

AAUW ND Board Meeting Minutes

By conference call Jan. 7, 2013

Present by phone: Maureen Kelly Jonason (Fargo), Marlene Anderson (Bis/Man), Sharon Etemad (Devils Lake), Mary Robinette (GF), LaVetta Syverson (GF), Cathy Wolf (DL); Treasurer Simone Sandberg (Wahp) and Paul Robinette joined later.

1. President Maureen Kelly Jonason called the meeting to order at 5:03pm CST
2. October mins. LaVetta pointed out that the Grand Forks book sale was in Grand Forks not East Grand Forks. LaVetta moved that the mins. be accepted as corrected. Motion carried.
3. Treasurer's Report – Simone was not present yet, but Maureen conveyed a question from Debbie Albers: Is there funding to consider Debbie Albers' request to pay Linda Wurtz a stipend to create a Meeting in a Box out of her Where Are the Women report? The board members on the line said they would support it if there is funding. Maureen will discuss it with Simone and send out an email to the board requesting action.
4. Membership –
 - a. Maureen asked for an update on the institutional memberships suggested for Devils Lake and Grand Forks. Sharon Etemad said she needs to know how much the college in DL would have to pay with 2000 students. Maureen will email Naomi to find out. Maureen read in the minutes that membership for institutions with 10,000 – 20,000 students would pay \$275. Mary Robinette will contact the Dean of Student Affairs to propose membership to UND.
 - b. Maureen asked for an update on tribal memberships. Sharon reported that the DL branch contacted the president of the tribal college at Ft Totten. She has attended two meetings. She recommends not trying to start a new branch but rather inviting tribal college faculty and staff to branch meetings. The plan is to have a luncheon out at Ft. Totten to introduce AAUW. Cathy said that women from Ft Totten have been invited to the Jan. meeting at the new water plant. Maureen suggested a follow-up call to the president to make sure the invitation is extended just before the meeting.
 - c. Maureen sent an email to the Williston Members at Large, but she did not hear back. She still hopes to make a trip to Williston to meet with them if they respond. Maureen summarized her discussion with AAUW national board member Betsy McDowell of Oregon who said AAUW is encouraging new ways of conducting branch activities including meeting less often than monthly and focusing activities on projects.
5. Impact Grant – Simone said that Jamestown did send an email requesting reimbursement for their GOTV organizer but without details of what she did. Maureen will email branch members and ask for a paragraph for the Board to consider before reimbursing. Then Maureen and Simone will complete the final report which was due in December.
6. Annual Meeting – LaVetta confirmed that it will be held Sat. April 20 at the REAC Building on the west side of the UND campus near the Garden Hilton Hotel. The committee needs more information on the speaker coming from national. Maureen will email national to connect with Kathy Asche. LaVetta asked the board for ideas on the kind of workshops or talks we wanted. LaVetta asked about how the finances of the annual meeting work. Simone explained that it has been done different ways from the treasurer receiving all of the registrations and the bills. She prefers that the branch hosting collect the registrations and pay the bills and then gives the extra to the State Board. Maureen suggested the committee budget for paying bills with 20 participants and then add \$5 per registration to raise some funds for the State budget. The committee will discuss the process and come up with a registration fee.

They did put a Save the Date notice on the website. Maureen asked if LaVetta could email everyone the notice to print out and give out at branch meetings.

7. Website – Maureen asked if anyone else had submitted items to the state website. Someone suggested that LaVetta send out instructions to each branch president to be able to put articles and notices on the website so that Debbie Alber doesn't have to.
8. Maureen asked each branch for an update.
 - a. Bismarck/Mandan Marlene Anderson reported that at the end of October, the branch had a booth at Bismarck State College and distributed a few post cards. They held their December holiday luncheon and had a silent auction as an EF fundraiser. They will not have an Jan. or Feb. meeting. They are looking at having some social events.
 - b. Devils Lake Sharon and Cathy reported that they held their December holiday brunch with international students. Sharon mentioned that in the summertime, members meet weekly for lunch and different people attend. Sharon reported that their branch sponsors education for girls in Africa through the Partners for Women's Equality program.
 - c. Grand Forks: Paul Robinette joined the discussion and reported that they have had good luck getting international students to participate. Their branch has a booth at student orientation and that seems to get some students' interest.
 - d. Fargo – Maureen reported that the branch did an 8-hour stint at NDSU collecting student contact information on post cards. Both November and December programs were about health with a nutritionist in Dec. emphasizing how people in our area suffer a lot from Vitamin D deficiency. Jan. 12 is the annual brunch.
 - e. Wahpeton – Simone reported that they had a busy fall with the candidates forum and Tour of Homes which garnered some interest. They also had a Christmas gathering. They will not be meeting in January.
 - f. No reports from Jamestown, Mayville/Hillsboro, or Dickinson.
9. Maureen asked if there was any other business. LaVetta reported that Grand Forks has done some networking with both the college Women's Studies Department and the Women in Science group. Three GF members have attended several meetings of the Women in Science group. Maureen asked if they could help Grand Forks find out about STEM ed opportunities in town for girls. Maureen asked each branch to work on finding out what STEM ed opps are in their particular communities so we figure out how AAUW can do to support such efforts. Devils Lake used to participate in a career exploration program for girls for several years. Fargo may work with the GUESS program (Girls Understanding and Exploring Science Stuff) a state-wide day camp on STEM activities offered to girls statewide. GUESS is a member of the Great Plains Girl Collaborative Project which connects science programs for girls in SD, ND, and MN.
10. As there was no other business, Maureen adjourned the meeting at 6:09.

The next formal board meeting will be April 20 at the Annual Meeting in Grand Forks, but Maureen will be in touch for updates on the two funding request.