

LCV BOARD MEETING NOVEMBER 28, 2022

1. Approval of Minutes for October 8th meeting
2. Treasurer's Report
3. Holiday Party Dec 7th----Gloria Gerry, Lucy Duddy, Diane Volz, Marcia Machuga
4. 501(c) (3) update—Linda Frigon & Deb DeHertogh
5. Bequest Fund—proposal to use some of the money for 501(c) (3) application, scholarships or other critical activities. How much money can we afford to allot? How often? Minimum balance to keep in Fund?
6. Fundraising for BAL—Linda Frigon & Kathy Heebner
7. Scholarship----State AAUW Scholarship (Mary Jane)
8. LCV Scholarships—Sue Aberbach, Olga Saubermann
9. Membership
10. Interest Groups

Lower Connecticut Valley AAUW
Board Meeting
November 28, 2022

Members Present: Deb DeHertogh, Mary Jane Peterson, Sue Aberbach, Mary Ann Iadarola, Barb Dimberg, Jeannette Santovasi, Gloria Gery, Olga Saubermann, Margie Rice, Jan Furman, Linda Frigon, Deb Herskowitz, Diane Volz

The meeting was held at Acton Library and was called to order by President Deb DeHertogh at 1:06 pm.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Margie Rice, seconded by Gloria Gery to approve the board minutes of October 3, 2022 with minor correction noted. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

People's Bank has been bought out by M & T Bank. AAUW as a business account will have several costs associated with this change. noted that deposit slips and a stamp for checks would need to be purchased.

Mary Ann Iadarola reviewed the September and October treasurer's reports. Due to the M & T Bank changeover from People's Bank there is a difference in ending and beginning balances. Mary Ann got printouts from M & T to show all transactions for the several days during the changeover that were not recorded on either statement.

September: Beginning balance in Business Advantage Checking: \$6,186.76. Ending Balance \$6,182.76. Outstanding expenses: \$20. Combined Bequest and Business Savings Ending Balance: \$21,577.60.

October: Beginning balance in Business Advantage Checking: \$6,182.76. Ending Balance \$5,892.41. Outstanding expenses: \$56.58. Combined Bequest and Business Savings Ending Balance: \$21,581.50.

The Treasurer's Reports will be filed for audit.

Programs

Gloria Gery discussed the Holiday Party for December 7th. Board members should arrive early to set-up. Everyone is to bring an appetizer or dessert as well as an item for the chance auction. Prices for the raffle tickets were discussed, 5 tickets for \$5 and 15 tickets for \$10. Board members should try to bring 5's and 10's.

There was a discussion about the Tea/Trivia to be held January 7th. Board members are to bring a bottle of wine, a box of chocolate, or other small gift to be used for prizes. This will be further discussed during our next board meeting.

501(c)(3) Update

Deb DeHertogh and Linda Frigon presented information about their work to obtain 501(c)(3) status. They have had conference calls with two different AAUW branches as well as a CPA who specializes in non-profits and a lawyer from ProBono Partnership. All of our consultants recommended that we split off the Scholarship and Fundraising activities of LCV into a 501(c)(3) organization while maintaining our 501(c)(4) status for the rest of the LCV organization. The two organizations would need their own Boards. Board meetings could potentially occur sequentially. There would be very little change to the general meetings and LCV activities. ProBono Partnership would provide guidance and walk us through the steps of applying. The cost is \$695 to cover their operating costs. To apply there would be a one time cost of \$275 as well as an annual cost of \$50 to file a report with the state. In addition, a post office box, with yearly cost of \$200, is needed in order to have a consistent address which should be done regardless.

Linda has agreed to be the treasurer of the AAUW-LCV Scholarship Program for 2 years.

There was a discussion of whether this needed to go to the membership for a vote. The 501(c)(3) status has been brought up at branch meetings without any objections or questions. It was agreed that the membership would be informed by Deb and Linda sending out a 1-page information sheet.

Jan Furman made a motion to create a separate board for AAUW-LCV Scholarship Program and apply for 501(c)(3) status. Diane Volz seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

AAUW CT State Scholarship

Mary Jane Peterson presented information from AAUW-CT regarding a proposed scholarship. As presented, this would be a \$6,000 scholarship to be equally dispersed on completion of sophomore and junior years of the applicant. Questions were raised as to whether the applicant had to be attending a State college or university and was recommended that any college or university in CT be allowed. One goal of this scholarship is to raise awareness of AAUW. AAUW-CT would be working with financial aid offices at the CT colleges and universities. Barb Dimberg made a motion to contribute \$500 for this scholarship if money could be found (see next section.) Mary Jane Peterson seconded. The motion passed with 1 abstention.

Bequest Fund

Deb DeHertogh gave some history of The Helen Sommer Graves Memorial Fund which was received in 1999 and currently has \$15,135.55. In 2010 the Board voted "that at no time shall the principal of said fund fall below \$15,000 without board approval." This fund should not be used for general operating expenses but the Board could tap into the fund.

Mary Jane Peterson made a motion to take \$500 from the Bequest Fund to put towards the AAUW-CT Scholarship and up to \$1500 from the Bequest Fund to cover expenses of applying for 501(c)(3) status. The motion was seconded by Gloria Gery. The motion passed with 1 no vote and 1 abstention.

Fundraising

Linda Frigon updated all about the Book Author Lunch. There is a committee working on creating teams for seeking donations and ads. The program/ad book may be eliminated or made much smaller due to the cost. Alternative ways of highlighting donors are being considered (poster boards, ads on our website, links to businesses, ...) A small group had recommended that the luncheon ticket price be set at \$60. Several board members recommended higher prices, perhaps with added value (such as including drinks).

Scholarship

Sue Aberbach reported that they will be meeting with Gloria Gery to make the online scholarship application interactive. Committee members are testing out the changes.

NCCWSL (National Conference for College Women Student Leaders) is expected to be live, in-person this year.

Membership

Margie Rice reported that we currently have 83 members. We have 2 Shape the Future free memberships.

Deb Hertkowitz has distributed most of the program booklets and is trying to avoid mailing.

A discussion was held about having everyone trying to bring a friend to the January meeting.

Interest Groups

Due to the time, updates were provided only by Cultural Arts. Mary Jane Peterson reminded everyone that the trip to Ivoryton Playhouse is on December 14th. Lunch will be at Scotch Plains at 11:30.

At 2:55 pm, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Linda Frigon and seconded by Jeannette Santovasi. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Barb Dimberg
Secretary