

AAUW Whatcom February 2024 Board Meeting

Feb 24, 2024

9 am start (via Zoom)

Attendance:

Judi Edwards, Susan Moen, Catherine Chambers, Margo Hammond, Uzma Ahmad, Lynda Buehring, Carol Simmer.

Call To Order - Judi

Meeting started - At 9:08 am. Zoom recording started.

Tribal Lands Acknowledgment – As shown in the agenda

“We want to acknowledge that the Lummi Nation and the Nooksack tribes are located in the heart of Whatcom County. Accordingly, we take this opportunity to recognize that we live, work and learn within the original homelands of the Coast Salish.

We acknowledge that the Coast Salish peoples have lived and nurtured these lands since time immemorial and we recognize that we are here because of the sacrifice forced upon them.

In recognizing these tribal communities, we honor and seek to raise up and center their legacy, their lives, their descendants, and their living cultures.

Any agenda additions or order changes

- None.

Board Minutes – Margo

- Minutes for November and January sent out. A few corrections made to Jan.
- Motion for approve both minutes made. Seconded. All voted aye. Motion passes.

Treasurer’s Report – Judi (As Judith was not present.)

- January Report
 - Judi will forward report received to be included in the minutes.
- WA Secretary of State
 - “In default”
 - Timing with the annual report. Has sent this in and all is worked out.

Membership – Lynda & Sandy (not in attendance.)

- Received request for 1 new membership. Still need the check.
- Renewals. Will work with Sandy on this.

- Meet up – Still to continue?
- Fundraising – Could this be combined with membership recruitment? Catherine had an idea on fundraising and will discuss later in the program.
- Removal of non-members on the roster. Some confusion on our list compared to the national roster. We need to know for newsletter, membership, etc.

Presidents Report - Judi

- WA State AAUW Annual Convention
 - Reminder February ____ via Zoom
- Media
 - News Literacy Project
 - A good tool to use to vet on news reports.
 - Webinar
 - AI webinar. Judi and Catherine watched. Catherine reported, and encouraged everyone to watch the recording.
 - AAUW – 7pm – How to use social media. Link in the Evergreen Leader.
- Equal Pay Day
 - WA Post wrote up a good article.

Tech Trek Update – Pam (not present)

- Judi gave an update.
- Plan to support 6 girls.
- Judi will forward the report for the minutes.

Food Pantry – Catherine

- No update. Carol and Catherine will meet to discuss soon.
- One donation to be taken into WCC. BTC is the next donation.

Scholarships – Carol

- WWU Scholarship Dinner review
 - Susan, Margo, Uzma, and Elsie attended.
 - Susan gave a review – A warm inviting dinner and nice to meet all
- AAUW Representation
 - Need representatives for
 - BTC
 - WWU
 - WCC
 - Uzma suggested this would be a good topic for the upcoming Annual meeting.

Public Policy – Catherine

- Nothing.

Fundraising – Catherine

- A recent fundraising meeting with Catherine, Uzma, Margo, Susan.
 - Gin and Sin party
 - Discussed a concept with a presentation from the Good Time Girls.
 - April 5th at Susan's house or clubhouse. Goal of 30 people.
 - A series of fundraising events – Goal of 3 this year.
 - Designate an event to a project, i.e. Scholarship fund
 - No budget at this point. Will try to get items donated, and a minimal fee (\$150) for the Good Time Girls.
- March annual meeting – There will be a brainstorming space and we can discuss fundraising more in depth.

Programs & Meeting Locations – Susan

Susan reviewed the out come of the last Planning Committee meeting.

- March Program – Location at the Library – March 9th
 - Scholarship recipients – 2 WWU young women, 5 min each
 - Annual meeting
 - Brainstorming event
 - Uzma – Mentioned the program options such as quarterly.
 - Judi – Bylaws – Denotes how many meetings per year, yet not what type.
 - Uzma – Mission review – Review the mission and how we stay connected to it.
 - Judi – Attendance - Noted 50 members, yet only 15 show up at the programs. Judi asked Lynda to send a roster to the Gwen, and Gwen will assign 5 names to a member to call, and then send out to the member to make a personal connection call or text as recommended by Uzma.
- April – Encore Rm. At Mt. Baker Theatre
 - Bham Police Chief
 - Comment – Catherine - Want to know about her journey in law enforcement as a leader.
- May – My Garden – On Bakerview Rd.
 - Make garden pots
 - Snacks at Purple Flamingo
- June – Art Walk or gallery visit at WWU

Additionally,

- February – Debrief
 - Enjoyable
 - Perhaps 1 time per year
 - In a round table(s)

High School Scholars – Carol

- Last board meeting we decided to cancel the HSS event. Cancelled room, etc.
- A new format – Letter to school, identify the girls, and then we will send them a certificate.
- Carol will be doing all the communication work. Judi will print the certificates.

- AAUW brochure to include with the certificate? Lynda and Sandy will try to find the brochure. Esther may support any updates.
- Uzma – Perhaps we could invite these girls to a branch meeting where we could give them a gift bag. Judi mentioned this could be done in October. Catherine mentioned to see how many girls names are received first.

Status of 501c3 – Judi

- Recognition is needed at the Federal level and this is done when filing the 990 Form.
- Judith Paulson will change our name on the 990 tax form.
- More communications to National.
- Judi is looking for bylaw minutes from the branch and state. Judith is looking.

Communications – Gwen

- Newsletter deadline: Feb 29th.
- Send both to Gwen and Judi.
- Frequency of info discussed. One time for info or in every newsletter as an important item such as the number of scholarship we support each year.
- Consensus for Margo to submit a fundraising notice in the newsletter.

Hospitality – Carol

- Later part of the alphabet, to bring snacks.
- Catherine mentioned as it is the annual meeting, she will bring a breakfast casserole.

More items to discuss:

- Cascadia Film Festival – Catherine
 - Sent in our donation of \$500.
 - Reviewed films
 - WWU – March 8th – Love Letters film – AAUW table will be done by Susan and Catherine will do this. Gwen will repeat in the newsletter.
- Equal Pay Day – Judi
 - Will forward info.
- Annual meeting
 - Nomination – None yet.
 - Roles needed: Membership, Treasurer.
 - Susan mentioned when calling members to invite to the March meeting, then ask if they would like to be in the Membership role.
 - No nominating committee
 - Budget
 - Judi will ask Judith to generate one.

Next Board Meetings

- Meeting adjourned - at 10:39 am. Zoom recording ended.