

## **AAUW Minutes from January 16, 2014, Coordinating Council Meeting**

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 pm by Facilitator Judy Prono. Minutes from the Coordinating Council meeting held November 14, 2013 (motion by Maryjane Giesler with second by Nina Thayer) were approved as submitted.

**Facilitator's Report:** Judy Prono reported that she and Nina Thayer attended the AAUW-NM Legislative Preview on January 15 in Albuquerque with information presented by Dick Mason, VP for the NM League of Women Voters. Upcoming issues discussed included bills regarding private, online, for-profit charter schools as well as the bills proposed by Think New Mexico to encourage job growth.

Judy shared that on the national news this week Maria Shriver talked about her report "A Woman's Nation Pushes Back from the Brink," which deals with the gender pay gap and cites AAUW's research on this issue.

Updating our branch's participation in the Tech Trek Camp (discussed at the 11/14/13 Council meeting), Judy has prepared a press release, "STEM Summer Camp for Middle School Girls," that will run in the *LA Monitor* this week. She has also written a request, "Tech Trek: A STEM Summer Camp for Middle School Girls," to LANL's Community Relations Office (Carol Rutten) requesting \$1500 to help support the participating of three girls from Northern NM. Nina Thayer moved with Natalie Markin's second that we forward Judy's letter of request for funds to Carol Rutten. The motion was unanimously approved.

Judy read a thank you note from LA Cares for the fresh fruit baskets donated for their December food distribution. Denise George coordinated this effort of collecting \$400 that purchased 300 lbs of fruit that was then beautifully packaged for the families.

### **Treasurer/Membership Report:**

Natalie Markin reported our membership stands at 59 branch members, the same as same month. Twelve of our branch members are AAUW life members. Natalie read off the list of national members who are not branch members; Nina will contact a few of them that might also want to join the branch.

The checking account balance is \$2666.50. Recent expenditures include paying for our guest at the December luncheon at Rancho de Chimayo (\$15) and our half of the cost for Fuller Lodge for the Legislative Preview (\$86.50). A check for \$125 for the elementary science fair prizes will be written this week. The CD balance is \$1793.10, and the AAUW Funds account is \$835.80.

**Program Report:** The list of 18 who attended the Holiday Luncheon at Rancho de Chimayo on December 7, 2013, is attached to these minutes as is the thank you note for the fruit baskets from LA Cares.

Nina Thayer reported that there were approximately 50 people in attendance at the Legislative Preview, co-sponsored with the League of Women Voters, on January 8 at Fuller Lodge. Everyone agreed it was a successful and informative evening. Nina's brief announcement about the Jean Nereson Book Memorial netted a few more donations, bringing the fund to approximately \$18,000 at this point. Our goal remains to reach \$20,000.

Nina led discussion regarding planning for the March international affairs program with Ed Rau's talk "A Furor in the Muslim World." Preference was expressed for using the library on March 20 at 7 pm. Nina has already reserved the three connecting upstairs meeting rooms, which have a built-in screen, for 6:30-8:30 pm. There is no charge for the rooms since we opted not to serve any food. Natalie will contact Ed regarding this date and

time, the length of his talk, and his audio/visual needs. An alternate date is March 27 but would need to be a different location.

A program committee meeting will be held next week. The Spring Tea is already scheduled for May 16 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church's Gathering Space.

**International Affairs Report:** Covered above in the Program report.

**AAUW Funds Report:** Chair is vacant. Continuing the conversation begun at the November meeting as to what to do with the approximate \$836 in the AAUW Funds account, Judy asked that we review the list of Named Grant Recipients on our website so that we might decide at our next meeting whom we might recognize with named grants. Send recommendations to Judy via email.

**College & University Representative Report:** Maryjane reported that a Smart Start workshop will be held on February 28, 2014, from 9 am to noon. Smart Start intends to publicize this workshop to the community, hoping to attract a larger audience. They have asked our branch to help with refreshments for the break. It was decided that Maryjane use the \$25 designated in our budget for this. Since Shelley Rossbach is not available for that date, Elizabeth Rademacher is being trained as the workshop facilitator.

With the new semester at hand, Maryjane will begin publicizing the NCCWSL scholarship. Nina suggested she and Maryjane contact someone at Northern New Mexico to ensure they also have information to present to their female students.

**Public Policy Report:** Judy completed the AAUW online form regarding our co-sponsored Legislative Preview program.

**Publicity:** In Marilyn Doolen's absence, Judy reported she talked with Gina Schulz and the press release for the Tech Trek STEM Summer Camp will run in the *LA Monitor* next week.

