried. The two readers appointed for the October 19, 2024, minutes are Diane Ludwig and Sage Taber. Going forward, the minutes will be sent by email along with the meeting agenda before the next meeting for review.

**Finance Officer: Lois Domsch**

Four documents were posted on the Google Group Website October 16, 2024, for review: Balance sheet, 1st Quarter Profit and Loss, Asset Summary, 1st Quarter Budget Report. The Contingency fund balance as of September 30, 2024, is $5436.28. Patt Braley completed the Review of 2023 Financial Records for AAUW Missouri and the Central States Regional Conference. The documents were accurate and well documented.

**Branch Impact Survey: Pat Shores**

Last year five branches were recognized in Missouri following this National survey. This year all fifteen active branches in Missouri responded. Pat requested a brief evaluation on the activity from each branch President. A report was posted to the Google Group Website on October 15, 2024.

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

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

The 2024-2025 Star Awards and Action Plan is currently being used by branches. Reevaluation will occur in Spring 2025. The State Meeting will be held May 3, 2025, by Zoom. Speakers have not been “locked in.” Suggestions are welcome. The Vice-Presidents suggested that each branch should considering honoring Lilly Ledbetter. A report was posted to the Google Group Website on October 16, 2024.

**Membership: Susie Watson, Vice President**

Committee meetings are on Zoom and going well. A survey regarding membership and name recognition was conducted by Carol Anthony’s daughter and reviewed in committee. Following further State review the findings will be presented. The survey gives information on useful marketing tools for growing membership. A report was posted on the Google Group Website on October 19, 2024.

**AAUW Fund: Sage Taber, Chair**

Scheduling the first meeting is in process. No committee actions noted. Sue Barley, a committee member, and resource, monitors fellowships/grants from National AAUW to Missouri. The Chair reported that donations made to the Greatest Needs Fund will be matched for the remainder of the year. She encouraged donations to be made before mid-December to be recognized.

**Communications: Pam Meyers, Chair (reported by Sue Shineman)**

The submission deadline to Mary Jermak for articles in *Missouri in Motion* is November 2, 2024. The State Directory is currently being revised by Marsha Koch and Diane Ludwig. April McArthur manages social media/Facebook activities. She recommends the use of Instagram and TikTok to grow an AAUW presence. Members are encouraged to share information on personal feeds and “like” items published. Further information on social media use will be provided at a future meeting.

**College/University: Debra McArthur, Chair**

Multiple events occurred this Fall on campus to sign up students. In the past Missouri had 15+ college member partners. This year there are nine partner universities with four student groups. C/U committee members and volunteers engaged in voter registration and education recently. The next meeting will be held in January 2025. A report was posted to the Google Group Website on October 16, 2024.

**Public Policy: Alice Kitchen, Chair**

The committee reviewed and selected priority issues affecting women in the state and nation. Priority issues addressed are reproductive rights, Citizen Ballot Initiative, maternal mortality, book bans and Title IX. The committee sent a letter to the Missouri University Curators objecting to the decision to eliminate the DEI program on campuses. Work continues to promote voting and Amendment 3 in Missouri by writing letters, buying ads and monetary support. A report was posted to the Google Group Website on October 19. 2024.

**STANDING COMMITTEES**

**Inclusion/Equity: Luna Mukherjee, Chair**

Monthly meetings are held on Zoom the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 P.M. The committee works with the AAUW National Inclusion and Equity Committee. Currently a webinar on *Tips for Bold conversations* is being planned. A report was posted to the Google Group Website on October 15, 2024.

**STEM: Pam Kulp, Chair**

The committee is focused on finding resources to help branch STEM projects. The Chair encourages activities both small and large. Schools, preschools, and libraries are all sites for activities. A list of applicable TED Talks and other resources will be forwarded to branch leaders to stimulate ideas.

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

The committee is currently working with branches to find activities appropriate for an incentive grant. A branch is considering holding a party after the election this Fall for example. The Chair encourages branches to be creative. Carol Cox made a motion to change the committee’s name from Branch Incentive Grant to Branch Opportunity Grant. The Motion was seconded and carried. A report was posted to the Google Group Website on October 16, 2024.

**Historian: Jane Biers**

Materials were archived and filed this quarter including newsletters, financial reports, and minutes. Writing continues on the project, History of AAUW Missouri 2023-2024. A report was posted on the Google Group Website on October 16, 2024.

**Nominating Committee: Lynne Roney, Chair (report given by Jane Biers)**

Nominations will be accepted until December 15,2024 for President Elect, Program Vice President, and Secretary. The nominations will be presented to the Board at the January 2025 meeting and published in the winter *Missouri in Motion.*

**Interbranch Council: St. Louis and Kansas City**

Ellen Irons is recovering from illness and currently cannot continue as the St. Louis Committee Chair. There is no St. Louis report currently. Diana Curry-McGuirk and Corinne Mahaffey are co-chairs of the Kansas City IBC. In the past reentry college scholarships were given by the IBC. Due to university changes in scholarship rules the committee decided to refocus. This year leaders from AAUW student campus groups will be given awards to attend the NCCWSL Conference in Washington, D.C. The committee hopes to award four to six students who already demonstrate leadership skills with money to attend. An award celebration will be held in the Spring. The committee has initiated an events newsletter sent to members in the five metro branches. The goal is to improve attendance and reduce redundancy of topics at presentations. Working together increases innovation.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Large Donation to a Single Branch**

Sue Shineman asked for a general discussion of this issue before final referral to the Executive Committee. Sue Barley and Sage Taber will be reviewing this issue per National AAUW recommendations. When one branch receives a large donation, this skews the range of giving for other branches. This alters the Ten Star Award results for all branches. A discussion followed with no clear consensus on the issue.

**Next Board Meetings/Dates to Remember**

* November 23, 2024, Check- in
* January 18, 2025, Full Board Meeting
* February 15, 2025, Check-in
* February 22, 2025, Collaborative Legislative Briefing by Zoom
* March 8, 2025, International Women’s Day
* March 15, 2025, Full Board Meeting
* April 26, 2025, Possible Full Board Meeting
* May 3, 2025, AAUW Missouri State Meeting by Zoom
* May 17, 2025, State Meeting Evaluation
* July 19, 2025, Full Board Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 12:25 P.M. by Sue Shineman, President.

Submitted by Diana Curry-McGuirk, Secretary