

## AAUW MINUTES FROM MARCH 11, 2013 COUNCIL MEETING

**Members Present:** Natalie Markin, Judy Prono, Dorothy Shaner, Maryjane Giesler, and Ginny White

The business meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by co-facilitator Judy Prono. Minutes from the January 22, 2013, Council meeting were approved as moved by Natalie Markin and seconded by Dorothy Shaner.

**Facilitator's Report:** Judy encouraged everyone to complete the AAUW Annual Member Survey online; it only takes about ten minutes. She also urged everyone to check out the new AAUW logo and website format at [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org). She announced that AAUW is now a strategic partner with the Clinton Global Initiative, whose goal is to create and implement solutions to the world's most pressing challenges; being a sponsor of CGI University will expand AAUW's campus leadership programs.

**Treasurer/Membership Report:** In Mona's absence due to rotator cuff surgery, Natalie reviewed the financial report for January/February 2013 (attached). The account balance as of 12/31/12 was \$2,840.08. The proceeds from showing *The Invisible War* on 2/21/13 were \$160.00, which have been passed on to the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund.

According to the national website data base on 2/1/13, our branch has 62 members.

**Program Report:** The International Program on April 4 at 7:30 pm at Bethlehem Lutheran Church's Gibson Hall will begin with Helena Whyte's providing a short overview of the Great Decisions program and will feature Dorothy Shaner's talk on Burma/Myanmar. In addition to a fact sheet and map handouts, Dorothy's husband, John, has prepared a slide show of photos from their recent trip.

Marilyn Thayer is organizing the Spring Membership Tea on May 10 at 4 pm at Bethlehem Lutheran Church's Gathering Space. The program will feature Marilyn, Betsy Comly, Margo Batha, and Angela Coop, each discussing and reading from her favorite women writer.

On May 18 the Santa Fe branch will host a joint five-branch meeting at the Institute of American Indian Art with guest speaker Mary Carter, Executive Director of the Women's Intercultural Center in Anthony, NM. The spring *Roadrunner* has directions and instructions for making reservations for lunch at \$16.50.

**International Affairs Report:** As stated above, Dorothy is giving the talk for the April 4 International Program.

**AAUW Funds Report:** Judy reported that a total of \$665.00 has been collected in donations for the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund, \$160 in proceeds from the showing of *The Invisible War* and the remainder in donations. Our local branch had a total of \$2682 in AAUW Funds donations for 2012.

**College & University Representative Report:** Maryjane reported that approximately 30 people, mostly students, attended a very successful Smart Start workshop on Friday, March 1, led by Shelley Rossbach, Co-President AAUW-NM. Maryjane provided the morning refreshments; a motion was passed (moved by Natalie and seconded by Dorothy) to reimburse her for this food expenditure up to \$50.

Maryjane also has a strong candidate from UNM-LA, Santana Garcia-Chang, for a AAUW-NM NCCWSL (National Conference for Collegiate Women Student Leaders) Scholarship. Each year AAUW-NM awards three scholarships for graduate or undergraduate women to attend a three-day leadership conference. The scholarship covers the registration fee, lodging, and five meals. It does not cover transportation and incidentals. This year's conference will be held May 30-June 1 at the University of Maryland, College Park, and will feature Lydia Villa-Komaroff, the third Mexican American woman to earn a Ph.D. in the United States, and Rachel

Simmons, the acclaimed author of *Odd Girl Out: The Hidden Culture of Aggression in Girls*. The application deadline is March 15 and Santana's application has been submitted.

**Public Policy Report:** Nina is out of town.

**Publicity Report:** Dorothy will take care of publicity for the April 4 meeting, including notices to both the *Los Alamos Monitor* and the *Los Alamos Daily Post*. Judy also suggested listing appropriate branch events on the Chamber's website, [www.fyiLA.com](http://www.fyiLA.com).

