

Healdsburg AAUW Board Minutes: Branch Business Meeting

Date: December 11, 2023

Location: Healdsburg Community Center

Time: 1:30 pm

Board Members Attending: Laura Tredinnick, Kate Van Ness, Kim Alexander, Janice Sexton, Nancy Jane Andrews, Tyra Benoit, Cathy Mock, Donna Campoverde, Patty McHugh, Linda Clark, Julie Hanamura, Dena Cochran

Absent: Kerry Weiner Elkind

1. Call to Order:

President Laura Tredinnick opened the Branch Meeting at 1:30 pm.

2. Branch Minutes:

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

3. Branch Financial Report:

Julie Hanamura reported that the Holiday Party was \$100 under budget.

4. Communications:

Kim Alexander had no Communications updates.

5. Membership:

Janice Sexton presented some of the ideas outlined in the AAUW California Membership Toolkit. Healdsburg AAUW has already implemented many of the ideas in the kit. Janice plans to focus her efforts on member retention as well as membership diversity. Janice also is considering writing a "Did you Know" column in The Grapevine. Membership applications will be made available at the monthly Speaker Series. It was decided to recognize individual members at the Year End meeting as was done last year with badge ribbons and pins.

The board discussed the importance of succession planning to assist the Nominating Committee. Each board member is encouraged to identify possible board position replacements whom they could invite to attend a board meeting.

The \$72 national membership dues are now completely tax deductible.

It was again commented that Enso Village might be a good source of new membership. Rosemary Jordon is the Enso contact.

6. Mission Based Programs:

Cathy Mock will potentially start a new Reading Rocks program at Mattie Washburn Elementary in early 2024. Cathy will request Reading Rocks volunteers in the January edition of the Grapevine.

Holiday School Supply donations are approximately \$930. The funds will be distributed to 3 elementary schools during the week of December 18th. Scholastic books will also be given out to students before the holiday break.

7. Public Policy and DEI:

Ty Benoit updated the board that the Reproductive Choice and Health event scheduled for January 25 at the 222 is pending. She is awaiting the confirmed participation of Northern California Planned Parenthood CEO, Gilda Gonzales. If Planned Parenthood is unable to participate a longer film and different panel will be held at the 222, as the venue has already been donated to the branch.

Another event suggested for later by Ty Benoit is a book panel. This event would focus on the book, Inflamed, by Anne Belden and Paul Gullixson

AAUW Petaluma is holding a Gun Violence event on Sunday, January 28. All of the Sonoma County AAUW branches are participating in the event.

Ty also brought up the possibility of holding a Voter Registration event prior to the March primaries, featuring an AAUW sponsored debate of the State Assembly candidates.

Equal Pay Day and Climate Fest events will be held in Spring 2024.

8. Social:

Linda Clark was pleased to report that the Holiday party on December 5th was very successful. 80 tickets were sold. TTAG donated a Gingerbread house made at their recent meeting at Karla Rosen's home as a door prize.

The January 18th Smart Train trip to Larkspur for lunch will be announced in the January Grapevine. Members participating will need to purchase a Clipper card and lunch.

A Lunch Bunch is scheduled for January 24 at the Bollywood Restaurant.

A Wine and Dine event is scheduled for February 3rd.

A Spring trip to the Marine Mammal Center is being planned. Laura Tredinnick asked if a representative from the Marine Mammal Center could be a Speaker Series speaker in March to promote the trip.

9. STEM:

There were no STEM updates.

10. President's Report:

Laura Tredinnick attended the President's Meeting on November 29. Information from the meeting included an AAUW Napa Women's Arts and Crafts Event, a new AAUW student chapter at the College of Marin and a Bi-laws change required by AAUW National which must be completed by June. Julie Hanamura asked if our branch will need to then refile with the State of California. Laura will check with Ronnie Devitt who will be working on the bylaws change with her.

Next year, there is a September 2024 deadline to accept 3 free memberships from AAUW National. The board discussed how to award these free memberships. Options include giving the memberships to members with the longest tenure or as an honorarium for speakers or notable members of the community.

AAUW Santa Rosa will hold an event against Book Banning on March 9th.

Laura also attended a Santa Rosa Gun Violence event meeting with the Santa Rosa Violence Prevention Partnership.

The first Speaker Series event will be held on January 8th prior to the monthly board meeting at the Healdsburg Community Center. The meeting room will be available at 11:30 for attendees to gather and socialize and the program will begin at noon. The speaker will be allotted 30 minutes followed by questions. The first speaker will be Ariel Kelly. The session will end with an AAUW Board update. Laura would like Ty Benoit to highlight upcoming Public Policy events, Cathy Mock to announce the Reading Rocks program at Mattie Washburn Elementary and Dena Cockran to provide a Fundraising event update. Laura will also promote the Gun Violence event in Petaluma. A Speaker Series E Blast will be sent to members soon with a signup deadline of January 1st. The meeting room capacity is 80 people. An RSVP system will be set up to help determine the number of attendees.

Laura and her committee have developed a list of future speakers which include Susan Gilmore of the North Bay Children's Center, the Cheesecake Lady, local historian, Joe Pelanconi, a Marine Mammal Center representative and Rosemary Jordan from Enso.

11. Adjourn.

Laura Tredinnick closed the Branch Meeting at 2:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Campoverde
Secretary

Approvals:

Laura Tredinnick
Nancy Jane Andrews
Cathy Mock
Dena Cochran
Kate Van Ness

Linda Clark
Kim Alexander
Janice Sexton
Patty McHugh