

AAUW Venice Branch Minutes – April 10, 2025

Location: Venice United Church of Christ - 620 Shamrock Rd, Venice, FL

Bev Weltzien called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM.

Jan Harrris presented a video on “Stop Hate” as our moment of Civility.

Branch meeting minutes of March 13, 2025 and the March treasurer’s report were previously approved.

Marge Collin Membership Director, reported the new members reception was successful with many new and old members in attendance.

Cynthia Bioteau, Development Director, thanked Leona Crosskey for opening her beautiful home for the Wine Tasting fundraiser on April 9. The net profit is anticipated to be \$2,500.

Vice President Joyce Mikulski encouraged members to attend the Miss Venice Fastpitch Softball game on April 29, 2025 at Wellfield Park. Members can enjoy a pre-game meal at 6:00 PM at Assaro’s Restaurant. Wear your VAAUW polo shirt.

Wendy Seeley will order new polo shirts when 6 orders are received.

The October branch meeting’s focus is using technology to access VAAUW website. Our membership directory is updated regularly at venice-fl.aauw.net, “Members Only” tab, Password: VeniceViews.

SIG Director, Hilda Dillman mentioned signing up at the meeting for upcoming events. Movie Mavens is now called Movie/Theatre Mavens and will offer both movie and theatre performances. Cooks Corner will meet on April 16 at the home of Debbie Blackwell. RSVP to Joan Kiernan.

Debbie Blackwell, Public Policy Director, stated our role as AAUW members is to discuss policies, not politics in a public forum. Our focus is on lobbying. Attendance is encouraged at “Stop the Attack on our Public Education”, April 26, 2025, 9:00-3:00 PM at the Unitarian Universalists Church, 3975 Fruitville Rd., Sarasota.

Old Business

Kathy Black conducted the installation of the 2025-27 board members:

Joyce Mikulski – President

Cindy Sproehnle – Membership

Susan Donovan – Secretary

Nominating Committee – Susan Hotzler and Joan Kieran

Outgoing board Jan Harris, Bev Weltzien, Marge Collin, Bobbi Amero, and Jo Rahaim, were thanked for their service. Bev and Jan made a special presentation to honor our outgoing board members.

New Business

The attending members took a vote to continue the Holiday Luncheon. It is December 4, 2025 at Pelican Pointe Golf and Country Club.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:34 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Rahaim Secretary