Despite numerous flyers around both Los Alamos and White Rock and articles in both the *Monitor* and *Daily Post*, the attendance at *The Invisible War* was disappointing. Natalie expressed a concern that our branch supports and regularly attends League of Women Voter functions, but they don't seem to attend ours. She asks us to think about what we can do.

**State Programs:** AAUW-NM still needs a new chair for Public Policy as Dixie Trebbe has reached her term limits. Judy will post an announcement in our newsletter in case anyone is interested in serving.

The AAUW-NM Spring Convention is scheduled for April 19-21 in Carlsbad. Attending from our branch will be Natalie Markin, Helena Whyte, Cas Mason, and Judy Prono.

**Old Business:** Judy met with Nina Thayer and Mary Ann Lindahl to review the recommendations from the Nereson Memorial Committee. Natalie moved to accept the committee's recommendation: "The Nereson Memorial Committee recommends that the Los Alamos Branch of AAUW commit to raise funds in Jean Nereson's memory to be donated to the Los Alamos Public Schools' five elementary schools to be used for the purchase of library books, at least half of which are in the fields of social studies, world cultures, geography, and history. All books will contain a bookplate in honor of Jean and her more than 50 years teaching elementary school. The Nereson Family has agreed to match funds raised by the Branch up to \$20,000. Fundraising will be limited to the 2013 calendar year." The motion passed unanimously. Judy will tell Mary Ann to begin the process with the LAPS Foundation to create the designated fund. While AAUW will sponsor this project, the LAPS Foundation will administer it. **Natalie suggested that we announce the Nereson Memorial fundraiser at our Spring Tea; the committee would like to make the fundraiser the focus of our Fall Luncheon.**

Natalie has submitted Helena Whyte as our nominee for the Grace Barker Wilson Award (copy of application attached).

Rosmarie Frederickson's report on the Science Fair awards was in the March *Hilltopics*.

We discussed the revisions to the Branch Policies and Procedures, prepared by Helena and Judy. Judy will email the updated copy to everyone so we can vote to approve these at our April Council Meeting.

Judy reported that Helena has been working on the 2013/2014 slate of Council officers.

**New Business:** Natalie will submit our branch's application for the Marjorie Bell Chambers Ingenious Idea Award to Cas Mason before April 1. It will focus on our entire membership's efforts the last two December meetings in community outreach to assist women and families in Northern New Mexico who are in need; donations were made to the Crisis Center of Northern New Mexico and Self-Help, Inc. (Application attached.)

**Hilltopics Deadline:** March 22

**Next Coordinating Council Meeting:** Monday, April 29, at Ginny's home (1001 Oppenheimer #304, Phone: 695-2072)

**AAUW Dates to Remember:** 2013 AAUW National Convention, June 9-13, New Orleans (Helena is planning to attend)

**Other Community Dates to Remember:** Calefax Reed Quintet, April 7 at 4 p (LACA)

The meeting was **adjourned** at 9:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Virginia G. White

### **AAUW Minutes from June 5, 2013 Joint Council Meeting**

**Members present:** Natalie Markin, Maryjane Giesler, Mona Wecksung, Helena Whyte, Marilyn Doolen, Nina Thayer, Denise George, Jane Sherwood, and Judy Prono.

The business meeting was called to order at 7:25 pm by Co-Facilitator Natalie Markin. Minutes from the May 10 Spring Tea and Annual Business meeting were approved as corrected, with two additional corrections: fix typos in the spelling of Helena Whyte and Santana Garcia-Chang's names.

**Facilitator's report:** Natalie reported that the Supreme Court recently upheld a Maryland state law that requires police to take a DNA sample from anyone arrested for a felony. Jayann Sepich spoke at the April AAUW-NM convention about her family's mission to get such legislation passed in all 50 states after the rape and murder of her daughter Katie; such a DNA sample ultimately led to the identification and conviction of the man who assaulted Katie.

