

VAAUW Board Meeting March 4, 2025

Meeting called to order by Co-President Jan Harris at 9:37 AM

Minutes from January 28, 2025, board meeting were approved upon a motion by Jo Rahaim, seconded by Joyce Mikulski.

Presidents' Report

The meeting began with a report from the nominating committee: Paula Dulski, Susan Donovan, and Joan Kieran. The proposed slate of board members for 2026-2027 are: Joyce Mikulski (President), Susan Donovan (Secretary), and Paula Dulski (Treasurer). A search continues for a Membership Chair. Kathy Black will swear in the new board.

Jan discussed the process to sanction/dismiss a member whose behavior has been problematic. Jan asked Marge Collin, as Membership chair, to meet with the unruly member, with a warning her membership may be terminated.

Finance – Bobbi Amero

Bobbi reported the Home Tour fundraiser totaled \$21,454.86. The biggest expense was printing. There was a problem with checks the bank could not process due to AAUW inaccurately written on the check. Overall, Bobbi has encountered issues with Wells Fargo bank concerning their fees and the current issue. She suggested the board consider changing banks.

A meeting to debrief the Home Tour with the fundraising chairs will be on March 5, 2025.

Vice-President- Joyce Mikulski

Joyce Mikulski summarized the schedule for the board retreat on April 7, 2025, at the Community Foundation offices in Venice. The meeting will start with listing our successes and areas needing improvement. The goals of the retreat are ways to increase member engagement, increase scholarship applications for women returning to college, and Tech Trek students. Current board members are asked to review their job position prior to passing on the responsibility to the new member.

Miss Venice Slow-pitch team began their spring season. Joyce attended their first game adding they were enthusiastic about their new t-shirts with the AAUW emblem. Joyce plans to encourage members to attend the game on April 29, preceded by dining together.

Media

Susan Hotzler reported the Venice Views has been challenging to manage due to the size of the document. The difficulty may be using Google Docs to publish the newsletter. The newsletter's future should be discussed since many members report they do not read it. An issue could be the older members do not have computer skills, and basic computer training may be offered.

Susan to send an e-blast for the upcoming Mix & Mingle and the wine tasting fundraiser.

SIG- Hilda Dillman

A new chair for Euchre is needed.

Discussed the issue of SIG leaders making changes/restricting participation size without discussing it with the SIG chairperson.

Membership-Marge Collin

The new member reception is on March 25, 2025. Mentors for new members is currently a work-in-progress.

A new membership chair will be needed since Marge is moving to Oregon by _____

Public Policy-Debbie Blackwell

Not present.

Programs-Lynda Weston

The featured speaker for the March 13 general meeting is Carrie Siedman, a renowned speaker, and former columnist for the Sarasota Herald-Tribune.

Lynda will not continue managing the book club effective May 12, 2025.

Education

Tech Trek interviews will be conducted on March 8 for two candidates. The cost of tuition is \$1,300 each.

It has been a challenge to identify scholarship candidates in general. This will be a major goal for the next Education chair.

Old Business

A reminder about the board retreat on April 7, 2025, and the state regional conference on April 17, 2025.

Home Tour chairs and volunteers will be honored.

New Business

None.

Susan Hotzler made a motion to adjourn at 11:35 AM and seconded by Lynda Weston.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Rahaim, Secretary