#### **State Programs:**

Sunday, January 26: Winter LTM in Santa Fe (12-5:15 pm) Natalie, Helena, and Judy plan to attend.

Monday, January 27: AAUW-NM Legislative Day (9 am-12 pm, Roundhouse) Nina and Judy plan to attend.

Helena Whyte is to be nominated for state co-president.

NCCWSL scholarship deadline: March 15

**Old Business:** Natalie and Judy are reviewing the mandated Bylaw changes.

Judging for the AAUW-Los Alamos \$125.00 in \$5.00 prizes for the elementary division of the LAPS Science Fair is Saturday, January 25, by our team of Marilyn Doolen, Alahna Weller, Nina Thayer, Helena Whyte, and Judy Prono. This is our branch's February activity.

**New Business:** Judy reminded us of the upcoming Coordinating Council election in May. Maryjane, Ginny, Marilyn, and Judy will begin the second year of their terms. Natalie, Mona, and Nina will be up for reelection if they choose. Rosmarie Frederickson begins her second year as Nominating Chair.

**Hilltopics Deadline:** Judy will check with Denise.

**Next Coordinating Council Meeting:** 7:15 pm, Thursday, February 20, Judy Prono's, 670 Totavi

**AAUW Dates to Remember:** Spring Convention/Annual Meeting: Las Vegas, April 25-27

**Other Community Dates to Remember:** LACA concert: Joshua Roman, Cello: 7 pm, Friday, 1/24

**Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Virginia G. White

### **AAUW Minutes from February 20, 2014, Coordinating Council Meeting**

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm by Facilitator Judy Prono. Minutes from the Coordinating Council meeting held January 16, 2014 (motion by Natalie Markin with second by Maryjane Giesler) were approved as submitted.

**Facilitator's Report:** Judy gave an update from the AAUW-NM Winter LTM, which was attended by Helena Whyte, Natalie Markin, and herself. Helena Whyte volunteered to be the STEM representative for our branch. Most of the meeting consisted of a discussion by CESE and AFT representatives regarding education legislation. [Nina reported that one (the “portal” website for all the forms in one place) of the three Think New Mexico job bills passed.] This is the last year of the Terry Sleight Awards, which were given to Ruth Benjamins, Lina Germann, and Betty Walker Smith. Jean Patrick announced that tours of the new Women's International Study Center, limited to 20 members at a time, will be available on Saturday, 3/29, and Sat, 6/14, at 10 am. Nina arranged for the 3/29 date to be an Out 'n About for our branch.

The interviews for Tech Trek applicants will take place between March 10 and April 7. While there are approximately 50 nominees from northern New Mexico, there are no nominees from Los Alamos. After being nominated, the girls must then complete applications in order to be interviewed.

**Treasurer/Membership Report:** Our membership continues to stand at 59 branch members. Mona Wecksung presented copies of financial reports from November, December, and January. As of 1/31/14, the checking account balance is \$2,532.33. The CD balance is \$1793.10, and the AAUW Funds account is \$835.81.

**Program Report:** A program committee meeting was held on 1/23/14 with Nina Thayer, Chair, Judy Prono, Alahna Weller, and Ginny White. Goals for the remainder of the 2013-2014 were established: (1) fundraising to bring the JNBM to \$20,000, (2) membership drive, (3) mission-based programming, and (4) fun and entertainment as this ranked high on survey from our members. Numerous ideas for programs were brainstormed and are listed in the committee report. As requested, Nina has purchased local note cards from the Historical Museum Shop for speaker gifts. The following are the program plans for the next few months:

February 26: Out-n-About at Santa Fe Museum of Art (Nina Thayer)

March 20: 7 pm, Mesa Library, “Furor in the Muslim World” by Ed Rauer (Natalie Markin)

April 8: possible Equal Pay Day event using materials from AAUW (“The Simple Truth” brochure, handouts, and postcards to mail to legislators) After brainstorming during this council meeting, we came up with the idea for a “tabling” event rather than a Brown Bag luncheon meeting. Nina and Judy will check the community events calendar and work on further ideas to increase awareness of the gender pay gap within our community. This activity may not take place on April 8 but rather at a Farmers' Market or Arts & Crafts Fair or a Friday payday in the LANB lobby.

