

HEALDSBURG AAUW BRANCH MEETING

October 17, 2016

Healdsburg Junior High School

315 Grant Street

PRESENT: Ronnie Devitt, Winky Merrill, Violet Nelson, Sandy Beddow, Judy Edmonds, Linda Clark, Barbara Reid, Michele St. Clair

The AAUW Branch meeting was called to order at 4:13 pm.

The minutes of the September 19, 2016 meeting were approved; Barbara moved and Judy seconded.

Treasurer's Branch Report and Budget Report:

Winky reviewed both reports and no changes were noted. She will issue a \$100 donation in memory of Gloria Cameron.

Communications Report:

Linda indicated that team members are busy with routine communications. Neita to follow up on why the Tech Trek article wasn't in all 3 newspapers. Articles needed by Nov. 15 for Grapevine and website regarding Forum: Past and Present.

Public Policy Report:

Michele and her team are involved with local activities such as City Council Candidates' forum and a forum for School Board candidates. They are also involved in registering voters and efforts to get out the vote.

Membership Report:

We presently have 207 members, but 15 of them have not yet renewed and will be taken off our roster as of 11/30/16. We recently lost Gloria Cameron and have welcomed two new members within the last month. A new Member Coffee was held at the home of Pat Bertapelle on October 12 with 6-7 new members in attendance.

Patty McHugh will assume Deana's duties while she is away from October through November.

Community Services Report:

Future Prep: Cecile Peters has taken over Future Prep program at Cloverdale High School. There will be a career panel and most participants are set. On April 5, there will be a Career Day for the entire school. AAUW will be partnering with Social Advocates for Youth and Sonoma County to make this a success. Katherine Lacy is working with the Healdsburg HS and has an overview for the year in the works.

Reading Rocks, EYH, and GEMS: All programs are going well.

Speech Trek: This program has been a little more difficult to get off the ground than first anticipated. Hillary Kambour, who is leading the program, has spent a lot of time working with all the high schools but the sign-ups have been disheartening. The students said they have interest, but have so many other obligations and schoolwork, that they are cautious about signing up for another activity. We do have 4 students signed up to date. We have until mid-month to finalize this with the State. On October 20th those who have signed up to help mentor the students are set for training.

Speakers Series:

The October 11 Speakers Series meeting was David Mickaelian, Healdsburg City Manager; he spoke re: housing, Fitch Mountain and the Roundabout. There were only 17 attendees at this meeting, a disappointing turn-out. The November 1 meeting speaker will be Colleen Carmichael, North Sonoma County Services. This would be a good program to publicize on the newspaper calendar of events.

A Saturday meeting is planned for Saturday, January 14. We hope to show “The Hunting Ground”, a movie about sexual assaults on college campuses. Sandy will be connecting with Kathryn Hecht, Executive Director, Alexander Valley Film Festival, who is interested in working with us on this effort. Will consider holding this at the high school on a day other than a Saturday, if possible.

Sandy and Violet will be working with Nancy Haiston on a member survey including questions focusing on Speakers Series presences in terms of topics, speakers, timing, etc. Our goal is to submit to members in January/February.

Social Activities:

The first Lunch Bunch of the year at Catelli’s in Geyserville was a great success with 25 members in attendance. Next Lunch Bunch will be November 9th at the new Siduri restaurant in Healdsburg (formerly Partake).

Happy Hour was held on Oct. 13th at Mill Creek Winery followed by the movie premiere of Heirloom.

The Oriental Grange Hall in Geyserville has been secured for our annual holiday party on December 4th. The HHS Culinary program will be catering the event with passed plates as well as a cheese and charcuterie station and a sweets station. Members will be charged \$15/each; this will cover the cost of the catering as well as a donation to the culinary program. Members to bring bubbles and wine. Notice of this change will be published in the grapevine as well as in save the date and invitations.

Proposed Guidelines and Policies Amendment:

Board agreed that we should amend the Policies & Guidelines to “expect” our members to support the Branch’s fundraisers, including Homes Tour and Forum, through monetary donations and/or volunteer efforts. We will not specify a monetary amount to be donated. We will also amend #15 of the Guidelines and Policies to delete the phrase “monthly meetings”.

Ronnie will amend the Guidelines and Policies and redistribute to the Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:29 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Violet Nelson, Secretary
October 17, 2016