

AAUW Whatcom May 2024 Board Meeting

May 18, 2024, 3 pm start (via Zoom)

Attendance: Judi Edwards, Uzma Ahmed, Judith Paulson, Margo Hammond, Carol Simmer, Gwen Parker.

Call To Order – Judi started the meeting at 3:10 pm. Including AI Zoom Companion.

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 – April – Margo

- Motion to approve the minutes, passed, unanimous approval, motion passes. Minutes approved.

Treasurer’s Report – Judith

- Account balance at the end 4/30/24: \$21,140.65, Checking acct \$404.60.
- Fundraiser: \$1157 = gross income, \$450.32 = expenses, profit = \$702.68.
- Note: Income included a cash donation of \$100 + 1 tix price that person didn't attend. These were included in the gross income total. There were also kind donations.
- Motion to accept the financial report, seconded, motion passes. Financial report approved.

Budget

- Next annual budget. Catherine will be the next Treasurer. As she has an injury, she was not present at the meeting to contribute to the budget discussion. Delayed to when she can participate.

Membership –Sandy and Lynda not in attendance. Judi made the report.

- Recommendation made to discontinue Meet-up as membership was not increased due to this. The President asked the Treasurer to not continue with this membership.

Presidents Report – Judi

- Elected positions. AAUW year positions that need to be filled include:
 - o Treasurer – Catherine. To replace Judith in Aug/Sept
 - o Secretary – New opening. No one identified yet.
 - o Membership chair and several more committee members
- AAUW National
 - o Vote for the educational requirements change – Failed. This excludes the organization from applying and receiving grants. This questions the future of AAUW.
- Next branch meeting
 - o August 24th on Zoom.

Tech Trek Update – Pam not in attendance. Judi made the report.

- Meet and greet for the campers earlier this morning. Very nice.

Food Pantry – Carol

- Continue through June (donations to WWU) and then reassess for the next year
- Suggestions: Gwen suggested adding this question to the upcoming survey Judi is creating. Uzma suggested fundraising 1x per year, and then spread these donations throughout the year. Make a direct appeal to our membership about food insecurity. Carol is open to review.

Scholarships – Carol

- Whatcom Community College had a scholarship event and Pam Sankey and Esther Golde attended.

Public Policy – Catherine is not in attendance as injured. Judi reported.

- State has comments on how the upcoming initiatives affect women. Judi will forward this information to Gwen to put into the newsletter.

Fundraising –

- The “Women in the start of our local community” which was a presentation by Good Time Girls with light appetizers and a special gin drink. Also, that you to the fun hats brought by Carol. A special thank you to the Planning team, all who contributed and all who cleaned up.
- Could this model be a continued fundraiser for our branch?
- Margo mentioned going on a Good Time Girls tour at WWU. This model could be used for fundraising, utilizing a tour or presentation out in the public.

Programs & Meeting – Susan (and Program Planning team) was not in attendance.

- June program – June 6th, 10am at My Garden to make garden baskets.

- Please RSVP to Susan Moen by Tuesday, June 4th. Gwen will send out the RSVP.

Tech Trek – Pam not present

- Judi mentioned that there will be a presentation on Tech Trek at next year program in September; Pam is working on the venue and speaker.

High School Scholars – Carol

- Nothing new

Status of 501c3 – Judi

- Still continuing. Will work with the Treasurer, Judith, on some details.

Bylaws – Judi

- National AAUW has made some changes to the bylaws. Judi will make these changes. No vote required.
- Perhaps a bylaws review would be of value to see if we are operating within the bylaws.

Communications – Gwen

- Thank you for the next great newsletter.
- No June newsletter. The next newsletter later i.e. end of June?
- Phone tree still needs to be put together. Judi will assist Gwen

Hospitality – Judi reported

- For June, all refreshments can be purchased at the food truck in front of the My Garden Nursery.

Survey – Judi

- In progress.

Book group – Gwen

- Still meets monthly with about 4 or 5 members. Meet at the Affinity library.

Anything additional

- Uzma asked for clarification of the officer terms.

Next Board Meeting

- June 22 9am zoom

Meeting adjourned at 4:01pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Margo Hammond.