

**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
METROPOLITAN ST. LOUIS INTERBRANCH COUNCIL**

stlouis-ibc.aauw.net

August 25, 2020 - Zoom Enabled Meeting

Deb McWard, IBC Co-Chair for 2020-2021, Kirkwood-Webster Groves branch, opened the Zoom meeting and asked each person to introduce herself by name and branch.

Deb called for additions to the agenda; Patricia Burroughs Bishop offered that she will give an update on this year's International Relations Lecture Series program.

There being no corrections to the most recent IBC meeting on February 25, 2020, a **MOTION** was made by Karen Francis and seconded by Jean Elliott that "we accept the minutes as written." **CARRIED.**

Financial Report: Carol Davis McDonald

Since Spring Fling was cancelled, those who had sent reservation checks were given the option to have their money returned or kept by IBC; this report includes \$458 in the Operating Fund from people who did not want their Spring Fling reservations refunded. IBC has \$3,019.21 in the Operating Fund and \$1,273.65 in the NCCWSL fund. The total in the bank is \$4,292.86. Last spring we paid for airline reservations to NCCWSL which the airline says can be used next year, and the registrations paid to NCCWSL can be applied to next year's attendees.

For the 2019-2020 year, IBC budgeted \$2,365 and only spent \$980. Jeanne Webdell requested that the financial reports be accepted and filed as reported. Everyone agreed.

National AAUW: Shirley Breeze

Shirley reported that AAUW has been hosting webinars. Most of the staff is working from home, and there is not much going on. Feedback that Shirley got about Kim Church's webinar was that it was too negative. Karen Francis and Pat Shores disagreed adding that our membership requirement makes it difficult to include all women. Inclusion and equity were stressed, but nothing was said about Work Smart. It was noted that Work Smart falls under gender equity and pay gap issues. The webinar is recorded and will be on the website.

Centennial Celebration: Ellen Irons

Ellen praised everyone in St. Louis for the programs being held and proclamations from mayors being made. Pat Shores reported that many cities are doing proclamations. Jan Scott and Pat will be in a photo with the Mayor of St. Louis and in a photo with Dr. Page from St. Louis County. Pam Meyer thanked Pat Shores for the information on how to get a proclamation from Florissant in September and Ferguson in September. Lynne Roney will be in a photo with the Mayor of Clayton tomorrow, and Manchester presented their proclamation via Zoom on August 17. Kirkwood and Webster Groves will present their proclamation at meetings in September.

There are so many events on August 26 occurring online--rallies, music, etc. The 2020 Centennial website lists a lot of events.

Chris Nobbe gave some background about the 100th Anniversary signs created and sold (at cost) by Kirkwood-Webster Groves branch. Almost 800 signs were sold and delivered, and the project including graphic files was shared with state AAUW presidents. Marsha shared that a sign was delivered to Aisha Sultan and that signs were purchased and shipped to TX, NM, IL, ND, SC, and Kansas City.

Jan Scott worked with an Illinois branch of AAUW on an event at The Wheel (St. Louis's new ferris wheel at Union Station). She also worked with the Planetarium to light it in suffragist colors on August 26. Karen Francis and Pat Shores attended an event to honor Virginia Minor who is buried in Bellefontaine Cemetery; Karen noted the woman who portrayed Virginia Minor at the event was awesome. Karen learned that three black suffragists are buried at Greenwood Cemetery, and Karen, Marsha Koch, and Jeanne Webdell will take signs there next week. MO Botanical Garden has named a rose in honor of the 100th Anniversary.

Ellen asked that everyone take photos and send them to her.

Regional Conference: Karen Francis

Karen reported that everything is on hold. The committee will meet again in the fall to determine if they should proceed planning for a spring 2021 conference. The programming will probably need to be changed. Presidents of all states involved will be included in the fall meeting.

Missouri State Conference: Lynne Roney

The AAUW MO Board will decide at its October meeting whether to have a state meeting in May 2021. Lynne will probably propose a day or two of online meetings. People seemed to enjoy the phone version of the state meeting held in May 2020, and 2021's meeting will be some version of that.

International Relations Lecture Series: Patricia Burroughs Bishop

In partnership with the Tuesday Women's Association of the Ethical Society, these are the topics being planned for lectures in 2021:

Jan 12—Freedom of the Press and Independent Journalism

Feb 9—Reparations to Redress Historical Injustices

Mar 9—Artificial Intelligence and Data (ethics)

Apr 13—Historical and Racist Art (monuments, stereotypes in literature)

They are considering a panel discussion or debate format to make the lectures on Zoom more interesting. Pam Meyers volunteered to be on the planning committee. Patricia will send invoices for annual donations to the IBC branches next week.

