

AAUW Whatcom April 2024 Board Meeting

April 27, 2024

9 am start (via Zoom)

Attendance: Judith Paulson, Judi Edwards, Susan Moen, Carol Simmer, Margo Hammond, Gwen Parker, _____

Call To Order - Judi

Meeting 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.

>Referred to agenda.

Any agenda additions or order changes

>None.

Board Minutes – Margo

- Minutes for March

>One correction made.

>Approval of minutes. Motion, seconded, no discussion, all approved.

Treasurer’s Report – Judith

- WA Secretary of State
- Balance

>Checking account balance is \$404.60, savings account balance is \$21,145.56.

Budget – Judi

>To coordinate a budget committee meeting.

Membership – (Membership people not present.)

- Carol mentioned she would join this team for next fiscal year.

Presidents Report – Judi

- WA State AAUW Convention
 - October 19 in person 10am. Renton Technical College
- >State convention 2024 details reviewed.
- National vote – to expand membership education requirements
- >Discussed how to get more membership to vote.
- >Gwen will send out a reminder with the fundraiser reminder.
- Nominations - Need a membership chair or committee.
- >Catherine Chambers will assume the Treasurer's role in July. Judith will continue in the Treasurer's role until then.
- >Judith will continue as a signer on the AAUW account at WECU.
- >Carol will be co-chair for membership.

Tech Trek Update – Judi reported (as Pam Sankey was not present.)

- >6 campers.
- >Meet and Greet event on May 18th.
- >As this is the same day as the May board meeting, then discussed modifying the day for the board meeting.

Food Pantry – Carol

- >Ongoing difficulties with collecting food instead of money.
- >Question on if this aligns with the organization's mission, and Speaker 6 expresses concern about the feasibility of collecting money.
- >Suggestion to continue the food pantry support through end of year, then revisiting at the start of our next fiscal year, which starts July 1st.
- >Discussion on the money jar for last meeting. Was this unlabeled jar for the food pantry or the room costs. A few made donations thinking it was for the room costs. The group has decided to reinstate a \$5 per meeting donation jar, starting in September.

Scholarships – Carol

- >Discussion of how to earmark scholarship money in our bank account.

Public Policy – Judi reports (as Catherine was not present.)

- >Catherine to write a letter about pay equity to local publications. Will send to the board for review prior to sending it out.
- >Cascadia Women's Film Festival - ongoing. AAUW is a sponsor.

Fundraising – Susan (+ Catherine, yet not present)

- >Discussion on lack of RSVP and the idea of cancelling.
- >Discussed the scope of fundraising in our branch.

>Gwen will send out email encouraging national vote and RSVP for May 2nd event.

Programs & Meeting – Susan (and Program Planning team)

- May 2 – Fundraiser will be in lieu of meeting.
- June - TBD

DEI – Judi

>Nothing to add.

High School Scholars – Carol

>Has done some work in sending notices to HS counselors.

>Need future discussion on how to make this program sustainable.

Status of 501c3 – Judi

>Discussion on proof of accepting the new bylaws at a branch meeting. No documentation.

Communications – Gwen

>Idea to take many photos at the upcoming fundraiser and use these for the newsletter.

Hospitality –

>Still need someone to fill this role.

Survey - Judi

>Judi will draft survey questions for member input.

Book group

>Still meeting.

Next Board Meetings

- May 18, 3pm ~~9 am~~ – note 1 week earlier

>Stay tuned for a modification as this is the same time as the Tech Trek meet and greet.

Thank you all for meeting on Zoom today!