

## **HEALDSBURG AAUW BRANCH MEETING**

September 19, 2016

Healdsburg Junior High School

315 Grant Street

**PRESENT:** Ronnie Devitt, Nancy Haiston, Winky Merrill, Violet Nelson, Sandy Beddow, Janet Hoehn, Judy Edmonds, Linda Clark, Barbara Reid, Michele St. Clair, Deana Fusco

The AAUW Branch meeting was called to order at 4:32 pm.

The minutes of the May 16, 2016 meeting were approved; Linda moved and Winky seconded. The Board retreat minutes of August 18, 2016 were approved; Nancy moved and Linda seconded.

### **Treasurer's Branch Report and Budget Report:**

Winky reviewed both reports and no changes were noted.

### **President's Report:**

Ronnie deferred the discussion of any Bylaws and Policy Guidelines changes until our next meeting. The Board members should consider whether we want to state in our Policies and Guidelines that we expect all members to donate/support the Branch with at least a \$100 contribution. The Board should also rethink whether we want to combine our Installation meeting/picnic (in June) with the August picnic; should we combine the two and make it an "end of year" celebration?

### **Communications Report:**

Linda indicated that she plans to have a monthly focus for communications regarding a specific topic/program. This topic would be communicated via the Grapevine, local newspapers, and on our website. She is looking for feedback on her plan from the Board.

### **Public Policy Report:**

Michele reported on the five projects that her team is committed to completing for FY2016-17. One of the current priority projects is to register voters by the deadline of October 24th. She will make a 2-minute request at the Kick-off party on September 20 in order to solicit volunteers to help in this effort.

## **Membership Report:**

We presently have 192 members. Membership renewals are due for the 2016-17 year; 187 members have renewed. A New Member Coffee is planned for October 12, 10 a.m., at the home of Pat Bertapelle. Patty McHugh will assume Deana's duties while she is away from October through November.

## **Community Services Report:**

Future Prep: Cecile Peters will be taking over Future Prep program at Cloverdale High School. This was welcome news as we thought the program was going to be discontinued there. Katherine Lacy is working with the Healdsburg HS; two local Rotary groups and Kiwanis have offered to help with the program.

GEMS: About 40 girls on the list from 4 schools, so Julie Conklin and Wendy Bertalon are requesting one more volunteer (via the Grapevine) to help with communications (by phone and email).

Speech Trek: Hillary Kambour who is leading the program, came to update the Board regarding her efforts to date. She has spoken to all the English classes at Cloverdale but because of the large # of classes at Healdsburg and Windsor, she has instead distributed posters and flyers to them and is still waiting to hear back from Geyserville. Michele offered to help facilitate contact there. Hillary, along with Diane Bartelson, plan to offer a mini-training for mentors who will be assisting the students. October 15 is the deadline for students to sign up; Thanksgiving is the deadline for drafts of speeches; videotaping to be done third week in January; regional contest is in mid-April. Hillary already has 5-6 people that have offered to help with mentoring. Once we know how many students sign up, she will need to determine whether more mentors are necessary. Also three judges from the community will be identified.

## **Speakers Series:**

Sandy indicated that the speaker for the October 11 meeting is David Mickaelian Healdsburg City Manager; he will be speaking re: housing, Fitch Mounting and the Roundabout. Sandy to do an email blast suggesting that members invite friends to accompany them for this meeting. November speaker TBD; she had hoped to have an AAUW Sacramento Lobbyist speak, but has not received an answer to her request.

A Saturday meeting is planning for Saturday, January 14 to be held at the Healdsburg Library; possible topic is "The Hunting Ground", a movie about sexual assaults on college campuses. It was suggested that members bring their children (boys and girls) and neighbors who may have HS/college-age children. Ronnie indicated that there are 3 versions of the movie; Sandy and Violet to obtain and preview as the one that was on

Netflix is nearly 2 hours. Efforts need to be made to identify panelists who could lead a discussion after the movie. Ronnie suggested that perhaps someone who spoke at the state convention might be able to come.

There was also discussion about possibly having a speaker(s) on the topic of “cannabis” and how the passage of the pending law (assuming it passes) regarding recreational use might affect us and our community. Sandy to look into this further.

### **Social Activities:**

Most social activities have been scheduled for the year. The Board discussed the option of having the Holiday Party catered. Because we do not have a budget for this, we would need to charge the members who attend. The Board concurred that this is a feasible option. Barbara to pursue either having the HS culinary students cater or the culinary students in Evelyn Cheatham’s culinary program, Worth Our Weight.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:58 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Violet Nelson, Secretary  
September 19, 2016