**Program report:** Nina initiated a discussion on how to plan programs for the coming year, noting that meetings met with mixed attendance results this past year. The best attended were the Fall and Holiday luncheons and the Spring Tea, which each drew up to 30 members/guests. By contrast, most evening meetings drew no more than a dozen or so. [In reviewing the minutes, Dorothy Shaner indicated that at least 20 attended her evening talk in April on Burma.] Helena Whyte noted that afternoon games drew the best attendance from the Title IX interest group this year. Several commented that for older members, evening meetings are problematic. And for our working members, weekend social events may have more appeal. Another suggestion was to limit the number of meetings to the six required by our bylaws. Nina will develop a brief survey to hand out at the Fall Luncheon to learn members' preferences.

Consensus was to hold the Fall Luncheon on Sept. 21 and to use it as a kickoff for the Jean Nereson memorial fundraiser. If possible, we would also have Santana Garcia-Chang speak about her experiences at NCCWSL, and special interest groups would announce their upcoming schedules and activities. A catered luncheon was favored, with Bob's Bodacious BBQ, El Parasol, and Hot Rocks suggested as possible caterers.

For other meetings, Natalie suggested we feature Big Brothers and Big Sisters of northern NM at our Holiday luncheon, and Nina indicated she would talk to Julia Brown (candidate for AAUW Vice-President) at the national convention about speaking to us, perhaps at a joint meeting with the Santa Fe branch. Brown now lives in Las Cruces.

There was also discussion on how to get more publicity for our programs. The *LA Daily Post* may be the better media option, particularly in light of Dorothy Gordon's article on Santana Garcia-Chang's talk at our Spring Tea. Submitting pictures of events may also be helpful in getting more press coverage. We should try to get an article in either the *LA Daily Post* or *LA Monitor* to publicize our Fall Luncheon.

Finally, Nina mentioned that the United Church recently installed an elevator to its second floor, where there is a library and meeting room that would be suitable for future Council meetings, should we want a centrally located venue.

**Membership report:** Mona Wecksung reported that 33 members have paid dues for the upcoming year. She will e-mail a dues reminder to members who have not paid.

**Treasurer's report:** Mona gave \$60 checks to Nina and Helena for the New Orleans Convention. They will each submit a brief write up on convention activities for the summer issue of *Hilltopics*. Expenses in May were \$75 for travel to the AAUW-NM convention in Carlsbad and \$75 to Santana Garcia-Chang to help defray her NCCWSL travel costs. Our checking account balance as of May 31 was \$2,582.34.

**Nominating Chair report:** We have not found a replacement for Helena as Nominating Chair. Suggestions of candidates included Rosmarie Fredrickson, Karen Roberts, Bev Cooper, and Chris Sierk. Helena will contact them about serving. Jill Forman has volunteered to be on the committee.

**AAUW Funds:** Judy reported that she did not receive any additional donations to AAUW-LAF in response to the PBS airing in May of *The Invisible War* documentary.

**Public Policy:** Judy noted that she wrote an op-ed article on the gender pay gap in response to a request from Deborah Swerdlow of national. AAUW is working with a consulting group, Media Forum, to get such articles in papers across the country on or near June 10, the 50th anniversary of passage of the 1963 Equal Pay Act. Judy will send a draft of her op-ed to Denise for the summer newsletter.

**Publicity:** Marilyn Doolen will check with Dorothy Shaner about getting publicity records from last year.

**College & University Relations:** Maryjane Giesler had nothing new to report.

**International Affairs:** Natalie mentioned two ideas for an international affairs program this coming year: have members talk about their recent travels or develop a program around a Great Decisions topic.

**Old Business:** Judy handed out copies of the latest revisions to our Policies and Procedures; revisions eliminated duplication with our Bylaws. After some discussion of how the Bylaws and Policies and Procedures differ, Nina moved the revisions to avoid repetition be accepted and Marilyn seconded the motion; the motion passed. Judy will send the revised Policies and Procedures to Denise George for posting on our website.

