

AAUW METRO ST. LOUIS INTERBRANCH COUNCIL  
stlouis-ibc.aauw.net  
February 22, 2022, via Zoom

Attendance – Names in Bold are Voting Members; \*Share 1 Vote

**IBC Chairs**

Co-Chair Barbara Johnson (KWG)  
Co-Chair Debbie McWard (KWG)  
Secretary ~~Marsha Koch (KWG)~~  
Finance Chair Carol Davis McDonald (KWG)  
IRLS Kay Meyer (KWG)  
Webmaster ~~Joyce Katz (BC)~~

**State Positions**

Communications Mary Jermak (BC)  
DEI Chair Kay Meyer (KWG)  
Public Policy Chair Karen Francis (BC)  
Strategic Plan Chair Pat Shores (BC)

**Ballwin-Chesterfield (BC)**

Co-President **Jan Horner\***  
Co-President **Sandy Brody\***  
Co-Membership ~~Linda Roberson\*~~  
Co-Membership **Judy Stagoski\***  
Co-Program VP **Marcia Block\***  
Co-Program VP ~~Carol Anthony\*~~  
Finance Officer Pat Shores  
Member-at-Large **Jean Elliott**

**Ferguson-Florissant (FF)**

Co-President **Pam Meyers**  
Program VP **Shirley Breeze**  
Newsletter Editor **Patty Murray**

**Kirkwood-Webster Groves (KWG)**

Co-President **Jeanne Webdell**  
Program VP ~~Chris Nobbe~~  
Membership VP **Deb McWard**  
Member-at-Large **Nancy Hutchins**

**St. Charles (STC)**

President **Betty Takahashi**  
Member-at-Large **Teri Brecht**  
Director **Rose Ann Weeks**

**St. Louis (STL)**

Co-President **Ellen Irons**  
Membership VP **Carol Davis McDonald**  
Member-at-Large **Jan Scott**

Barb Johnson welcomed everyone to this regular quarterly meeting at 7:02 pm. She called for additions or changes to the agenda; there being none, the agenda is accepted as is.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the November meeting had been distributed prior to this meeting. Jan Scott/Shirley Breeze moved that the minutes be accepted. **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Financial – Carol Davis McDonald

Carol reported that we have an operating funds balance of \$3,422.21. She has 17 registrations for Swing into Spring; no checks have been deposited. The report will be filed for audit.

Branch Updates – Barbara Johnson

Barb asked each branch to give an update on their activities including fundraising projects.

- BC reported that they met in person for their February meeting and hope to do so in March.
- FF had a December party with musical entertainment. Lillian Boly and Patty Murray did an excellent presentation on the Electoral College in January. They are getting ready for a potluck and silent auction in March.
- KWG heard a good presentation from Kay Meyer and Nancy Hutchins on DEI.

- STC had to cancel their February meeting but plans to meet next week in person with a native American speaker; everyone is invited.
- STL had an in-person meeting at Sue Barley's in December, attended by an AAUW fellowship winner and a CAP grant winner. The January meeting was a kickoff of their work on the Votes-for-Women Trail Project. The February meeting was a panel on Gender Pay Equity: Updates and St. Louis City Actions with Ellen, Pat Shores, and Jan Scott, with input by Sue Shineman and Karen Francis. The movie group meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month and will discuss *Official Secrets* available on Netflix on February 28.

#### Spring Luncheon Fundraiser – Deb McWard, Chair

The committee decided not to ask for proof of vaccination, but masks will be required. The tables are spaced generously. If there's another surge, we will postpone the event; if we cancel, we will lose our deposit. There won't be a lot of time to purchase raffle tickets and puzzle pieces; please encourage members to have checkbooks and cash ready. The Queens of Swing are professional musicians, some having played with the symphony. They are a popular group with many bookings for this year already.

Ellen Irons reported that there are seven \$50 gift card sets for the raffles, and that posters have been created for each. Every branch will help sell raffle tickets and NCCWSL puzzle pieces. Nancy requested information for Facebook.

The Barbara Lackritz honorees will be introduced in branch alpha order and will be invited to the podium. Ellen reminded everyone that branches should send in a reservation for their honoree to Carol. Branches are responsible for celebrating their honoree at a different time. There will be a program with bios. Deb will have certificates and flowers. Awardees are Joyce Katz (BC), Jeanne Webdell (KWG), Carolyn Herkstroeter (FF), Pam Kulp (STC), Sue Barley (STL). Teri Brecht will take individual photos when they are awarded and group pictures of previous and current winners at the end of the program.

#### Continue Zoom Meetings? – Deb McWard, Chair

Should we consider having in-person meetings in the warm months? At this point, no public places are allowing meetings in person. Zoom is a good way for this group to meet. It was suggested to let the next set of officers determine how to meet. We will plan for the May meeting to be by Zoom.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### IBC Administration – Deb McWard

AAUW dues will increase \$5 next year.

