

AGENDA LCV BOARD MEETING APRIL 3, 2023

1. Approval of Minutes for Feb 6, 2023 meeting
2. Recap of BAL Meeting/money raised
3. Treasurer's Report—include discussion of year-to-year trend in budget vs actual spending and proposed 2023-24 budget
4. Membership/Possible dues increase next year
5. Scholarship/NCCWSL
6. State Scholarship
7. Programs---Joint Meeting w Shoreline, April 13th (Nana Amos State AAUW President and Grant recipient Alyx Mark will attend) and End-of-Year Social June 15th
8. Annual Meeting May 11th-- election of Board officers, budget
9. Update on 501(c)(3)
10. Interest Groups

Lower Connecticut Valley AAUW
Board Meeting
April 3, 2023

Members Present: Deb DeHertogh, Mary Jane Peterson, Sue Aberbach, MaryAnn Iadarola, Jeannette Santovasi, Gloria Gery, Margie Rice (facetime), Linda Frigon, Deb Herskowitz, Marcia Machuga, Elaine Quayle, Kathy Heebner, Diane Volz

The meeting was called to order by President Deb DeHertogh at 1:05 pm.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Diane Volz, seconded by Gloria Gery to approve the minutes of the board meeting of February 6, 2023. The motion passed.

Fundraising

Linda Frigon informed the board that BAL was a great success. As of today the sponsors total was \$6,150 a dramatic increase from previous years, due to a change in approach through relationships. Paid registration resulted in a decrease in profits due to the increased cost, extra room charge \$1,000 and small increase in food cost. Next year once we get 501c3 status we will save \$600 in taxes. We sold 90 books, which is an increase over previous years. We ordered 96 for each author, so the return of books will cost \$65. Chance and Silent auction both showed an increase of \$1,000 over previous years. Restaurants were the big sellers, and the presentation of the baskets and naming of them was well received. We gained 7 new members at the event, which happened after the speakers. The total profit was \$13,992.95, which will be increased by the donation of board members who wanted the total to be \$14,000, Linda will update soon.

Treasurer's Report

MaryAnn Iadarola presented the March Treasurer's Report. Beginning balance in Business Advantage Checking: \$16,319.99. Ending Balance \$17,362.99.

Deposits this month also included \$695 transfer from business savings for Pro Bono Partnership (501c3) administrative cost, many checks for BAL \$5,007, Great Decisions \$50, Square deposits \$4,832.19. Expenses totaled \$9,541.19. These included \$330 Donation to international fellowships, \$565 registration NCCWSL for Allyson Zadravec, \$105 pavilion rental expense, \$369.04 hospitality, \$50 state membership dues (5), \$100 honorarium CT Coalition to End Homelessness, and many costs due to BAL totalling \$8,022.15

Outstanding checks Allyson Zadravec transportation \$175, Saybrook Point Inn bar tab patrons \$349.68.

Combined Bequest and Business Savings Ending Balance: \$20,904.27.

The Treasurer's Reports will be filed for audit.

Budget for 2023 - 2024 presented by Mary Ann Iadarola
Membership presented at 100 for easy calculation, we added 7 new so actual is 93 when forms submitted.

Discussion of the presented budget suggested an increase of Hospitality from \$500 to \$700, and membership expense increase from \$250 to \$550, due to increased cost of booklets and needing more booklets. Currently the PO Box is under the Miscellaneous category, it was suggested that it be its own category at \$205, and Misc. \$100, which is an increase to the previous total of \$250, publicity not used this year, but need to increase to \$75 elist costs that much.

There was further discussion about expenses that members pay out of pocket that we should include in the budget. Several people have ZOOM accounts that they only use for AAUW, Gloria suggested TECH SOUP which gives nonprofits free software. Other expenses were not great, and current members are willing to pay, but in the future that could not be the case.

Mary Jane Peterson suggested that we increase the dues by \$7, from \$21 to \$28, for 2023-2024. While discussing the need to increase dues, Margie Rice called the contact at National and got them to hold up on sending out our renewals, in order for us to present an increase. Since our branch dues is currently \$21, all of these new members have paid \$21 for the branch dues, and all received the 50% off national dues using the Shape the Future discount. Once we vote on the dues increase at our May meeting, new members and renewals will pay the new amount for branch dues.

Discussion of the operating budget and expenses, produced the need to make the general membership understand where our membership dues go. It was suggested that a pie chart be made showing the total dues, with federal, state, and LCV. Linda Frigon stated that she would be willing to make the chart.

Mary Jane Peterson made a motion to increase due by \$7, seconded by Kathy Heebner. Vote was 13 for the increase and 1 not for the increase. In order to present this to the membership for the annual meeting on May 11th, Deb Dehertogh will send notice with the pie chart 30 days prior to the meeting date.

Scholarship

Sue Aberbach reported that at NCCWSL we are sponsoring Allyson Zadravec and hope to sponsor one more. Our grant recipients are unable to attend (starting jobs, continuing education, ...) so Sue is reaching out to the other applicants we had last year (12 women). If anyone knows someone who would benefit from this program, let Sue know.

Information and the application for this year's grants are posted. Applications will be due 6/12.

Mary Jane Peterson informed us that there are three branches (New London, Storrs and LCV) each donating \$500 to the AAUW-CT proposed scholarship. The scholarship will consist of \$6,000 over two years. Deadline for application is mid April.

Membership

Margie Rice reported that we currently have 86 members. Margie stated that 7 new members at the BAL now 93 in total. (These new members paid the current branch dues of \$21)

Proposed 2023-24 Dues:

\$72 National (\$69 is tax deductible) (national dues has increased by \$5/year for the past three years)

\$10 State Dues

\$28 New Proposed Branch Dues to be voted on at the May 11th general meeting

(An increase of \$7 from our \$21 dues which has not changed in many years)

\$110 Total Dues for 2023-24 year if branch dues increase is passed

Membership Renewal Notices will be sent out later in May after the vote at the May 11th general meeting. Lifetime National Memberships are available. \$1,340 until June 30, \$1,440 after June 30th. This would be fully tax deductible. National Student Dues is \$18.81

Cost of our membership booklets has gone up this year to \$3.42/booklet, more than double what we had been paying. This is the first increase in more than 7 years from the printer and still less expensive than Staples.

Programs

Gloria Gery shared the following information: April Joint Meeting, speaker is Alyx Marks, fellowship recipient from AAUW-National will speak on the impact of Covid on justice in the civil court system, May speaker Dick Shriver, Publisher of Estuary Magazine. It is also our Annual meeting.

Gloria stated that we had originally told Dick Shriver that he had 45 minutes to speak and now we only have 30 minutes due to the annual meeting, this needs to be considered for next year's planning of programs.

501(c)(3) Update

Linda has spoken to Moira Petrone, our attorney, she is busy working on the formation documents which is the first step in this process. We will be given these documents in a few weeks.

Interest Groups

- ◆ Hiking Club, next hike April 26th
- ◆ Mah Jongg, April 11th (2nd Tuesday of the month)
- ◆ Great Decisions, March 15th, Famine
- ◆ Afternoon Book Club, "The Beekeeper of Aleppo"
- ◆ Evening Book Club, The Midnight Library on April 25th
- ◆ Cultural Arts, New Haven "Yale Gargoyle Tour" April 18th
- ◆ Gourmet Group, next dinner May 6th

At 3:05 pm, Deb DeHertogh adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Heebner, Substitute - Secretary