May 16: 4 pm, BELC, Spring Tea with “Around the World in 80 Minutes” program (Nina Thayer)

June 14: 2 pm, Oppenheimer Place Patio Room, *Books, Friends, Desserts* event to complete fund-raising for JNBM with guest speaker Stacia Lweandowski on early artists of Santa Fe (Ginny White)

Natalie will confirm with Ed Rauer that the March 20 meeting will begin at 7 pm with his talk beginning by 7:15. Nina will check on the overhead. Natalie will send publicity information to Denise George for the newsletter and to Marilyn Doolen for general dissemination. Natalie will introduce Ed. Council members should be there at 6:30 pm.

Nina reported the JNMB now has \$18,024. She showed two possibilities for the bookplates and suggested we ask for helping in paying for these from AAUW-NM. Nina moved that "AAUW-Los Alamos submit an application to AAUW-NM for a one-time branch project grant of \$100 to pay part of the cost of bookplates for the Jean Nereson Books Memorial books." Natalie Markin seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**International Affairs Report:** Covered above in the Program report – March 20 meeting

**AAUW Funds Report:** None

**College & University Representative Report:** Maryjane reported that the Start Smart workshop is 2/28/14 from 9 am–12 pm. There has been good publicity, including information on the UNM-LA website. Our branch is providing the refreshments. Maryjane is also promoting the NCCWSL scholarship, has identified a possible applicant, and has also contacted someone at Northern New Mexico with the information. The deadline is March 15.

**Public Policy Report:** Judy reported the class action case from "The Invisible War" was dismissed, but it has been appealed.

**Publicity:** No Report.

**State Programs:**

NCCWSL scholarship deadline: March 15

Spring Convention, Las Vegas, NM: April 25-27; \$50 registration fee covers all meals except the Saturday evening banquet; Friday LTM at the Student Union building, third floor, Highlands University, at 1 pm; Natalie, Helena, and Nina plan to attend.

**Old Business:** Continuing discussion from the past several months and considering a proposal from Judy Prono, the following motion was made by Ginny White and seconded by Mona Wecksung: "I move that we divide the approximate \$836.00 in our AAUW Funds account between two Named Grants: the first to honor Natalie Markin for her many years of branch service (on 19 Councils since 1993) and state service, and the second to honor Nina Thayer and her JNBM committee for their initiative and dedicated work in establishing a memorial that both honors Jean's legacy and significantly benefits our local schools." The motion passed unanimously. Natalie and Nina both selected the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund, #9170 which supports research such as the gender pay gap and why so few women are in science. It was decided to keep the account open and that \$400 will be given in each name. Judy and Mona will ensure this is handled properly.

Natalie and Judy have revised our Bylaws to include the changes mandated by national AAUW. Copies were distributed and reviewed. Heartfelt appreciation was expressed to Natalie and Judy.

Judy distributed a sheet with the AAUW Judging Results for the 2014 Los Alamos County Science Fair. On Saturday, January 25, Marilyn Doolen, Helena Whyte, Nina Thayer, Alahna Weller, and Judy Prono viewed 115 individual and class science projects, mostly involving 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders. AAUW-Los Alamos recognized two class projects with \$15 awards and 19 students with \$5 awards as well as congratulatory notes.

Rosmarie Frederickson has recruited Margo Batha and Jill Forman for the slate for Council positions for the May election. There is still room for one more nominee. Maryjane, Ginny, Marilyn, and Judy will begin the second year of their terms. Natalie, Mona, and Nina have agreed to be nominated for reelection. Rosmarie begins her second year as Nominating Chair.

**New Business:** At the LTM, it was mentioned that hosts and sites are needed for the summer and fall workshops. Judy will talk with Helena about our hosting one of these (rather than a state conference).

**Hilltopics Deadline:** Send information to Denise by 2/25. Natalie has already sent the information on the 3/20 meeting. Judy will send the information on the science fair. Nina will send an update on the JNBM and the Out-n-About tour to the Women's International Study Center.

**Next Coordinating Council Meeting:** 7:15 pm, Thursday, April 3, Marilyn Doolen's, 713 Meadow Lane

**AAUW Dates to Remember:**

Spring Convention/Annual Meeting: Las Vegas, April 25-27, 2014

AAUW Regional Conference: Reno, NV, June 6-8, 2014

**Other Community Dates to Remember:**

LACA Concert: Yolanda Kondonassis, harp, and Jason Vieaux, guitar: Sunday, March 16, 4 pm

**Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Virginia G. White

**AAUW Minutes from April 3, 2014, Coordinating Council Meeting**

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:38 pm by Facilitator Judy Prono. Minutes from the Coordinating Council meeting held February 20, 2014 (motion by Natalie Markin with second by Mona Wecksung) were approved as corrected.