**New Business:** Discussion focused on filling Council positions for the coming year, with the following assignments:

Judy Prono, Facilitator & AAUW Funds

Mona Wecksung, Treasurer/Membership

Natalie Markin, International Affairs & co-Treasurer

Ginny White, Secretary

Nina Thayer, Programs

Marilyn Doolen, Publicity

Maryjane Giesler, College & University Representative

Unfilled positions: Public Policy, Diversity, Nominating Comm. Chair

Appointed positions: Jane Sherwood, Hospitality

Denise George, AAUW *Hilltopics*

Marilyn Minshall, Historian

Mona Wecksung explained the MANA del Norte scholarship that our branch has supported in the past and the letter she would like sent to members requesting donations to cover a \$1000 scholarship this coming year. The scholarship is for deserving low-income women in northern NM, and she serves on the selection committee.

Nina moved that the Council approve sending the letter to branch members, Judy seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. Mona will send the letter to Denise for e-mail distribution. (A copy of the letter is attached to the minutes.) Mona asked if she needs Council approval each year to request scholarship donations, and the consensus was that annual approval is required.

Natalie noted that we will need to review the proposed 2013-2014 budget at our next Council meeting.

#### **Upcoming AAUW Meetings**

- National convention in New Orleans, June 9-13.

- AAUW-NM Summer LTM in Santa Fe, July 20
- AAUW-NM Fall Workshop in Albuquerque, Oct. 12 (Lisa Maatz will be keynote speaker)

### **Hilltopics Deadlines**

- Summer issue—June 22 (to include national convention reports, Judy's pay gap op-ed, Aug. book groups, Aug. Out 'n about, and Fall luncheon date)
- September issue—August 17 (to include Fall luncheon details): deadline is before our next Council meeting

**Next Council meeting:** Tuesday, Aug. 20 at 7:15 pm at Marilyn Doolen's home (713 Meadow Lane)

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Prono

AAUW Minutes from September 24, 2013, Coordinating Council Meeting

**Members Present:** Judy Prono, Mona Wecksung, Maryjane Giesler, Natalie Markin, Nina Thayer, Marilyn Doolen, and Ginny White

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 pm by Facilitator Judy Prono. Minutes from the Coordinating Council meeting held August 20 (motion by Mona Wecksung with second by Nina Thayer) and the Fall Luncheon held September 21 (motion by Natalie Markin with second by Maryjane Giesler) were approved as submitted. There was discussion as to whether the Fall Luncheon General Meeting minutes can be accepted by the Coordinating Council or whether this must be done at the next General Meeting, which would be the Spring Tea. Judy will check on this when she attends the AAUW-NM Fall LTM.

**Facilitator's Report:** Judy has updated the Branch Officer List to include Rosmarie Frederickson as Nominating Committee Chair. She asked that we each look at the national website's new section called "Leader Essentials: Resources for AAUW Officers," which includes items for Membership (handout), STEM, Grants, Public Policy, and Fundraising. Judy also shared the (attached) article, "Happy 32 Years, Legal Advocacy Fund! Thanks for Making a Case for Women," which recounts the history of the Legal Advocacy Fund and how it was created in 1981 to support the Cornell 11 in their sex discrimination suit. She reported attorney Mollie Lam is the new LAF manager.

**Treasurer/Membership Report:** There are now 54 branch members, the newest being Barbara Seeger, who joined at Saturday's luncheon. As Mona read the names of the nine members from last year who have not yet renewed, Council members volunteered to make personal phone calls to encourage their renewals. One former member has moved out of state.

In an effort to clarify our actual income and expenditures against the new budget, Mona distributed FY 2013-2014 Budget as well as the Financial Report for August, which includes some carry-over items from 2012-2013 Fiscal Year. Since \$620.00 was collected for the Fall Luncheon and only \$473.86 spent, Nina Thayer moved that the branch give \$100.00 to the Jean Nereson Books Memorial and apply the remainder to JNBM expenses (such as advertising and postage). Natalie Markin seconded and the motion passed unanimously. **Nina and Judy** will write an article for the next newsletter to inform the membership of this donation as well as advising them that the luncheon ticket price was set to cover the cost of lunch for the eight Branch guests.

