

American Association of University Women North Carolina (AAUW NC)
Board Meeting - October 18, 2023
Minutes

Location: Virtual

Members Present: Pat Ashe, Beverly Larson, Jeanne Smolkin, Mary Ann Bents, Laura Tew, Nicole Sherrill-Jamison, Kathy Pearre

Members Absent: Katie Pincura, Lori Bunton, Tiffany Jacobs, Sandy Bernard

Topic	Discussion
Opening	Pat opened the meeting at 5:33 pm.
Treasurer's Report	Jeanne reported that the CD with First Horizon Bank in Asheville was cashed out in August, with a balance of \$10,375.06 which was deposited in the checking account. There was discussion about reversing a previous board decision to purchase a CD with higher interest rates, and the board agreed to seek a better rate. Jeanne will investigate CD rates currently available and make the decision about which institution to use.
September Minutes	The September minutes were accepted as distributed. Mary Ann made a suggestion to include all supplemental documents with the minutes for inclusion on the Google docs.
Executive Committee	Pat reported there was no meeting in October.

STEM	<p>Laura has spoken with most branch presidents to offer support for STEM Ed programming. She followed up with an email on October 18th. Laura reminded the board that WCU is hosting a STEM Ed program via Zoom on October 24th at 2 pm.</p> <p>Laura described her “show & tell” build kits that are programmed with a cable to the device and use an audiofile to work. She discussed Edison robot sensors and writing python code. There is a barcode reader on the bottom of each device. Participants are able to experience a hands-on robotics lesson.</p> <p>Girls on Fire is an all-girl robotics team led by Marie Hopper. They will assist Laura with hands-on robotics programs for some branches.</p> <p>STEM programs are being developed or continued in Cape Fear, Raleigh/Wake, Charlotte Area, Greensboro, and Gaston Regional branches. Orange, Durham, Chatham (ODC), Salisbury, and Winston-Salem may be involved as well.</p> <p>Laura stated that the robotics piece of STEM is an easy way to gain parent and student interest in STEM.</p>
<i>Connect</i> Newsletter	Mary Ann reported that the open rate for the last issue was 56.5%.
Website	Mary Ann continues to update the website, to make the site look appealing and reflect activity within the state. She is studying the WordPress platform which is used on the site.
Membership	<p>Beverly has made recommendations to membership teams and communicates with them by email. As a reminder, Mary Ann recommended that all requests concerning Community Hub be sent to connect@aauw, rather than Angie Cooper directly. If Mary Ann is copied, she can assist with needed follow-up.</p> <p>Beverly reported that Cindy Parks with the ODC branch has suggested that branches might cover the \$175 fee for colleges within their area to join the AAUW branch.</p> <p>Beverly sent a template to branch presidents for assistance with updating the branch bylaws. She requested that branches notify her when they have completed this task. Only the national part of branch bylaws needs updating, and branches do not have to conduct a vote to approve the update.</p>

	Mary Ann stated that records for non-renewed members will be removed from state/branch rosters at the end of October. Their records will remain in the Community Hub, but without state/branch linkage.
Mini Grants	Pat reminded all that Mini Grants may be used for activities to recruit new members, as well as to deliver community programs. Branches are encouraged to apply, and the forms are available on the website.
Branch Closure	Pat reported that Tina Ganis, president of Sandhill/Southern Pines, has begun the process for disbandment. The branch has only 4 members.
Regional Conference	Pat reported that there is discussion at the regional level for a conference to include members in Virginia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Maryland, and Delaware. They are considering a date in early June of 2024. The conference would be hybrid, with in-person and Zoom options.
Annual Meeting	Pat reported that planning for the 2024 Annual Meeting is underway. The format will be on Zoom, similar to last year, with breakout sessions and a keynote address. Names suggested for the keynote include Anita Earls and Alma Adams. Suggestions for breakout groups and a keynoter should be forwarded to Pat. In considering breakout groups, Pat noted topics should be those that will be helpful to branches as they move forward.
Closing	The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 15th, 5:30 pm

Minutes prepared by: Kathy Pearre

Appendix A – Board Meeting Agenda

AAUW NC Board Meeting

October 18, 2023

AGENDA

AAUW Mission: Advancing gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy

Strategic Goal of AAUW NC: To develop program planning, communication, and advocacy to advance the climate for women's equity in North Carolina

- I. Meeting opening (Pat)
- II. Treasurer's Report (Jeanne)
 - a. CD cash out at First Horizon Bank in Asheville—deposit as a CD in Wells Fargo or another bank (national locations) with better interest rates
- III. Meeting minutes September 20th (Lori)
- IV. Committee Chair Reports
 - a. Executive Committee (Pat)
 - b. Public Policy (Katie)
 - c. STEM (Laura)
 - d.. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (Tiffany)
 - e. *Connect* newsletter (Mary Ann)

- f. Website update (Mary Ann)
- g. Membership (Beverly)
- h. AAUW Carolinas Fund Chair

V. How to generate interest in branches applying for state mini-grants

VI. Other business

a. Sandhill Pines seeking disbandment

b. Planning underway for regional conference to be held by Zoom on June 8, 2024 from 9:00 to 12:00 and 2:00 to 4:00. Any ideas for Keynote speaker?

c. Next meeting: November 15, 2023 at 5:30 pm

Appendix B – AAUW California Flyer
(PDF version available from AAUW NC President)



(American Association of University Women)



Empowering Women and Girls since 1881

Join a Local AAUW Branch
and be a Changemaker!

170,000 Supporters Strong! Tenacious and Trailblazing!

What does AAUW do?

Our mission: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

- Advocates on Capitol Hill for issues that matter to women.
- Awards funds to women scholars to pursue their studies.
- Provides legal advocacy.
- Offers training in leadership and career advancement.
- Gives you opportunities to act!

Visit www.aauw-ca.org

What happens in AAUW?

Local branch volunteers may organize such things as:

- Public presentations and forums.
- State programs: Tech Trek STEM camp, Speech Trek contest, or Gov Trek political career series.
- Homegrown programs to meet their community's unique needs.
- Scholarship programs.
- Fundraisers.
- Social groups to share camaraderie, interests, and fun.

Who is in AAUW?

We are changemakers in our community and country.

- Graduates with a college or AA degree or higher.
- Interesting, diverse, and passionate women and men.
- People who are working, not working, about to retire, retired, or still in college.

Sound like you?

Why join AAUW?

Your membership makes our powerful voice even louder on critical issues affecting women and girls.

- Help break down barriers for women.
- Interact with like-minded people.
- Impact your community with programs that make a difference.
- Network and learn from people with varied backgrounds and skills.
- Share common interests in social groups.
- Make career connections.
- Exercise your mind.

JOIN US!

Local Branch

Contact Email



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www.aauw-ca.org