**Facilitator's Report:** Judy sent our revised bylaws to national on 3/20/14; they are also posted on our website. The two named gift donations (\$800) for the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund have also been sent (3/21/14). Helena and Judy interviewed two Tech Trek applicants in Taos on 3/22/14; Judy is still following up on possible LANL funding for the camp. Mesa Library was awarded the ALA traveling exhibit "Dust, Draught, and Dreams Gone Dry" from January 7 to February 20, 2015, and our branch has a commitment to facilitate a community book discussion in support of the exhibit. Applications are now being accepted on the AAUW website for national committees/task forces (deadline: May 1).

**Treasurer/Membership Report:** Our membership continues to stand at 59 branch members. Mona Wecksung presented copies of the financial report from February. As of 2/28/14, the checking account balance is \$2,514.35. For March, we earned another \$.02 interest for a balance of \$2,514.37.

**Program Report:** Nina announced that we received a \$250 donation from Rotary for the JNBM.

Nina has received 75 copies of "The Simple Truth" along with other informational material from AAUW for our Equal Payday table at the Farmers Market (Fuller Lodge) on Thursday, April 10, 7:45 am–12:30 pm. Our "ask" is for people to mail a pre-printed postcard to our senators, asking them to support the Paycheck Fairness Act. Additionally Judy asked that before April 8, council members go on the AAUW website and through the "take action" portal urge Senators Udall and Heinrich to support Senate debate on the Paycheck Fairness Act.

Friday, May 16, Spring Membership Tea – “Around the World in 80 Minutes,” BLM Gathering Space, 4-6 pm. Nina is contacting members to be part of the “travel” program (10 minutes, 10-15 slides). Judy will contact Jane Sherwood regarding the plan for refreshments. The program will also include the annual election of Council officers, a Treasurer's report, an update on the JNBM fund, and Named Gift awards.

Saturday, June 14 - JNBM fundraiser: “Books, Friends, and Desserts,” Oppenheimer Place Patio Room, 2-4 pm – talk by Stacia Lewandowski with 8 members providing desserts (to serve 8-10 people); admission is a donation to the JNBM and the program is open to the public. This meeting will also include a membership campaign (Shape the Future). Ginny and Marilyn will work together on the publicity for this event.

**International Affairs Report:** A thank you card was mailed to Ed Rau for his talk on March 20, which was attended by approximately 40 people.

**AAUW Funds Report:** None

**College & University Representative Report:** Maryjane reported that the \$tart \$mart workshop on 2/28/14 was quite successful with an attendance of 14. No one in NM applied for a NCCWSL scholarship this year. We will continue discussion and brainstorming for how to increase NCCWSL applications in the future.

**Public Policy Report:** As mentioned above, we are all asked to use the two-minute activist tool on the national website in support of the Paycheck Fairness Act.

**Publicity:** Marilyn Doolen shared her successful actions for publicity for Ed Rau's talk. In addition to press releases in the LA Monitor and Daily Post, she posted fliers in the two banks, two libraries, and two senior centers. Helena suggested posting fliers at Smith's and the Lab cafeteria for future programs.

**State Programs:**

Spring Convention, Las Vegas, NM: April 25-27; Natalie, Helena, Nina, Marilyn Thayer, and Marilyn Doolen plan to attend. Judy will send a write-up to Denise to include in the newsletter to encourage members to attend. The branch annual report has been sent for inclusion in the convention notebook.

**Old Business:** Judy presented options for the JNBM bookplates, which were designed by Gloria Sharp, a retired LANL graphic artist. Each of the five schools will need approximately 250 self-adhesive bookplates (for a total of 1250 over the next four years). Costs (sizes, color) and wording were discussed. Nina moved we order 5 rolls of 250 2”x3” labels with teal color line for approximately \$350 with the following wording: Donated in Memory of Long-time Los Alamos Teacher Jean Parks Nereson by AAUW-Los Alamos and by Family, Friends and Colleagues; Natalie seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Natalie Markin moved that our branch give \$50.00 to AAUW Funds (\$mart \$tart) in Shelley Rossbach's name for her service to AAUW-NM; Mona Wecksung seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

After discussion, it was decided that we would not volunteer to host the summer LTM.

