

AAUW BOARD MINUTES

April 17, 2014

Healdsburg High School

PRESENT: Sue Campbell, Gail Wright, Phil Wright, Cathy Chiminello, Cher Frechette, Judy Edmonds, Ronnie Devitt, Nancy Haiston, Rita Minkin, Yvonne Hyatt

ABSENT: Karen Danielson, Charlene Luks, Janet Hoehn, Ann Allan

The minutes of the March meeting were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: After Phil discussed the treasurer's report, Cher Frechette brought up the issue of the money allocated from the **Social Committee budget** for the installation lunch. Ann Mahoney, who is chairing the lunch, requests an additional \$50 for the needed chairs, tables, and glasses she will be renting. The board voted to approve the request. The point was made that the money for social events comes from the membership dues, not the money raised by the Homes Tour.

This discussion led to the **Homes Tour budget** and what is the best way to itemize all of the income and the expenses. Tour tickets are much easier to keep track of than the raffle ticket income which comes in in many different ways. The question was raised: was it worthwhile to sell tickets in front of Big John's Market? Ronnie Devitt noted that the proportion of on-line ticket sales increased this year. However, this year's net income is \$23,137 compared to the net income of last year at this time that was \$27,146. This year there is \$3000 less in sponsorships and so far there have been fewer raffle ticket sales. The raffle ticket sales last year at this time were \$6560 and this year they are \$4505.

HOMES TOUR UPDATE: Ronnie commented that publicity for the tour is reaching farther than it did last year. The poster and post card distribution has gone well with posters reaching Cloverdale, Windsor and Santa Rosa. There may be an article in the Press Democrat, but it is not a given. The committee is very pleased with the inclusion of the Homes Tour in an article in the SF Chronicle. The volunteer positions are filled. More food is needed for the after-party. Should those bringing food be asked to increase the amount of food or should Carol Hazlett who is in charge of getting the donations be authorized to buy food? If Carol does need to buy more food, Cher will let Sue know what the amount will be to authorize the additional expenditure. Hopefully, enough people will sign up before the day of the Tour.

COMMUNITY SERVICES: Judy Edmonds reported on the Healdsburg High School "Life Tank" presentations. The entire 10th grade participated. The 10th graders were divided into teams that were given the topic of "how to attract teens to come to the Sonoma County fair". Each group came up with a plan and made a presentation to a panel, of which Judy was part. Judy was extremely impressed with 2 of the groups' ideas and noted that overall it was great practice for all involved. Life Tank is one of the programs our branch voted to fund.

MEMBERSHIP: Gail mentioned that payment of membership dues is possible on-line and new members can join on-line. On May 6th members will vote at the annual meeting on whether or not to approve of a \$5 increase in our dues. The board has approved this proposal be brought to a vote. If members pay their dues before May 15, it will be at last year's rate.

COMMUNICATIONS: For the sake of security, Nancy Haiston proposed our password for the website and access to our membership list be changed. The next time an updated membership list comes out she will change it. Having various links available on the website is helpful.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE UPDATE: Ronnie handed out a list of people who have committed to serve in AAUW leadership roles for next year. The big needs now are in the area of communications and fund raising for Tech Trek.

TITLE IX ASSESSMENT: Sue Campbell and Janice Scales visited the high school and met with Bill Holiday, the Title IX coordinator for the district. The main areas of discussion included athletics, sexual harassment and pregnant teens. The women will write a report and send it to the state AAUW. There were a couple of action items, one being the need for more training for the teachers of how to handle sexual harassment issues. The current training is for the administrators. Bill mentioned they are making some web site changes and are open to suggestions, also. 17 students are enrolled in an alternative school on campus and 50-60 students are taking independent studies. Any pregnant teen can make the choice to remain on campus or attend the alternative school or study independently. He noted that more girls participate in sports in middle school than high school. The athletic opportunities and facilities for girls are excellent at the high school.

STATE CONVENTION UPDATE: Sue attended the state convention and went to the Title IX workshop. Our branch received a recognition award for the Career Choices program. Sue mentioned the "give a grad a gift membership" of a free membership for 1 year to any college grad who then becomes an on-line branch member as an entrée into AAUW. The national AAUW will build and maintain a website for any branch for a fee of \$10/year. It would be a minimal website that would not suit our large branch's needs. Next year there will be no state convention, but the national convention will be held in San Diego. It will be an opportune time to promote this to our membership and perhaps set aside some funds to help those who may wish to attend. There will be a discussion about this at a future board meeting.

SANTA ROSA BRANCH JOINT ACTIVITY: Sue met with the Santa Rosa branch president and they discussed ways our branches might cooperate. Cathy Chiminello has met with Santa Rosa and Petaluma branch members regarding scholarships. Possible future connections could involve the Start Smart program for graduating college students on how to negotiate for a starting salary and Speech Trek, a speech competition for high school girls. Yvonne suggested the Santa Rosa branch let our branch know about their

annual fund raising bridge party so we can support the event with our many bridge players.

SCHOLARSHIPS: Cathy mentioned that a committee of AAUW members, including Phil Wright and Cathy, will be interviewing candidates for SRJC scholarships for those who will be reentering students going to a four-year school. There are 5 candidates. The high school has 5 candidates for the annual AAUW scholarship and 4 candidates for the Sally Lyle scholarship. Cathy said all of the high school candidates are very well qualified.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Yvonne Hyatt
Recording Secretary

Upcoming Dates:
Annual Membership Meeting – May 6
Installation Lunch - June 7
North Coast Leadership Meeting – June 14