

January 29, 2019 Coordinating Council Minutes
Marilyn Doolen's home

Present: Bev Cooper, Marilyn Doolen, Maryjane Giesler, Denise George, Margaret Gibson, Mary Ann Lindahl, Carol Neal, Alahna Weller, Helena Whyte

The Meeting was called to order at 2:10 p.m. Denise George moved and Mary Ann Lindahl seconded that the minutes of November 1, 2018 be approved as corrected. The motion passed.

Facilitators' Report:

Carol Neal reported the following:

*The LA Cares fruit project was very successful and appears to be a favorite branch charity project. More than \$900.00 was donated. The contribution in December was festive bags of fruit for 77 families and cash for LA Cares. In February \$200.00 will be used to purchase fresh fruit (bananas were requested).

*LTM is February 10th at the Hotel Santa Fe; Lobby Day is February 11th.

*Carol Neal will send a message to Barbara Calef, President of League of Women Voters, with suggested changes for the venue for future Legislative Preview evenings because of listed limitations of Fuller Lodge.

*The Tech Trek Un-Tea is now being organized. Carol Neal has agreed to be the chair. Jenny Bishop and Angela Coop have volunteered to help.

*The Tech Trek 2018 earned a Stemy, Excellence in Stem Award, from the Air Force Research Labs. The award dinner is February 22nd in Albuquerque.

Alahna Weller presented the report from the judging team for the 2019 Los Alamos County Science and Engineering Fair held on January 19th. Eight AAUW members were on the team. The report is attached for filing.

Treasurer's Report: Margaret Gibson gave the January 2019 Financial report which is attached for filing. The current balance is \$3215.14.

Membership Report: Margaret Gibson reported that 4 members did not renew their memberships.

Nominations:

* Karen Henderson has agreed to be the lead for the 2020 judging team for the 2020 County Science and Engineering Fair, traditionally held in January.

*RE: Elected Coordinating Council: The bylaws state that six to nine members shall be elected without designated offices. Currently, there are 6 elected members. There will be one vacancy as of July 2019 (secretary's term limit). There will be a review to determine how many new candidates should be considered for the 2019/20 year. There is no nominating chair currently.

Program: Mary Ann Lindahl led the discussion about the following options:

* Marie Johnson as a speaker at a membership meeting. She is the AUW State Board Diversity Chair.

*Chris Chandler, NM State Representative, as a speaker for a general meeting in March or mid-April, giving her perspective as a first-time New Mexico legislator. Nina Thayer will be asked to invite Chris Chandler.

*Patricia Trujillo who lives in northern New Mexico who can give an historical perspective about this area's past

*Alan Carr, the Lab Historian

*a painting party with Suzanne Harrison for branch members and friends, (an Out 'n About event)

*The annual Spring Tea on either Friday, May 10th or Friday, May 17th was suggested by unanimous consent.

Publicity: Bev Cooper is willing to submit any articles publicizing branch events to the local papers.

College and University Rep: Maryjane Giesler reported that currently there is no candidate for NCCWSL, but Council will be advised if there is one in the future. Also, it is important to keep a line item in the budget for accrued money for future NCCWSL attendees. Start Smart is considered by many to be a major workshop activity. Maybe more work needs to be done to identify the use of Smart Start and whether we can supply funds to produce this workshop in the near future.

Public Policy:

* AAUW-NM will be recognized at the Santa Fe Round House at 11:00 a.m. Monday, February 11th. Registration is at 8:30 a.m. in Room 308 in the Capitol building.

State Programs:

*Tech Trek camp is scheduled for June 6-15th. The deadline for applicants is March 1st. Interviews follow, and campers will be chosen in mid-April.

*State Convention will be in Las Cruces on April 26-28, 2019.

Old Business:

*After reviewing the Bylaws for dues changes, Alahna moved, and Denise seconded to increase branch dues to \$20.00 (from \$10.00). Discussion followed, and motion was passed unanimously. An article will be in the February *Hilltopics*, and there will be a membership vote at the annual meeting (Spring Tea) in May. The required rationale for the article in the newsletter is: this change eliminates using savings account money when there is a cash flow problem because expenses have increased, this will allow increased awards for Los Alamos County Science and Engineering Fair, and AAUW programs such as NCCWSL, and allow financial support for a proposed scholarship at UNM-LA for a non-traditional female student.

*Pending is a tax-deductible scholarship established thru the UNM-LA Foundation. There exists continued discussion about the considerations such as eligibility, grade point average requirements, and the consideration to award a non-traditional female student.

If there is a winner in the near future, the winner could be recognized by the local branch at the Spring Tea. Mary Jane has been authorized by Council to confer with Cindy Rooney, Executive Director of UNM-LA, and report to Council appropriately.

New Business: none

Hilltopic February newsletter:

The following items will be sent to Denise asap: Science Fair report, article about the recommended dues change, articles about the Air Force Research Labs award and Lobby Day.

Adjournment was 4:15 p.m.

The next scheduled Coordinating Council meeting is Thursday, February 21st at 2:00 p.m. at Carol Neal's home.

