

VAAUW Board Meeting December 3, 2024

Meeting called to order by Co-President Bev Weltzien at 9:47 AM.

Two members attended via Zoom: Joyce Mikulski and Jo Rahaim

Minutes from November 5, 2024, board meeting were approved.

Finance

Balance sheet attached.

Bobbi Amero stated the balance dropped by \$10,000 with transfer of funds to USF for scholarships.

Gulf Coast Community Fund has a balance of \$32,950.38 as of October 31. We only can receive a small amount each year from the Fund. The amount was added the scholarship fund to bring it up to \$12000 that was distributed this year. The funds are invested and we see around a 3% growth last year.

President's Report

See attached.

Vice-President

Joyce Mikulski stated polo shirts need to be ordered ASAP. A price increase will occur after this order. Wendy will be selling shirts at the Holiday Party.

Board retreat is scheduled for April 7, 2025, at the Gulf Coast Community Center.

Media

A sample of the trifold brochure was shared to get feedback from board members.

Nancy Brex will prepare and distribute the January 2025 newsletter. Marge Collin will serve as a back up for Susan Donovan for eblasts.

Development

See attached report.

Cynthia Bioteau reported home tour tickets are now available. None of homes had damage from the hurricanes. The owners of the home on 320 Corelli Drive will be the program at the February meeting. PEN newsletter to include an article about the home tour.

The postponed wine tasting event will be April 9, 2025

Membership

Marge Collin reported the current membership count is 134. Discussed investigating the possibility of forming a partnership with other like groups.

Public Policy

Debbie Blackwell reported 40 postcards were sent to President Biden imploring him to have the National Archivist to certify the Equal Rights Amendment.

Developing a survey to send to members to see what topics are important to them. Will share survey with other Public Policy directors in FL. This is being done for use at lobby days in late March. Trying to arrange a visit with Vern Buchan to discuss issues important to AAUW.

Programs

Lynda Weston asked for feedback on the new space for the monthly meetings. March speaker will be Carrie Seidman, former reporter from Sarasota Herald Tribune.

May 8 meeting will be Venice Chamber of Commerce to discuss events for the 100 Anniversary of Venice.

April 10 meeting will have a "help with your computer" session to learn log-in to AAUW website. The meeting will include induction of new officers and a DEI activity. The session will be held before the meeting at 9:00 AM.

Special Interest Groups (SIG)

Hilda Dillman reported Barbara Swartz expects to have the first Mah Jong group in January. She's working on the date and location.

Hunger Games' response has been very slow, and as a result Gail DeVet cancelled the December meeting activity. Plan to determine if there is more interest in January.

Education

See attached report.

Wendy Seeley mentioned an article in SUN and Gondolier newspapers about Tech Trek. She shared the article with Sue Sloan, the FL state lead for Tech Trek.

Old Business - None

New Business - None

Announcements

Jan shared news articles about SCF programs, Joy Mahler's retirement and FIERCE featuring women in Sarasota County.

Motion to adjourn by Cynthia Bioteau and seconded by Lynda Weston.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Hotzler