Spring Fling/Barb Lackritz Award: Linda Roberson

The question of how to celebrate Mary Jermak being named the 2020 Barb Lackritz Awardee was thoroughly discussed. Linda Roberson, chair of the Barb Lackritz Committee, feels that we should celebrate Mary's award at the 2021 Spring Fling. How we celebrate depends upon whether we have Spring Fling 2021.

MOTION by Ellen Irons and seconded by Karen Francis that we do a virtual Spring Fling in 2021 using the published 2021 rotation schedule. **CARRIED.** (Easter is April 4)

Rotation schedule. The table below establishes the rotation for the next eight (8) years.

Thereafter, a new table will be devised following the same rotation schedule.

Year	Program	Arrange.	Registr./ Eval.	Publicity	Fundraising
2017	B-C	F-F	STC	K-WG	STL
2018	STL	B-C	F-F	STC	K-WG
2019	K-WG	STL	B-C	F-F	STC
2020	STC	K-WG	STL	B-C	F-F
2021	F-F	STC	K-WG	STL	B-C
2022	B-C	F-F	STC	K-WG	STL
2023	STL	B-C	F-F	STC	K-WG
2024	K-WG	STL	B-C	F-F	STC

Chris Nobbe stated that people are having virtual events with food, and that meals are delivered by a catering company to the homes of the Zoom attendees.

MOTION by Jan Scott seconded by Linda Roberson that Mary Jermak be the only [Barb Lackritz Award] recipient in 2021. **CARRIED.**

Pat Shores, who has worked on the Barb Lackritz guidelines and application for many years, recommended that the award be changed from a competition format to a recognition format. She said that over the years some branches have had problems filling out the applications. With a recognition format each branch would have a chance to showcase one of their members. The branch doing the recognition could be rotated each year (i.e., one branch recognition per year). Now would be a good time to make a change. The total number of awardees from each branch has been:

9 from Ballwin-Chesterfield	9 from Kirkwood-Webster Groves
3 from Creve Coeur (disbanded)	4 from St. Charles
2 from Ferguson-Florissant	4 from St. Louis

NCCWSL: Deb McWard

NCCWSL was postponed last June, and AAUW is planning to have it next June. The two students selected for the scholarships in 2020 (1 by IBC and 1 by Ballwin-Chesterfield) would both like to attend next June. We only had two applications last year. We will have to give the students a deadline by which they commit to going so that if they do not go, we can solicit applications from local universities. Their registrations from last June are transferable. We have time before we have to make decisions about whether to spend the money we have designated for NCCWSL.

College/University: Karen Francis

Karen and Deb McWard have met with representatives at Washington University and University of Missouri at St. Louis.

Gift Wrapping: Deb McWard

Barnes & Noble does not know if they will do gift wrapping this year. We are first on their list to call when they make a decision.

Public Policy: Karen Francis

Absentee ballots can be hand delivered, but mail-in ballots **must** be mailed in and received by the day of the election. Only the absentee ballots with options #2 and #7 checked do not have to be notarized because they are a result of COVID-19. The Board of Elections asked the League of Women Voters to call voters whose paper ballots were rejected due to an error to help them fix it. Most of the errors were made on the data answers on the outside of the envelope. The League has been asked to help revise the envelope wording to avoid errors next time.

Absentee ballots will be mailed September 22 and voting begins; if you don't mail it in, you can carry that ballot to the polling place on election day and vote in person. Election officials will invalidate the paper ballot.

There were fewer polling places in the August election because there were not enough election officials.

Patricia Burroughs Bishop gave the hashtags for the Centennial:

#WomensVote100	#19thAmendment
#19thAmendment	#SuffrageMonth
#womensvote100	#womensWONhundred

Announcements and Concerns

The dues increase proposed by National will most likely cause a reduction in membership renewals, which is a major concern.

Deb McWard suggested that branches share their virtual programs with other branches.

The next meeting of St. Louis IBC is on November 24.

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha Koch

Marsha Koch, Secretary

Attachment: Attendance using AAUW St. Louis IBC Directory

AAUW ST. LOUIS IBC DIRECTORY, 2020-2021

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