

## **Venice AAUW Board Meeting Minutes – April 2, 2024**

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

Meeting called to order at 9:35 AM by Co-presidents, Jan Harris and Bev Weltzien.  
Minutes of March 5, 2024 submitted for review and corrected.

### **Treasurer's Report – Bobbi Amero**

Total liabilities plus total equity is \$60,126.90.

Discussed pros & cons of a 501c4 and charitable foundation nonprofit designation.

### **Chair reports**

#### **Vice President – Joyce Mikulski**

- Strategic Planning Committee Meeting will be on April 25 at 10 am.
- Branch Meeting, May 9, will include a short diversity video followed by a diversity group activity.
- On March 28, eight members attended the Girls' Fastpitch Softball Team game. Lynda Weston moved that \$900-\$990 is a line item in the 2024-25 budget for next year's team sponsorship. Seconded by Debbie Blackwell. Motion passed.
- Ten more polo shirts have been purchased and ordered.
- The Community Involvement Committee met on March 19. Their conclusions:
  - Women's Resource Center: organize a clothing drive twice a year.
  - Publicize WRC workshops in our newsletter that our members could attend.
  - Dee Glatz will seek a contact person at WRC to introduce Start Smart/Work Smart program.
  - USF. Sip and Chats will start again in the fall. Start Smart/ Work Smart will be discussed with Caitlin as an online opportunity or a campus presentation.
- The possibility of AAUW fellowships from AAUW National will be investigated.

#### **Membership – Marge Collin**

- Cathy Harvey, joined as a new member. As of 2/1/24, there are 137 members.
- New Member Reception is on April 23 at the home of Suzanne Biviano.

#### **Programs – Pam Swarts**

- April 11, 2024, 1:30 PM. Anna McClain presentation, Venice Jervey Library
- May 9, 2024, 10:30 AM. Installation of new officers, DEI program, Jervey Library
- An outing to USF may be scheduled in June.

#### **Media – Nancy Brex and Susan Hotzler**

- April Venice Views sent on March 25. Susan is working on May Venice Views. A summer edition of Venice Views will be sent in June covering June, July, and August.
- Ann Saller is a new Venice Views editor.

#### **Development – Cynthia Bioteau**

- April 9-10 is the Giving Challenge. All donations up to \$100 will be matched by the Patterson Foundation. Our goal is 95% response rate from our membership. Paula Dulski assigned names to board members to call during the challenge. A special gathering will be at Paul's home on April 9 from 4:00-7:00 pm.
- Organizational planning has begun for the 2025 Home Tour. Marigene Witten and Patti Warner agreed to serve as the Co-Chairs, Sybil Hoffmeyer in charge of ticket sales, and Dee Collins on parking detail. An executive committee meeting will be held the last week of April. There are a few potential houses on Manasota Key.

#### **Education – Wendy Seeley**

- Tech Trek interviews completed. Seven applicants from our chapter were offered placement. The cost is \$8,400.
- Kristin Taylor, from GCCF, sent information that the scholarship portal will be open April 22 thru May 3. Bobbi Amero, Marge Ostrom and Dottie Bingman offered to serve on the scholarship committee.

#### **Public Policy – Debbie Blackwell**

- Debbie shared details on the Settlement Agreement with Equality Florida et al on 'Don't Say Gay' Bill.
- Debbie discussed creating a post-card to be mailed to Florida residents to vote in August and November to protect abortion up to 24 weeks.

#### **SIGS – Lynda Weston**

- Will attend the PEN conference.
- Movie Mavens and Hunger Games are the new SIGs. Walk and Talk has been dropped.

#### **Old Business**

- **Publicity and Membership.** A new membership brochure will be included in the overall discussion about publicity. Meeting is April 9, 9:00 AM at the Community Foundation.

#### **New Business**

- NCCWSL 2024 National Conference
- Lynda Weston moved that \$2,000 is in the budget to send two college girls to the NCCWSL leadership conference. Seconded by Jo Rahaim. Motion passed.
- Branch Meetings will be held at the Venice United Church of Christ, 620 Shamrock starting in the fall at no cost.
- Susan Hotzler moved to give \$500 to the Friends of the Venice Library as a thank you for the use of their conference room for our meetings. Seconded by Jo Rahaim. Motion passed. Bobbi Amero will cut the check to send to the library.
- Jan Harris created post cards about Anna McClean's presentation on April 11. Anna will be at the Farmer's Market on Saturday, April 6 with her boat to promote her program. Jan, and a group of volunteers, will distribute the post cards at the Market on Saturday.
- Bev circulated the invitation and program from the recent Venice Garden Club program. It was noted the schedule included a home-only tour.

Adjournment at 12:00 PM. Marge Collin moved to adjourn, seconded by Pam Swarts. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jo Rahaim, Secretary