

Venice AAUW Board Meeting Minutes – October 3, 2023, – via Zoom

Present: Bobbie Amero, Nancy Brex, Debbie Blackwell, Marge Collin, Paula Dulski, Jan Harris, Susan Hotzler, Joyce Mikulski, Jo Rahaim, Wendy Seeley, Pam Swarts, Bev Weltzien, Lynda Weston

Meeting called to order 10:00 AM.

Minutes of September 5, 2023, were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's report was presented and approved.

Co-Presidents announced that Nancy Savenko has been appointed as the Assistant Finance Director.

Chair reports

Vice President – Joyce Mikulski

Joyce and Pam Swarts attended the first game of the VAAUW-sponsored women's fast pitch softball team. Joyce shared the team's game schedule and suggested VAAUW members attend the October 26 game at 7:00 PM at Wellfield Park.

Joyce continued to research the purchase of polo shirts with the new VAAUW logo. The cost per shirt is estimated at \$25-\$30. The board will pay the set-up fee. Joyce will report on pricing based on the number of shirts ordered. The price per shirt was suggested to be kept at \$30 (\$32 for XXL and \$33 for XXXL) with any profit going to the scholarship fund.

Pam Swarts made a motion to order the polo shirts. Wendy Seeley seconded the motion. It passed unanimously. Joyce will report on pricing based on the number of shirts ordered.

There is a skill set available for new members to complete during the application process. It has been successfully used by our Nominating Committee. Joyce will prepare a separate list for each skill to be used as needed in our initiatives.

Community Involvement

Jan Harris stated this initiative will be introduced by Kathleen Pickering at our November branch meeting. Dee Glatz will discuss volunteer opportunities at the Women's Resource Center at our November branch meeting.

Membership – Marge Collin

Two members added in the past month.

Work continues revising the membership form and the welcome letter.

Nancy Brex will interview new members and write their bio for Venice Views.
New directories will be distributed at the October meeting.

Media

The October newsletter has been distributed and sent to Cheryl Bonds at National for posting on our website.

Information about the speakers for the October branch meeting has been submitted to Venice Mainstreet.

Development – Cynthia Bioteau

A committee has been formed for the RBG event on Sunday, January 14, 2024, at the Venice Art Center. A maximum of 150 tickets will be sold on-line only. One corporate sponsor has been confirmed: Luanne Woods. Another sponsor is desired, specifically an attorney.

Co-chair Trena Kelly has selected 4-5 potential homes on Venice Island for the Home Tour in February.

Paula Dulski made changes/updates to the Giving Challenge site. Cynthia will attend the 2024 Giving Challenge Kick-off webinar in November.

Education – Wendy Seeley.

The reception for our scholarship recipients will be Monday, November 20, 2023, 4:00-6:00 pm, Café Venice. Members can sign-up and purchase a \$25 ticket at the November 9, 2023, branch meeting. Wendy to contact Carol Newman (a VAAUW member) to speak about Tech Trek at the March 2024 meeting.

Programs – Pam Swarts

League of Women Voters will make a presentation at the October branch meeting. Researching the use of electronic devices, i.e., cell phones, for program evaluations immediately after presentations.

Public Policy – Debbie Blackwell

Debbie described a new initiative called SWARM. It is a call to action in response to Florida legislative actions. It is an opportunity for individuals to give immediate feedback on pending legislation. Debbie will draft a document describing how to contact elected officials. Pam Swarts made a motion to participate in SWARM. Marge Collin seconded the motion. It was passed.

SIGS – Lynda Weston

Upcoming SIG events were announced. Sign-up sheets will be provided at branch meetings for upcoming SIGs. SIG leaders will attend the November branch meeting to discuss their programs and increase program awareness and participation.

Old Business

Paula Dulski has completed the telephone tree. She will add the two new members.

New Business

Nancy Savenko contacted the Venice Police Department and/or Sheriff's Department for a future presentation sponsored by VAAUW. It will be open to the public.

Announcements

Joyce Mikulski will chair the October 12, 2023, meeting. It will be available via ZOOM.

Jo Rahaim made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:53 AM. Marge Collin seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Jo Rahaim, Secretary