Judy Prono asked why we had the AAUW Funds account (current balance of \$835.77) and why that money wasn't given to national to support AAUW-funded programs. Natalie explained that paperwork on the account qualified it to LANL's satisfaction as a 501(c)3 account for receiving Lab donations made in recognition of the community service of Branch members who are former Lab employees. She will bring the paperwork to our next Council meeting, at which time we'll revisit the question of what to do with the money.

**Program Report:** Everyone agreed the Fall Luncheon was most successful with accolades going to Nina Thayer. There were 39 in attendance, 24 members and 15 guests. Three members who brought guests to the luncheon received an AAUW note pad. [The pads were part of a Branch order Nina placed with Shop AAUW that also included pens and pencils with the new logo.] A motion (made by Natalie/seconded by Nina) to use the remaining note pads and pencils for gifts to speakers at future Branch meetings passed unanimously. Contributions to the JNBM were \$2740.00 at the luncheon, with the LAPS Foundation reporting a total to date of \$5260.00. The committee had previously sent out 40 letters to potential donors. Further ideas for publicity for this project were discussed, and Marilyn Doolen will work with Mary Ann Lindahl and Judy Prono to get an article about it in the *LA Monitor*.

Nina reported she had 20 replies to the program survey distributed at Saturday's luncheon. She received two additional ones at this meeting, and she will submit the survey to Denise to be run in the next newsletter with a deadline for responses. Nina is compiling results to help guide planning for future programs. Responses from luncheon attendees favored Saturday programs with lunch featuring local authors, entertainment, international affairs, and women's health issues. Two luncheon attendees also volunteered to serve on Nina's program committee: Alana Weller and Ginny White.

November 2 will be a joint meeting with the Santa Fe branch at Gabriel's with Julia Brown, AAUW Vice-President, speaking on "AAUW—The Value Promise." As soon as Nina has all the information, she will contact Council officers, who have divided the 2012/2013 membership list and will call members to elicit RSVPs. Information will also be in the upcoming newsletter.

The Holiday Luncheon will be held December 7 at Rancho de Chimayo. Several options were discussed for the featured service organization and will be finalized at the next Council meeting.

**International Affairs Report:** Natalie Markin is working on a program for March.

**AAUW Funds Report:** Judy noted that in the Resources section on the AAUW website, there is a page on "Branch Fundraising Ideas: Old and New, Tried and True," which may be helpful in giving us ideas for this year's fundraiser. The *Roadrunner* reported that the Los Alamos branch is first in the state with \$2210.00 in contributions through June 2013.

**College & University Representative Report:** No report.

**Public Policy Report:** Judy reported that 2012 gender wage gap numbers released by the US Census Bureau show that the national gap remains at 23 cents/hour. New Mexico women are now at 80% (20 cent gap). Judy encouraged everyone to use the "user-friendly, easy with sample letters" Two-Minute Activist for writing (1) the Secretary of Labor, asking him to finalize the new compensation data collection tool that will ensure tax dollars are not going to federal contractors who are paying women unfairly, and (2) letters to the editor regarding the gender pay gap, which are read not only by the community but also by legislators. Nina stressed that numbers matter when AAUW staff meet with legislators, and using the Two-Minute Activist tool gives them such numbers.

**Publicity:** Marilyn Doolen has met with both Gina Schultz, Features Editor for the *Los Alamos Monitor*, and Bonnie Gordon of the *LA Daily Post* in an effort to increase media coverage of our issues and events.

**State Programs:** The Santa Fe branch is sponsoring an Expanding Your Horizons conference Saturday, October 5, at Santa Fe Community College, beginning at 9 am. Nancy Scheer and Nina Thayer are volunteering. The Fall AAUW-NM Fall Workshop and LTM will be in Albuquerque on Saturday, October 12. The workshop will focus on STEM projects, and state NCCWSL scholarship recipients will speak. The deadline for registration is October 1. Maryjane and Judy are attending.