Respectfully submitted

Marilyn Doolen, Secretary

February 21, 2019 Coordinating Council Minutes
Marilyn Doolen's home

Present: Bev Cooper, Marilyn Doolen, Denise George, Margaret Gibson, Carol Neal, Alahna Weller, Helena Whyte

The Meeting was called to order at 2:15 p.m.

Facilitators' Report: Alahna Weller and Carol Neal

* Winter LTM was February 10, 2019 in Santa Fe. Los Alamos members attending were Nina Thayer, Helena Whyte, Alahna Weller, Judy Prono. AAUW students are now called Associates, not Affiliates, as before. Los Alamos was recognized at LTM for our judging at the Los Alamos Science and Engineering Fair. Carol Neal submitted the Winter Branch LTM report at the meeting. Total branch members in New Mexico: 490; 245 at-large members; 82 student members from Los Cruces, Carlsbad, St. John's, UNM, Gallop, Socorro, Highlands, Carlsbad and Silver City.

NCCWSL: There is currently no candidate from UNM-LA. The deadline for application is April 30, 2019. There are currently funds for 2 awardees,

Treasurer's Report: Margaret Gibson gave the report for February report which is attached for filing. The checking account is \$3370.20; the total amount in the AAUW Funds account is \$81.94. A Project Grant from NM-AAUW was awarded to the Los Alamos branch \$125.00 and is accrued as seed money for a further project.

Membership: Margaret Gibson reported one new member is Suzanne Harrison. For those new members who join after March 15, 2019, those dues are good until June 2020.

RE: State membership. AAUW State historian, Shila Marek, wants a membership list (and newsletters and program notes). Her email is shila.marek@gmail.com.

Nominating: The name of Terry Marzili has been suggested and has volunteered as a back-up treasurer.

Program: Los Alamos and State

March-AAUW-NM Diversity Chair Marie Johnson will be happy to come to Los Alamos. Bev Cooper will do the publicity. Denise George will include an announcement in the Hilltopics.

March is Women's History Month

April 2nd is Equal Pay Day. A scheduled event is at the Inn of Loreto, Santa Fe. Lilly Ledbetter will be the keynote speaker. As a personal way of celebrating, Judy Prono, AAUW State Program Chair, has encouraged members to go on-line and take the Work Smart two minute Activists presentation.

April 9th-Representative Chris Chandler will speak in Los Alamos.

April 26-28 is the State Convention in Las Cruces. Early bird registration is before April 1. Julia Brown will be a speaker. Each branch is encouraged to bring a Show and Tell for a table. It will be a celebration of the 19th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. The them is "Speak Up, Speak Out."

May-the Los Alamos Spring Tea and annual meeting.

Unrestricted Fund: Sylvia Fink, AAUW State President, reported that the current balance is \$21,689.

College Rep: Re: a future tax-deductible scholarship will be established thru the UNM-Foundation. Katherine Vigil is the registrar. She reports that a delegation is needed to set up the details.

Tech Trek: Helena Whyte. The Tech Trek Camp committee has 11 women. There is good support this year for Tech Trek. 75 schools have submitted nominations. 16 schools are new ones and are in the southeast corner of the state. Camp will support 60 girls. Camp is June 9-15, 2019. Public schools will be a priority for choosing the girls. Three homeschool girls have been nominated. The deadline for interviewers and reviewers of the essays is March 31st. The deadline for the applications is February 28th. For drivers who travel over 25 miles to a location, they can be reimbursed \$.40 per mile. There are new rules imposed by National and interviewers are required to read the Diversity and Inclusion Manual and the Tech Trek 2019 What's New form, and sign a Conduct Agreement Form. Los Alamos branch has been asked to contact 12 families.

Start Smart/Work Smart: The new name in New Mexico is "Salary Negotiations Task Force."

New Mexico AAUW Fundraising: A fundraising day is projected. 90% of what a branch raises would go to branches for the scholarships they support. 10% would go to the state AAUW organization.

AAUW-NM Branch Strategic Plan: Each branch has been given an extensive review form about the goals and the focus of the branch. It is recommended that the form be completed by the end of June. (A copy is on file for further discussion.)

Hilltopics Deadline: February 25th

Next Coordinating Council Meeting: Wednesday, March 27th at 1:00 p.m. at Carol Neal's home.

Adjournment was 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Marilyn Doolen, Secretary

March 27, 2019 Coordinating Council Minutes
Denise George's home

Present: Marilyn Doolen, Denise George, Margaret Gibson, Maryjane Giesler, Mary Ann Lindahl, Carol Neal, Alahna Weller

The meeting was called to order at 1:45 p.m. The minutes of February 21, 2019, were approved as corrected.

Facilitator's Report: Carol Neal expressed thanks to all who had coordinated and attended the general meeting on March 20.th She acknowledged that 8 members were on the Tech Trek interviewing team, and several members were reading the nominee essays. It was noted that the un-tea fund raiser totaled \$3345.00 in donations for Tech Trek from individual branch members.

Treasurer's Report: Margaret Gibson reported that year –to-date the total revenues are \$2561.07. AAUW National now requires the branch treasurer to use a debit card from the bank account in order to pay an electronic transfer for dues. They will no longer accept individual checks.

