

Healdsburg AAUW Board Minutes: Branch Business Meeting

Date: December 12, 2022

Location: Healdsburg Community Center

Time: 1:11pm

Board Members Attending: Laura Tredinnick, Kate Van Ness, Nancy Jane Andrews, Kerry Weiner Elkind, Kim Alexander, Dena Cochran, Janice Sexton, Tyra Benoit, Donna Campoverde, Julie Hanamura, Beth Wolk

Absent: Lee Sigler, Patty McHugh, Cathy Mock

1. Call to Order:

President Laura Tredinnick opened the Branch Meeting at 1:11 pm.

2. November Branch Minutes:

Donna Campoverde reported that the November Branch Meeting Minutes were approved online.

3. Branch Budget Report:

Laura Tredinnick will meet with Lee Sigler later this month when she returns to Healdsburg.

4. Communications:

Kim Alexander continues to work on locating a new Grapevine editor. Her goal is for the new editor to work with the current editor for several months to ensure a smooth transition.

5. Membership:

Janice Sexton reported that there were 2 new members in November and 3 former members rejoining. Total membership is now 175.

The two New Member Happy Hours were successful and well attended at Yvone Schell's home. Yvone is the Buddies Coordinator. She plans to form a committee of 20 members in January to facilitate assigning buddies to new members. It was also suggested that the new member application form be changed to include the name(s) of existing member(s) a new member already knows.

Membership dues are now invoiced at the branch instead of the national level. Lee Sigler has completed the membership payments spreadsheet and has handed it off to Janice for review. Once it is complete, Quickbooks can be reconciled. This is likely to be done in January.

At the December New Member Happy Hour, Laura proposed the possibility of reestablishing Speaker Events. Laura will send out a poll to the membership requesting feedback on the frequency, topics, cost and the time of day speaker events might potentially be held. In the past, these events were held in the evening in the Healdsburg High School library. Other possible venues suggested were the Windsor Senior Center and the Healdsburg Library. Speaker events could be open to the public and serve as a branch outreach program, not as an AAUW membership meeting.

Laura also initiated a discussion on community outreach and how to create more diversity in the branch membership. It was decided that adding a new outreach board member was not necessary. The Public Policy and Communication committees would suffice in addressing and improving community outreach. Outreach will be a standing item on the agenda.

A Diversity/Equity/Inclusion(DEI) chair has been recommended by AAUW National.

Laura asked Kerry Weiner Elkind to lead an exercise at the January board meeting on how to achieve the desired outreach outcomes. Kerry agreed and will send some information for board members to work on prior to the January meeting.

It was decided to make improving outreach to achieve branch member diversity an agenda item for the January board meeting.

6. Mission Based Programs:

Beth Wolk reported that \$845 has been collected for local teacher holiday gifts. The funds will be delivered to the teachers in January. Beth also reported that the price of the Reading Rocks books distributed to students at Westside and Healdsburg Elementary Schools was \$636.

7. Public Policy:

The committee is hoping to plan an event partnering with the Sonoma County Health Care Foundation, participate in the statewide Lobby Day and coordinate an event for Equal Pay Day on March 15th.

Another event is being planned on Earth Day, April 22, 2023. AAUW would partner with Climate Action Healdsburg (CAH). The city of Healdsburg has agreed to partner in this event to avoid incurring costs and paperwork. The event will be held in the Healdsburg Plaza. Ideas for the event include setting up a booth, interactive activities for students, involving Tech Trek attendees and alumnae (TTAG) and an electric vehicle car show.

The event was approved unanimously by the board after a motion from Ty Benoit, seconded by Kerry Weiner Elkind.

Ty will send Laura a list of the members of the Public Policy Committee which meets monthly via Zoom.

8. Social:

Kerry Weiner Elkind outlined events planned for January/February 2023.

- One Hour Tour of the Disney Family Museum in San Francisco on January 17th.
The cost for this event is \$22.
- Lunch Bunch on January 18th at Charlie's in Windsor.
- Library Tour Event at the Sonoma County Library on January 24.
- February Wine and Dine
- Valentine's Day Happy Hour

9. Stem:

There were no new updates since the November Board Meeting.

10. President's Report:

Laura Tredinnick was recently interviewed on KBBF Radio. KBBF also has agreed to publicize the upcoming Forum event- Russia and the Ukraine.

A discussion was held regarding the annual branch donation to AAUW National. In the past, \$2000 has been donated to the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund. There are 5 other national Funds to which the branch may donate. It was proposed to divide the \$2000 between the Education and Training Fund which will receive \$1500 and the National Conference for College Women Student Leader Scholarships which will receive \$500.

The donation was approved unanimously by the board after a motion from Beth Wolk, seconded by Nancy Jane Andrews.

Laura explained to the board that in order to meet our budget numbers, membership dues must be increased. Currently dues are \$112. These dues are divided among AAUW National (which receives \$67), AAUW State (which receives \$20) and AAUW Healdsburg (which receives \$25) per member.

To cover our costs, our branch now needs \$31 per member. Only membership dues are used for administrative costs. All other funds raised by the branch do not contribute to the branch budget.

To better determine the amount to increase membership dues, Laura will contact AAUW National and State to inquire if their share of the dues will remain the same or increase for next year.

Janice Sexton was not present for this discussion so it was agreed that she should be involved as Membership Chair and that the increase in membership dues be an agenda item at the January meeting.

Laura also commented that AAUW State pays for our branch's insurance and that a rider should be applied for prior to each branch event.

11. Adjourn.

President Tredinnick closed the Branch Meeting at 2:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Campoverde
Secretary