**New Business:** This year's budget includes \$100 in travel funding for conventions. After some discussion, it was thought it was more meaningful to help with travel expenses for national conventions rather than for state conventions. Natalie moved we save the \$100 from this year for national convention travel next year; Nina seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Hilltopics Deadline:** Send information to Denise by 4/8.

**Next Coordinating Council Meeting:** 7:15 pm, Tuesday, May 13, Oppenheimer Patio Room, hostess: Ginny White  
Tentative date for Joint Council Meeting: Thursday, June 19, at a restaurant

**AAUW Dates to Remember:**

Spring Convention/Annual Meeting: Las Vegas, April 25-27, 2014

AAUW Regional Conference: Reno, NV, June 6-8, 2014

**Other Community Dates to Remember:** Haochen Zhang, pianist, LACA concert, May 23, 7 pm

**Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Virginia G. White

### **AAUW Minutes from August 28, 2014, Coordinating Council Meeting**

**Members Present:** Judy Prono, Marilyn Doolen, Mona Wecksung, Maryjane Giesler, Natalie Markin, Nina Thayer, Jane Sherwood, Margo Batha, Jill Forman, Helena Whyte, Denise George, and Ginny White

After an hour's brainstorming session for planning this year's programs followed by a light dinner provided by Judy and Marilyn, the meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm by Co-Facilitator Judy Prono. Minutes from the Coordinating Council meeting held May 27, 2014 were approved as corrected (motion by Natalie with second by Margo Batha).

**Program Report:** Nina reported that the Fall Luncheon will be 11 am – 2 pm on Saturday, September 13, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church (lower entrance). The council reviewed the tentative agenda prepared by Judy and decided to have the business meeting first, then lunch, and finally the speaker, former NM State Senator Dede Feldman. The cost of lunch will be \$15 (motion by Nina and second by Mona which passed unanimously) and will be catered by Ruby K's under Nina's direction. Mona will collect money at the door. Jane Sherwood will take care of bringing the paper goods, drinks, and tablecloths. Judy Prono will bring flowers for the tables. Council members volunteered for setup (Judy, Nina, Maryjane & her husband) and cleanup (Jill, Natalie, and Mona).

**Facilitator's Report:** Judy announced that AAUW has awarded \$3.7 million to 244 fellows and grantees for 2014/2015. This grant money comes from AAUW Funds.

**Treasurer/Membership Report:** On June 14, 2014, five new branch members joined as part of the "Shape the Future" drive at the Jean Nereson Books Memorial fundraiser. Together with the new member who signed up at the Equal Pay Day tabling event at the Farmers Market in April, the branch was entitled to three free national memberships. After the fundraiser, an ad hoc Council meeting (Nina, Natalie, Mona, Marilyn, Ginny, and Judy) was held to discuss how to allocate these memberships.

Natalie moved with second from Mona to offer one MAL national membership and two national/state/branch memberships, at a cost of \$44 to the branch, in the following order: Nina will offer the MAL membership to Stacia Lewandowski, our guest speaker; Mona will offer a national/state/branch membership to Michelle Stump, a former branch member who did not renew last year for financial reasons; and Nina will offer a national/state/branch membership to Julie Goen, Pinon librarian, who attended the fundraiser. Should these offers be turned down, Nina/Judy will offer a full membership to one of the other elementary school librarians we worked with and/or to Cedric Page (UNM-LA). The motion passed unanimously. No alternate recipient for the MAL membership was identified. [Note: Stacia declined the membership offer; Michelle and Julie both accepted.]

Because we learned later that Cedric Page had resigned as the UNM-LA Director, Nina suggested we offer the MAL membership to Dr. Debbie Belew-Nyquist, the new principal at LAHS, and offered to cover her state/branch dues herself if Dr. Belew-Nyquist accepted. Judy concurred. Debbie enthusiastically accepted the offer.

At tonight's meeting, Natalie moved and Mona seconded that the Branch cover the state and branch dues for Debbie Belew-Nyquist. Motion passed unanimously.

Mona reported that to date we have 55 members paid members. There are 15 former members not yet paid, so this list was divided among council members for reminder phone calls.

Judy suggested instituting a Buddy Program to ensure our new members know about the Fall Luncheon and other events/activities throughout the year. We also would like to include a short bio of each for the October newsletter. A Council member volunteered to be the buddy for each of our new members.

Mona distributed and reviewed the financial report for 2013-2014. As of 6/30/14, the end of the fiscal year, the checking account balance was \$2,028.35.