**Old Business:** An e-vote was held in September to “support the Mesa Library's application to host the ALA's traveling exhibit “Dust, Drought, and Dreams Gone Dry” by facilitating a community discussion/discussions of *The Worst Hard Time* by Timothy Egan.” The motion was made by Ginny White and seconded by Nina Thayer. It passed with five ayes on 9/24/13. A copy of our letter of support is attached.

**New Business:** AAUW has launched a new “Shape the Future” membership campaign. Judy gave everyone a brochure to read for discussion at the next meeting.

**Hilltopics Deadline:** Denise will return on 9/29 and Judy will contact her about sending out the next newsletter. It needs to cover the November 2 joint meeting with Santa Fe, the holiday luncheon, JNBM update including the \$100 contribution from luncheon profits, and the branch's support for Mesa Library's ALA exhibit application. Nina will send Denise the program survey, and Mona will write an article on MANA del Norte contributions.

**Next Coordinating Council Meeting:** 7:15 pm, Tuesday, October 22, at Nina Thayer's

**AAUW Dates to Remember:** October 12 - AAUW-NM LTM in Albuquerque

**Other Community Dates to Remember:** 9/29, 4 pm: Canadian Brass (first LACA concert)

**Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Virginia G. White

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**Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Virginia G. White

### AAUW Minutes from November 14, 2013 Coordinating Council Meeting

**Members Present:** Judy Prono, Mona Wecksung, Maryjane Giesler, Natalie Markin, Nina Thayer, Marilyn Doolen, and Hilltopics editor Denise George. The meeting was called to order at 7:28 PM by facilitator Judy Prono. Natalie agreed to be the secretary for the meeting. Minutes from the October 22, 2013 Council meeting were approved as submitted.

**Facilitator's Report:** Judy reported that the new branch web site is up and running. Nina asked Denise if she could put a link, somewhere at the top of the website, to the most recent Hilltopics.

The next topic Judy addressed was the Tech Trek Camp NM that will be held in Las Cruces from 7/13-19/2013. It is aimed at girls entering the 8<sup>th</sup> grade and is planned in conjunction with the Young Woman in Computing at NMSU. The emphasis is on a STEM oriented curriculum, with girls attending daily math and science classes. The Las Cruces branch won an AAUW grant to help finance this endeavor The cost per girl is \$500.00, but each girl only has to pay \$50.00. The rest of the fee comes from the grant and from funds raised or donated by other

NM AAUW branches. Judy will contact the LANL foundation and RDC. RDC was suggested by Denise. Mona said that Mana del Norte has a fund to encourage young girls to go to college. She will contact them. However, Mana might restrict any funds they donate to be used for a Hispanic girl. Mona will contact Bonnie Eisenberg at 575-541-8443 in Las Cruces to see if this restriction is acceptable. Girls will be nominated by their math and science teachers, and the selected via a rigorous interview process. More information is available at [tehtreklc@gmail.com](mailto:tehtreklc@gmail.com).

**Treasurer/Membership Report:** Mona reported that we now have 59 members, including dual member, Millie Saxman. Nina asked what one had to do to go from a National Member, previously called a Member at Large, to a branch member. Mona advised that the person would have to pay the state and branch dues to her, which is \$22,000.

The checking account balance as of 10/31/13 was \$2,707.96 and the CD balance was \$1793.10. She also noted that the cost of renting the PO BOX went up from \$48 to \$54. She also received a check for \$2.00 from Carol Thomas. Carol said that she found the money in some AAUW Fund Raising material from a few years ago. Nina suggested that we deposit it to our account and list under the Miscellaneous Budget item, as there will be some expenses in connection with the JNBM (Jean Nereson Memorial Book XXXXX), such as the cost of bookplates.

