

VAAUW Board Meeting Minutes
November 5, 2024, 9:30 AM EST
Gulf Coast Community Center

Bev Weltzien called the meeting to order at 9:10 AM

Announcements

Jan accepted the following new appointments:

Char Turczyn has resigned as Program Director and Lynda Weston has agreed to accept that position. In turn, Hilda Dillman will manage the SIGs.

Motion to accept Lynda as Program and Hilda as SIG Chair made by Bev and seconded by Joyce. No discussion and motion passed unanimously.

Minutes

See attached.

A motion was made by Lynda and seconded by Bev to accept the meeting notes from the October 1, 2024, board meeting. No discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Finance

Report attached.

Bobbi Amero pointed out a \$100 balance designated for the wine tasting tickets. Cynthia suggested we keep it on the books for the April event.

Marge moved that the finance report be accepted. Seconded by Joyce. Approved unanimously.

Membership

Report attached.

Marge Collin passed around new member brochures for review. It was suggested that we check with National to see if there were more materials we could use. It was also suggested that perhaps we get a sticker to put on the membership folders.

Marge will pursue.

Education

Report attached.

Wendy Seeley has distributed Tech Trek materials to 11 schools but only received about three results. Discussion ensued about ways to get the schools excited about and willing to promote Tech Trek. Also discussed ways to get the information to the parents/schools/teachers without putting a burdensome demand on the Education Director.

Suggested a posting on our Facebook page.

There was a discussion on funding; how much, how to allocate, and how to designate in the budget. It was suggested that we consider a large education fund that we could draw on as needed. There was discussion on various types of funding and allocation. Bobbi advised that we have certain reporting requirements under our 501C status.

Joyce made a motion to fully fund Tech Trek for 2025 and seconded by Bobbi. It passed unanimously.

Cynthia suggested using a percentage type allocation. Joyce indicated we need to table the discussion and look at designating home tour funds for more than scholarships. More discussion around funding and money.

Bev suggested we form a committee to take a comprehensive look at education funding amounts and sources. Cynthia will lead an ad hoc committee with the goal to review and explore all scholarship options.

Programs

Report attached.

Lynda Weston will have a sub-committee for set-up/refreshment.

Lynda outlined needs for first meeting.

Volunteers are in place to take the reservations and collection money for the Holiday Party. Silver Foxes will dance but due to the floor composition will not tap. Discussed the format of the upcoming general meeting. Presidents will open with a welcome. Lynda will take restaurant count and introduce speaker. Half an hour allocated for the speaker followed by a quick business meeting. Meeting to adjourn around noon followed by lunch.

Debbie asked about doing a post-carding event at the meeting to supporting the ERA. Lynda responded there will not be enough time to do this at our first meeting.

Decision made to fill out and mail during the break.

Holiday party is Wednesday, December 11, the Hotel Venezia. Cash bar available.

Bobbi Amero and Kathleen Pickering will be responsible for the clothing drive to benefit the Women's Resource Center. Susan Hotzler will contact WRC.

Discussed how to handle those who do not pay for tickets next Thursday. Agreed to allow members to make reservations by sending check and food choices to the PO Box. Bobbi will monitor P.O.

Instead of adding the cost of a dessert, volunteers from the board would buy/make treats and take them to Bev's home to be packaged by Sunday, December 8. Cook's Corner may also participate. Bobbi will ensure the restaurant does not charge us taxes for the luncheon.

January 9, 2025, meeting: USF education program - Ellerbrock

February Home Tour

March 15 no plans to date.

Joyce requested a half-hour for a DEI segment. It is part of our long-range plan.

Jan introduced idea about revisiting the rowing team.

A discussion about branch voting policies to get membership involved in branch management. Agreed to table.

Bobbi suggested we consider a change in funding as a good example of involving the entire membership in the discussion.

SIGs

Report attached.

Hilda Dillman has a sign-up sheet for each SIG ready for the next meeting. A leader is needed for Mah Jong. She has a list of the players who may want to participate.

Development

Cynthia Bioteau reported the November 11 wine tasting fundraiser has been postponed until April 9, 2025, due to the recent hurricanes.

Thankfully, the 4 Home Tour homes are still available, with visits by the committee occurring soon. Patti Warner, chair, will give a detailed report to the Board at the 11/5/24 meeting.

Home Tour report attached.

Vice President

Report attached.

Joyce Mikulski stated there is no little league because of damage to fields from the hurricanes.

April 7, 2025, board retreat will have the same speaker/facilitator. We will revisit our previous goals. The retreat will be 9:30 to 3:00. The old and new board will participate.

Shirts available at next meeting. Want to recruit a person to take over the shirt sales.

Reviewed Women's Resource Center Facebook page. We can gain from their resources - we should be more familiar with their offerings.

Media

Report attached.

November 15 is deadline for Venice Views (VV). Nancy Brex is editor. She will continue to do one-on-one training on our Facebook Page and our website.

Everything for Venice Views needs to go to veniceviews@gmail.com

Susan Hotzler said there is no update on brochure.

Bev sent information to Media directors on how to make VV a marketing tool. The goal is to convert our newsletter not only for general membership reading but for use as a marketing tool.

Bobbi and Susan to work on getting home tour on Venice Mainstreet.

Public Policy

Report attached.

Debbie Blackwell is waiting for results of general election. Currently working on solid/non-controversial topics like ERA and environment.

Old Business

Policy and Procedures to be shared at the general meeting for a vote - Bev needs to add more description to present to membership.

Joyce, Nancy, Bev gave update on website retention. Have some issues with what to keep, what to discard, what to print, and utilize what we have.

New Business

Jan & Bev discussed 5 Star Award. Bev stated we are an exemplary group and that we could be an example. For many reasons we do not want to participate. But will consider it next year.

Joyce made a motion that we do not participate, seconded by Cynthia and passed unanimously.

50th Anniversary Celebration - Jan

In 2025 AAUW will look for programs that will be put on by City of Venice City.

Will need to decide if we want to participate as AAUW Venice branch. Both City of Venice and AAUW Venice Branch are celebrating its 50-year anniversary.

Bea Holt's Leadership Review Bev

Student Leadership Program - Susan

Nickwhistle is being discontinued.

Adjournment

Cynthia made a motion to adjourn, and Lynda seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Marge Collin

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board Meeting Dates: 9:30 am - Gulf Coast Community Foundation

December 3, December 31, January 28, March 4, April 1, April 29, and June 3.

New and Outgoing Board in July

General Meeting: November 14, 2024 - Open at 10 am, meeting starts at 10:30 am, United Church of Christ (Second Thursday of each month, except February)

Holiday Luncheon - Hotel Venezia, December 11, 2024, 11:00 am.