Mona then reviewed the proposed budget for 2014-2015 that she and Judy developed. To balance the budget will require \$1058 from savings. She also presented end-of-year balances for the checking account over the last six years. Although the balances grew from 2009 (~\$2770) to 2013 (~\$3150), they declined significantly in 2014 (even after correction for 2013 carryover expenses). Since raising our local dues takes two years (given Branch Bylaws and national's timetable), Nina suggested that we consider raising local dues. An alternative idea was to set a minimum balance (checking + savings) at which point we should consider raising dues. The issue will be further discussed at a later date. One of the budget items discussed was whether or not to spend \$250.00 for a quarter page ad in the LWV Voter Guide. Natalie moved (second by Margo Batha) that we not run the ad but pay \$100 to be a contributing sponsor of the Guide; the motion passed. Mona moved (second by Nina Thayer) that the amended budget be submitted to the membership at the Fall Luncheon with copies available at that meeting.

Mona reported that the \$1000.00 for the Mana del Norte scholarship was attained through member donations.

**State Programs:** Helena Whyte gave an update on events currently being planned in support of the Public Policy Impact Grant awarded to AAUW-NM. She will have more definite information after the Oct. 18 AAUW-NM Fall LTM and Workshop in Las Cruces. The main focus of the Impact Grant is to increase awareness statewide of the NM Women's Fair Pay Act in terms of ensuring gender pay equity; several forums will be held in the spring to raise awareness. A secondary focus is on getting out the vote for the November election; all branches are asked to report their GOTV work to Helena and Karyl Lyne, co-presidents for AAUW-NM.

**International Affairs Report:** Jill Forman is working on ideas for a program in the spring.

**AAUW Funds:** Nina will pursue the idea of using the new AAUW research for a program topic and fundraiser.

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

**Public Policy:** On August 26, the LA Daily Post ran an article commemorating Women's Equality Day written by Judy Prono. A copy is attached to these minutes.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** Natalie requested permission to ask AAUW Co-Presidents Helena Whyte and Karyl Lyne to attend the Ice Cream Social (to be held at Oppenheimer Place patio) she is planning for the spring.

**Hilltopics Deadline:** Send information to Denise tonight.

**Next Coordinating Council Meeting:** Nina has booked the third Thursday of the month for the next three council meetings at United Church. The next meeting will be there at 7:15 pm, Thursday, September 18.

**AAUW Dates to Remember:**

AAUW-NM Fall Workshops & LTM, October 18, Las Cruces (see August *Roadrunner* for details)

AAUW National Convention, June 18-21, 2015, San Diego (registration opens on October 1)

**Community Dates:** Opera on the Rocks at Bandelier, Sept. 20, buses leave Sullivan Field beginning at 4 pm; Health Fair, September 27; Anderson-Roe Piano Duo, September 28, 4 pm (first LACA concert)

**Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Virginia G. White

AAUW-Los Alamos Fall Luncheon & Business Meeting Minutes Saturday, September 13, 2014 Fellowship Hall,  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church



**Those Present:** There were 26 women present, 25 members and our guest speaker, Dede Feldman. See the attached sign-in sheet.

After allowing time for visiting with each other over a glass of punch, Co-Facilitator Judy Prono called the business meeting to order at 11:26 am by welcoming all, introducing Coordinating Council and non-Council officers, and recognizing new members (Sheila Molony, Pat Gary, Michelle Stump, Nancy Nunnelley). Natalie Markin awarded AAUW pins to their sponsors (Judy Prono, Mona Wecksung, Nina Thayer).

**Business Meeting:** The first order of business was a review of the 2014/2015 Budget proposal (attached) by Treasurer Mona Wecksung. Nina Thayer moved and Natalie Markin seconded that we adopt the budget as presented; the motion passed unanimously. Mona announced that as of 8/31/14, our checking account stands at \$2,193.00, AAUW Funds at \$435.00, and the CD at \$1,793.00.

Announcements followed with Jane Sherwood, Hospitality Chair, passing around a sign-up sheet for volunteers, especially for the Legislative Preview and the Spring Tea. Nina Thayer reported that we raised \$20,496.50 for the Jean Nereson Books Memorial, exceeding our \$20,000.00 goal. The first distribution of \$1000.00 was made to each of the five elementary school libraries in December, and books were purchased, bookplates pasted in, and the new books were available for check-out the last few months before school was out for the summer. Donations will continue to be accepted.

