**AAUW MISSOURI STATE BOARD MEETING**

March 15, 2025

Zoom Meeting

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

Jane Biers, Carol Cox, **Lois Domsch,** Marianne Fues, Mary Jermak, Pam Kulp, **Diane B. Ludwig,** April McArthur, **Debra McArthur, Diana Curry-McGuirk, Pam Meyers,** Luna Mukherjee, Lynne Roney, Diane Sher, **Sue Shineman,** Pat Shores, **Sage Taber, Susie Watson.**

**Unable to Attend: Su Bacon, Karen Francis, Alice Kitchen,** Marsha Koch, Corinne Mahaffey, Karol Palmer, Betty Takahashi.

**Motion Log from Meeting**

**Motion Approved: To accept the minutes of January 18, 2025, meeting as corrected.**

**Motion Approved: To accept the proposed budget for 2025-2026.**

**Motion Approved: To split the state funds of $600.00 designated for NCCWSL grants between the St. Louis Interbranch Council and the Kansas City Interbranch Council.**

**BOARD MEETING**

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

Eight voting members were present constituting a quorum. Eighteen position members were present.

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

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 A.M.

**Approval of Agenda: Sue Shineman, President**

There were no additions or changes to the agenda as presented.

**Secretary: Diana Curry-McGuirk**

The draft minutes of the January 18, 2025, meeting were presented on the Google Group Website and sent to all members by email. Two corrections were made to the draft. On page two in “Branch Impact Survey” the second to the last sentence was deleted. In “Inclusion/Equity” on page four, the name of the online seminar was corrected. A motion was made to approve the minutes as corrected. The motion carried. The two readers appointed for March 15, 2025, minutes are Pat Shores and Debra McArthur.

**Finance Officer: Lois Domsch**

Four documents were posted on the Google Group Website on March 13, 2025, for review: AAUW Financial Report Overview, Asset Summary, 3rd Quarter Profit and Loss, Proposed Budget for 2025-2026. The Contingency Fund balance is $8,460.00. A five-month Certificate of Deposit was renewed during the quarter. The budget for 2025-2026 was reviewed. The budget total is $13,915.00. Changes from last year’s budget reflect reduced membership and a planned in-person state conference next year. Diana Curry-McGuirk made the motion to approve the budget as presented. The budget was approved unanimously.

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

In the past year 47,000 Two-Minute Activist messages were sent to elected officials. AAUW granted $6.3 million to fellows and community organizations. 6,157 women used the Work Smart/Start Smart program. AAUW is making an impact on many levels. National dues will be increased by $2.00 a year for the next two years. Sue asked branch leaders to notify her if they knew of outstanding speakers for potential statewide programs.

**Past President’s Report: Karen Francis (given by Sue Shineman)**

Nominees for the “Woman of Distinction Award” should be sent to Karen as soon as possible. The award will be given at the state conference in May. The legislative briefing held in February was successful. There were sixty-three attendees by Zoom.

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

The state AAUW conference will be held by Zoom on May 3, 2025. Diane presented for review the special edition of *Missouri in Motion* promoting this event. Minor corrections in the text were proposed and completed. This edition will be emailed to all Missouri members. Branches are encouraged to promote “Watch Parties” with other members to add fun and fellowship. There is no cost for the conference, but reservations are needed.

The deadline to submit the branch action plan, completed 10 Star form, is April 1, 2025. Submit the form to either Vice President. Financial reporting is from January to December. Program /Action/Advocacy reporting is from April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025.

**Public Policy: Alice Kitchen (given by Sue Shineman)**

Alice Kitchen and Gail James are in New York at the Commission on the Status of Women meeting. They are presenting their work in the Kansas City area along with AAUW Global staff.

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

The St. Charles branch has requested and received a financial grant. All branches are encouraged to do this. Ideas for requests include paying for speakers, making signs, paying for table events, printing, etc. The state Executive Board considers all reasonable requests.

**STEM: Pam Kulp, Chair**

The committee has noticed increased attendance at the STEM Committee meetings. This generates ideas and project sharing. The STEM site on the AAUW Missouri website provides ideas and resources for branches in planning STEM activities.

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

Information was received that NCCWSL will be held May 28-30, 2025, in College Park, Maryland. Debra provided an update on conference details, location, and costs. The St. Louis and Kansas City branches are making plans to send one or two students to this conference. Sue Shineman reported the state has allocated $600.00 to contribute to the conference. Lynne Roney made a motion to split this amount between the St. Louis Interbranch Council and the Kansas City Interbranch Council. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

**Discussion Activity: Sue Shineman, President**

The status of AAUW Missouri membership, leadership, and focus is changing. Sue led an activity where branch representatives share five one-word descriptions of what their branches do well. The activity aimed at highlighting the strengths and accomplishments of each branch. The discussion revealed that education is a primary focus for branches while highlighting the importance of communication, outreach, and advocacy. Socialization is also a vital component. The group discussed ways to align branch focus with AAUW National focus. Debra McArthur noted that while members appreciate AAUW advocacy efforts, not all are equally invested personally. There was a consensus that local branches can do more to promote advocacy and outreach into the community. Yet, this depends on the commitment of branch members, not just leaders.

Another discussion activity focused on the challenges branches face for 2025-2026. Branches struggle with succession planning and meeting attendance. One idea discussed was statewide programing, including Zoom programs and recorded presentations. Joint hybrid programs work for some branches. A statewide high-profile event was suggested to increase AAUW visibility and impact in the community. The group recognized challenges and opportunities with AAUW Missouri at this time.

**Next Board Meetings/Dates to Remember**

* April 1 Deadline to submit Missouri 10 Star Award
* April 19 Full Board Meeting 9:30-12:30 P.M.
* April 28 AAUW National Liaison Support Call 6:00 P.M.
* May 3 AAUW Missouri State Meeting by Zoom
* May 13 Inclusion and Equity Town Hall Meeting 6:00 P.M. CST
* May 17 State Meeting Evaluation
* May 28-30 NCCWSL
* July 19 Full Board Meeting

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 A.M. by Sue Shineman, President.

Submitted by Diana Curry-McGuirk, Secretary.