**Program Report:** The Holiday luncheon will be at the Rancho De Chimayo on 12/07/13 from 11:30AM to 2:00PM, (Nina will confirm the time). The cost of \$15.00 will include the meal a non-alcoholic drink, tax and tip. We will have speaker from LA Cares, either Linda Burns or June Gladney as Rosmarie Frederickson the president of their board will be out of town. AAUW will pay for the speaker's lunch. Natalie will do this as Mona will be out of town. In Hilltopics Denise will say that we need an RSVP for the luncheon to Marilyn by 12/4. She will then contact the restaurant with a count of people attending. People will have to arrange their own car pools. After conferring with AAUW member Rosemarie, Nina proposed the following motion.

"I move that AAUW-Los Alamos ask our members to donate fresh fruit that can withstand several days of non-refrigeration (such as apples, oranges, clementine and pears) or cash at our Dec. 7 holiday luncheon. A committee will use the cash to purchase additional fresh fruit and prepare ~90 festive bags of various sizes, which will be delivered to LA Cares at Bethlehem Lutheran Church on Thursday Dec. 12 for their Dec. 12-13 distribution. This offer will be transmitted to LA Cares by letter."

Natalie so moved and the motion seconded by Marilyn. It passed unanimously. The discussion that followed was that fresh fruit is a luxury for the recipients of the LA Cares boxes, and would be a nice touch for the holidays. Nina will prepare a letter that Judy will edit to send to LA Cares with our intentions. Of course checks to LA Cares would be accepted, but that would just go into their already ample budget. Hence the council would prefer that people bring cash or fresh fruit as stated above. The cash may be given to Denise George. If you wish to write a check you can give it to Denise, made out to her, and she will convert it to cash to be used to purchase fruit. LA Cares will provide donation receipts to Denise, should you need one. She and Marilyn Doolen and Alhana Weller are a proposed committee of 3, (Nina will confirm), that will go to Smiths to purchase fresh fruit for distribution to the LA Cares boxes at BLC on 12/12 or 12/13 and create festive bags. Denise will take that home fresh fruit that is brought to the luncheon for distribution to the boxes.

Nina suggested that we invite our new members, Barbara Seeger and Rosmarie Alm to the luncheon. Natalie asked if we would pay for their lunch. The response was no, so Natalie suggested that we invite them to another function. Denise said we could encourage them to come, and offer a car pool.

The joint LWV and AAUW Legislative preview will be on January 8, 2014 at Fuller Lodge. Refreshment will be served at 6:30PM and the program starts at 7:00PM. AAUW member, Helena Whyte will moderate. Nina will provide an AAUW placard with our new logo to put up at the venue. AAUW will provide the refreshments, drinks will be provided by the LWV and AAUW will pay for ½ of the rental fee, probably \$60.00

Nina also reported on the Jean Nereson Books Memorial. The total current total is \$6,264. The Nereson Family is providing an additional \$10,000.00. Our goal is to reach at least a combined total of \$20,000.00 by the end of May 2014. A friend of Jean's, Selvi Viswanathan has donated 10 beautiful new children's books written and illustrated by her daughter, Divya Srinivasan. The JNBM committee, consisting of Nina, Nancy Scheer, Mary Ann Lindahl, and Judy Crocker

met with Joann Gillespie of LAPS, who is administrating the funds. Joann requested a memorandum of understanding. Nina presented the memorandum; Natalie moved that we accept it and the motion was seconded by Nina. It was approved unanimously. Judy will sign it and deliver it LAPS We are asking LAPS to distribute \$1000.00 to each of the 5 elementary schools in Los Alamos once each academic year beginning December 2013 and continuing until all funds are disbursed. We want 75% of the distributed funds to be used to purchase printed books, not digital media, and the rest, at the discretion of the school librarians may be used to purchase maps and posters. Nancy Scheer is looking into purchasing bookplates to put into each book. The Memorandum is attached along with a short description of Jean's Contributions to the community and others involved in the JNBM.