Representatives from the Interest Groups (Out 'n About, Book Group, Nonfiction Book Group, Great Decisions, and Title IX Support Group) gave meeting times and information on their activities. Signup sheets were available. It was noted that Helena Whyte, who organized our Title IX Support Group, has been named a Title IX Champion by AAUW National.

Helena Whyte and Nina Thayer presented highlights from their participation in the Rocky Mountain Regional AAUW Conference in Reno, Nevada, on June 6-8, 2014.

Judy asked everyone to consider using the Two-Minute activist tool on the AAUW website to encourage Senators Udall and Heinrich to support the Paycheck Fairness Act, which the Senate agreed to debate in a vote last Wednesday. Helena, who is AAUW-NM Co-President, announced there was literature available on the table regarding Fair Pay for Women in New Mexico, AAUW's Impact in New Mexico (Fiscal Year 2013), and Women in Community Colleges: Just the Facts (for New Mexico). Natalie reminded members to be considering attending AAUW's national convention in San Diego June 18-21, 2015.

The business meeting was adjourned at 12:08 pm.

**Program—Former NM State Senator Dede Feldman, author of *Inside the New Mexico Senate: Boots, Suits, and Citizens*** - After a break for the buffet lunch catered by Ruby K's, Dede Feldman regaled us with tips and tales from her sixteen years of service in the NM Senate.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia G. White, Secretary

**AAUW Minutes from October 23, 2014, Coordinating Council Meeting**

**Members Present:** Marilyn Doolen, Judy Prono, Maryjane Giesler, Natalie Markin, Nina Thayer, Denise George, Jill Forman, Helena Whyte, Jane Sherwood, and Ginny White

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm by Co-Facilitator Marilyn Doolen. Minutes from the Coordinating Council meeting held September 18, 2014, were approved as presented (motion by Nina Thayer with second by Judy Prono).

**Facilitators' Report:** Both Marilyn and Judy shared highlights from their attendance at the Fall Workshop and LTM in Las Cruces. Highlights included hearing the impact of NCCWSL and Tech Trek experiences from attendees, discussion of plans for increasing employers' and women's awareness of the NM Fair Pay for Women Act, and NM immigration issues, including conditions at the new detention center in Artesia and work by the Catholic Charities for Southern NM to help women and families fleeing domestic violence in Central America to start new lives in the US. Marilyn also reported on LAF's recent Supreme Court Preview conference call that discussed cases on the docket this year that will impact the rights of women and girls across the country.

**Treasurer/Membership Report:** In Mona's absence, Judy distributed Mona's September Financial Report (attached). The checking account balance as of 9/30/14 was \$2,607.82. Natalie added that the AAUW Funds account is now at \$435.83 and the CD's value is \$1798.49. Because Mona found no significantly better return on a 1-year CD, our CD was renewed at LANB. Judy reported that we received a \$100 Branch Project Grant from AAUW-NM, which will cover our expense for being a contributing co-sponsor of the Los Alamos LWV's Voter Guide.

Our IRS Exemption Form 990-N was submitted to AAUW-national on October 20, 2014, which they submitted to IRS.

Natalie paid our annual renewal rent for the Post Office box today; an individual's name must be on the account, not the name of an organization. The box is currently in Rozelle Wright's name; Natalie will follow up on completing the forms needed to change the box's name to Mona's.

Natalie reported that to date we have 66 paid members. Only three of last year's members did not renew. All others who received phone calls from council members renewed. Natalie will follow up on the membership request from Leigh Hallman-Maynard, a student affiliate who wants to join the Book Group. Consensus was that she should pay state and local dues.

**State President's Report:** Helena Whyte added to the discussion about the Fair Pay for Women Act – the committee is still working on a script to be used to explain the act at informational forums and meetings; work is also under way on legislation in support of maternity leave for women who work in companies with fewer than 50 employees and therefore are not covered by FMLA provisions.

After her NCCWSL talk at UNM-LA at the Phi Theta Kappa regional meeting, for which our branch provided breakfast, Helena signed up several student affiliate members. Response was very positive, including interest in NCCWSL applications. Helena's conversation with UNM-LA's Phi Theta Kappa advisor, Elizabeth Rademacher, about UNM-LA becoming an AAUW university partner was also promising.

Helena distributed two "Bingo" cards (attached) she adapted from NY State to aid in listening to and evaluating candidates according to their stands on AAUW issues; one is for national and one for state candidates.