We should officially declare the name of our organization; our name appears multiple ways on websites, guidelines, flyers, and minutes. Carol pointed out that National wants us to always use AAUW at the beginning of our branch name (i.e., AAUW Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch). Motion by Jan Scott, seconded by Mary Jermak, that we make AAUW Metro St. Louis Interbranch Council our official name.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.** It was agreed that "IBC" may be used when everyone knows what we're talking about such as in a subject line. Please make sure your correspondence and publicity are consistent with this.

A group consisting of Pat Shores, Deb McWard, and Barb Johnson will work on a guidelines review.

Deb suggested that we again consider using a digital registration tool such as Eventbrite or PayPal. Although we do not have many events, something like Paypal would have been helpful for the gift-wrapping project and for raffle sales. Deb will ask Chris Nobbe to research it and make a presentation to us.

#### Public Policy – Karen Francis

The Equal Pay Day date has been difficult to confirm because several dates have been referenced – March 15, April 2, and April 12. Branches are doing things such as a doughnut sale and charging men more than women. Pat has a list of the equal pay dates for various groups of women (black women, Asian women). She sent this info to Sue Shineman to forward to branch presidents. It was suggested that we publicize the date and in connection with that, the successful outcome of the equal pay lawsuit by the USA women's soccer team.

After the meeting note from Marsha Koch: An email from AAUW MO President Sue Shineman, stated that "According to information on a call yesterday with AAUW National, Equal Pay Day is March 15, 2022." (The actual date is determined by a calculation based on men's wages vs. women's wages from 2021. See [pay-equity.org](http://pay-equity.org).)

#### College/University – Karen Francis

We are pushing to have more schools become CU partners and need a regional coordinator so that, as schools sign on, someone is coordinating who will work collaboratively with that institution. KC and mid-Missouri are looking at this. Not every branch has the membership to do this.

We need a game plan and to identify what we want from the colleges and what they want from us. Ellen suggested that we ask Marsha to set up an online sign-up sheet so that members can indicate University areas of interest and contacts. Karen will reach out to Marsha to design a spreadsheet.

#### Votes for Women Trail Project – Pat Shores

The Columbia Branch has a committee of six working on this. Ellen of St. Louis Branch has done some research on existing sites and created a map of those. They have identified a lot of names in the city, and anyone from any of the branches can help with research. Pat reported that there are four sites/individuals in MO being memorialized with markers, and she is hoping we will be able to support the installation of the markers at the two St. Louis locations: The Golden Lane, 2100 Locust (now the Schlafly building) and Virginia Minor's home at 2600 block of Olive (now Providence Counseling). The other sites are in Kansas City and in Maryville. The markers should be here in March.

#### Gender Pay Gap Project – Ellen Irons

There are quite a few AAUW members of other branches who live in the city, and Ellen would like to know if they would like to be part of the St. Louis City Gender Pay Gap Inquiry with Mayor Jones of the City of St. Louis. Several names were offered: Debra Knox Deiermann (FF), Sage Taber (BC), and Sue Barley (STL) live in the city.

Pat Shores reported that three branches – Boonville, Joplin, and Ballwin-Chesterfield\* – have met with their city officials regarding the gap project, and the city officials have been very receptive to reviewing their records. \*Members of the Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch who live in Eureka met with Eureka city officials.

Pat also noted that there are four bills having to do with the gender pay gap that have been assigned to committee but warned to not expect anything to happen.

Bookmarks – Jan Scott

The bookmarks are done. She will pick them up and have 200 for each branch at Swing into Spring.

NCCWSL – Deb McWard

BC is sponsoring two students from the University of Health Sciences & Pharmacy. IBC has one applicant so far from Webster University for the IBC award. We have been in contact with Wash U, and they are spreading the word about our scholarship. Deb proposed that we use up to \$1,000 of the NCCWSL budget to offer either full packages (6) or multiple half days. Should we receive more applications than \$1,000 would cover, the selection committee can determine what to do. Motion by Ellen Irons, seconded by Pat Shores, “use up to \$1,000 of the NCCWSL budget to offer either full packages or multiple half day scholarships.” **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

New AAUW Website – Deb McWard

Apparently the instructions for logging into the new website were not received before some members tried to log in. Karen has communicated with Angie Cooper at National. Deb added that, per Sue Barley, changes are being implemented in phases.

Missouri in Motion Articles – Mary Jermak

The next issue will be after the state meeting in May. Mary will email everyone the deadline date to submit articles.

Calendar and Announcements

The St. Louis Branch, in charge of fundraising at Swing into Spring, would like a person from each branch to walk around before, during, and after lunch to sell raffle tickets, 50/50 tickets, and puzzle pieces. Registration for Swing into Spring closes March 12.

Karen reminded everyone that the Woman of Distinction Award will be given annually. April 1 is the deadline for nominating your branch member. Please consider nominating someone.

The next IBC meeting is May 24 by Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 pm.

Minutes prepared using notes from Carol Davis McDonald and listening to the Zoom recording.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marsha Koch*

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