We then discussed a possible fund raising project to augment the JNBM fund. At the last council meeting Mona had offered to look into presenting for the public some sort of musical, play, poetry entertainment offering. She tried her previous contacts and few were willing to help. She will be out of town for a few months starting in December and is scheduling Knee replacement surgery for January. Hence she is stepping down as chair of the fund raising committee. Natalie suggested that we ask the Los Alamos Little Theater if they would donate a portion of their proceeds from a play of their choice to the fund. Nina will contact them as well as Kay Newman to explore other possibilities. Marilyn will contact Joan Brown and Ruth Williamson to see if they would be willing to perform a four hand piano recital. Judy contracted Louise Mendius, who is willing to help. Nina checked with Fuller lodge and both the first and second Friday's of April it is available for rental.

**International Funds Report:** Natalie reported that Cas Mason heard Ed Rau speak in Santa Fe about Afghanistan and initiated contact. Natalie sent him an e-mail asking for his credentials and a possible topic such as Afghanistan, the Arab Spring, Egypt, Iran etc. He sent her his very impressive credentials that included a tour of duty as a military attach'e at the U.S. embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan for 2 ½ years (1966-1968). He proposed a talk entitled "Furor in the Muslim World" that he will be presenting to another group. Judy asked that we find out to which group he will be talking. After some discussion it was decided that he should talk on a Thursday evening here in Los Alamos, after March 15. We will open the talk to the public and also use the "Shape the Future" tool from the membership tool kit, in an attempt to recruit new members. Judy will look at the cost of various venues that she gathered last year when we screened "The Invisible War" as an AAUW Fund raising project.

**Public Policy Report:** AAUW –NM Public Policy Chairs are looking for Lobby Corp volunteers. Judy will send Denise an article to put into the next Hilltopics. Judy asked Denise if we could post a link on our website to the state Public Policy Agenda. The current link goes to the National website. Denise will explore this.

**Publicity Report:** In December, Marilyn will contact the Los Alamos Daily Post regarding running an article on the JNBM fund, in the hope of raising more money.

**State Program:** Judy mentioned that this is the last year that the State will present the Terry Sleight Award, as there has been a lack of candidates in recent years. The deadline for nominations is 12/15/13. After bantering about a few names, we decided that we did not have a strong candidate and hence would not nominate anyone. January 26, 2014 is the winter LTM in Santa Fe in the afternoon.

January 27, 2014 is AAUW-NM Legislative day in Santa Fe

**Old Business:** Judy reported that she and Natalie would revise the bylaws in January. The revisions are mandatory from National. The deadline is May 2014.

Natalie was not able to locate the 501 C3 paper for our AAUW Funds account. Nina confirmed that it was not really a legal 501 C3. There was discussion of using the money for a named grant, perhaps ½ to the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund and ½ to LAF. We will discuss possible people to honor at a later date.

Rosmarie Frederickson is in need of judges for the Los Alamos County Science Fair to be held on January 25, 2014. Please call Denise George if you wish to volunteer. Marilyn Doolen has volunteered to judge the elementary school projects. Judy Prono and Ginny White have volunteered, and Denise will help, if she is in town. Alhana Weller may also help.

**New Business:** For the joint AAUW-LWV legislative Day the LWV is inviting a speaker from THINK NM to discuss jobs. Nina suggested that AAUW invite a speaker to address Pro-Choice/Pro Life issues in light of the upcoming 20 week

abortion issue on the Albuquerque ballot. She suggested contacting Susan Loubet's at the following website for New Mexico Women's Agenda:

<http://sos.state.nm.us/Lobby/NMWOA.HTM>. Another suggestion was to contact Gene Schmidt of LA Public Schools to discuss the new evaluation system for teachers, which has been a hot topic in the state. It was decided to pursue the latter.

**Hilltopics Deadline:** ASAP as Denise would like to get the newsletter out this coming weekend. She will include information about the Holiday luncheon on 12/07/13 at the Rancho de Chimayo, JNBM update, Lobby Corps call, and Branch Survey results.

**Next Coordinating Council Meeting:** Thursday, January 16, 2014 at Maryjane Giesler's.

**Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:55PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Natalie Markin

Council Member