**Program Report:** Nina and Marilyn updated us on the upcoming program plans:

Thursday, October 30, 7 pm, Mesa Library – talk by Ramon Garcia, Wildland Fire Mgmt Chief, and Troy Hughes, LA Fire Chief, on LA Preparedness for the Next Wildfire. Jane Sherwood will bring small bottles of water; Jane, Jill, Marilyn, and Nina will arrive at 6:30 to set up rooms. Marilyn will welcome attendees and talk briefly about AAUW; Nina will introduce the speakers; we'll have AAUW membership materials on hand.

Saturday, December 6, 11:30 am – Holiday Luncheon at Rancho de Chimayo – LA Cares will send a guest speaker (Rosmarie Fredrickson or June Gladney) and triptych display. Mona has invited Andrea Tuero, our Mana del Norte scholarship winner, as a guest and speaker. Marilyn will handle RSVPs; Natalie will act as

hostess. The cost of lunch is \$16, choosing from a menu of five choices (alcohol and drink is not included) – cash or check is preferred.

Denise George asks for gift bags of any size – we need 90 – in which to pack the fruit for the donation to LA Cares. This is being coordinated by Denise and Marilyn Doolen. Bags will be delivered to LA Cares on 12/11/14.

Judy distributed and reviewed a branch program activity table with programs for the remainder of the year. Nina presented two ideas for future programs: (1) a program on identity theft provided by a speaker from state and (2) Robert Fuselier, local veterinarian, to talk about his Afghan Sister Villages Project.

Natalie has commitments from AAUW-NM co-presidents Helena and Karyl Lyne for the March 7, 2015, “Shape the Future” ice cream social/membership drive to be held in the Oppenheimer Place Patio Room. Natalie will also arrange to have leaders talk about our interest groups.

**International Affairs Report:** Jill Forman has emailed Julia Demichelis to see if she could speak at our April meeting (she is currently out of the country); Robert Fuselier's project might be a backup.

**AAUW Funds:** Nina read an email (attached) clarifying AAUW policy on fundraising, which brought about discussion about what we can and can't do. This will be discussed more later. Our understanding is that we can no longer conduct fundraising for other non-profits; branch fundraising must be focused on AAUW initiatives/programs. New guidance is also out on supporting educational scholarships.

Nina announced that Divya Srinivasan donated five copies of her *Little Owl's Day* for the LA elementary school libraries. She also added that council members might want to look at votesmart.org for information on how representatives have voted.

**College & University Representative:** Maryjane announced that UNM-LA is clear to run a Start Smart workshop in the spring. She passed around a certificate and thank you note from Phi Theta Kappa for sponsoring their breakfast and for Helena's talk about AAUW and NCCWSL.

**Public Policy:** Judy passed on national's plea for contributions to AAUW Funds to help support its work to protect women nationwide against sexual assault – in the military and on college campuses – and against domestic violence. It is easy to donate online.

**Old Business:** We will wait until spring for further discussion regarding whether or not to raise dues. Natalie mentioned that if we have a fundraiser for NCCWSL or Tech Trek, then we wouldn't have to draw down our savings to fund them. Judy explained again the process involved in raising dues: a change would have to be approved at our annual spring membership meeting but could not go into effect until the following year because national must be notified by March 15 of any change in dues.

**New Business:** none

**Publicity:** Flyers advertising the October 30 community event have been posted around the county and information sent to *LA Daily Post* and *Los Alamos Monitor*. Nina suggested that Marilyn ask to have the meeting added to the *LA Daily Post's* community calendar.

**Hilltopics Deadline:** Saturday, October 25 (will include notices on the Oct. 30 meeting and Dec. 6 holiday luncheon; we still need bios for two new members: Debbie Belew-Nyquist and Patricia Gary)

**Next Coordinating Council Meeting:** 7:15 pm, Thursday, November 20, United Church

**AAUW Dates to Remember:**

January 11, 2015 – Lobby Corps luncheon in Bernalillo

February 8, 2015 – Winter LTM and legislative kickoff in Santa Fe

February 9, 2015 – AAUW Rally at the Roundhouse in Santa Fe

April 17-19, 2015 – Spring Convention, Drury Hotel in Santa Fe

June 18-21, 2015 – AAUW National Convention in San Diego

**Community Dates:**

October 24-25, 7:30 pm – Lads of Enchantment Barbershop Show at Smith Auditorium

November 1 – 8 am - Ruby K's Yum Run for LA Cares

November 1, 7 pm – Los Alamos Concert Association Salzburg Marionettes, Smith Auditorium

November 9, 3:30 pm – Santa Fe Opera's Young Voices, Fuller Lodge

**Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Virginia G. White