Nominating: It is time to recruit new member nominees for the 2019/2020 Coordinating Council.

Programs:

*Chris Chandler is scheduled to be our guest speaker on Tuesday, April 9th at 7:00 p.m. at the White Rock library. Her presentation is "Experiences of My First Legislative Session." Alahna Weller will confirm this with Chris.

*Spring Tea and annual membership meeting will be Friday, May 10th in the Gathering Space at Bethlehem Lutheran Church from 3:00-5:00 p.m. The program is yet to be finalized. Maryjane suggested an artistic display of the many unique and creative endeavors of the members.

Publicity: after a discussion about the need for more publicity, it was agreed that there be a poster about the April 9th event at the two libraries, and the two senior centers. Mary Ann Lindahl will send a notice on Facebook and a notice to the Monitor and Daily Post newspapers.

College and University Rep:

* Maryjane Giesler reported that a preliminary planning meeting with Kathryn Vigil, UNM-LA registrar, is tentatively scheduled in April. Carol Neal, Marilyn Doolen will represent our Council, and Mona Wecksung will be also be asked to be at the meeting. The proposal is to have a scholarship established thru the UNM-LA Foundation. Discussion points will be: how much money is needed and how to raise the funds, what will be the parameters for student requirements (ie: financial need). Kathryn can recommend the number of candidates. The goal of the meeting is to have pertinent information for a membership discussion at the Spring tea.

*There is a candidate for NCCWSL at UNM-LA. To be determined is a confirmation about the correct year on the application.

Public Policy: It is the opinion of Coordinating Council that when there is a political issue in question, individual AAUW members could submit letters containing personal opinions to the legislators if they so choose to do so. It is awkward to represent the entire branch at large in order to take a political Council position.

State Convention: *2019 Convention will be in Las Cruces, April 26-27. The theme is: **Celebrating the XIX Amendment and Demanding Our Worth!** Nina Thayer, Carol Neal, Helena Whyte and Marilyn Doolen are planning to attend.

Strategic Planning:

There will be presentation at the Spring Tea, for discussion.

Action Item: It is important to begin to recruit new members of Coordinating Council before May 10th when the slate is presented for a vote of the membership.

Hilltopics Deadline: March 28th. Denise will include articles about Christine Chandler's presentation and a notice about the Spring Tea in May.

Next Council meeting: April 18th; 2:00 p.m. at Mary Ann Lindahl's home

Adjournment was 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Doolen, secretary

April 18, 2019 Coordinating Council Minutes
Mary Ann Lindahl's Home

Present: Marilyn Doolen, Margaret Gibson, Maryjane Giesler, Denise George, Mary Ann Lindahl, Carol Neal, Alahna Weller

The Meeting was called to order at 2:15 p.m.

The Minutes of March 27, 2019, were approved as presented.

Facilitators' Report: (Carol Neal and Alahna Weller)

*Carol Neal has sent the Quarterly Branch Report to the State officers, which will be presented at the LTM meeting in Las Cruces in April and a copy will be sent to Denise as a continuing historical update on the Website.

*a card to Chris Chandler was signed by all present, and will be sent as a thank you for her April 9th presentation to the membership at the White Rock Library.

Treasurer's Report: (Margaret Gibson) The account balance, March 1, 2019 is \$3380.22.

Membership: (Margaret Gibson) Sarah Michalak is a new member who joined in April.

Nominating Report:

*Terry Marzili has agreed to be nominated to serve on the Council for the year 2019/2020.

*Discussion followed with the following suggestion that it might be favorable in the coming year to ask various members to help with small activities. This might promote more interest in serving in the much needed ways.

Programs:

*Spring Tea Membership meeting is May 10, 2:00-5:00 p.m. at the Gathering Space, Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Mary Ann will do the set-up and contact the invited speaker, Heather McClenahan, the retiring Executive Director of the Los Alamos Historical Society, asking her to do a presentation (approximately 45 minutes in duration) on how she sees changes in the community, the transition plans for the Historical Park, and plans for Oppenheimer House. Council members should arrive at 1:50 p.m. The business meeting should begin at 2:30 p.m. Denise George, Alahna Weller, Marilyn Doolen, Carol Neal, Maryjane Giesler, and Margaret Gibson will bring finger foods, Marilyn will bring a sign-in

sheet, and buy flowers for the guest speaker. There will be coffee, tea, name tags, tablecloths, and napkins. Fresh garden flowers are encouraged, if available.

Publicity: A notice will be in the *Hilltopics* with details, and will also be sent to Bev Cooper, publicity chair.

College and University Rep: (Maryjane Giesler)

*NCCWSI-there is no candidate for this year, but it is projected to have one next year.

* Proposed AAUW Scholarship: It was moved by Marilyn Doolen,, seconded by Maryjane Giesler, and passed unanimously that Coordinating Council ask the branch membership to vote (at the May 10th meeting) on a proposed UNM-LA female student scholarship opportunity which our branch would initiate and support financially. An *ad hoc committee* (Maryjane Giesler, Mona Wecksung, and Marilyn Doolen) was created to further promote this idea on behalf of the branch, if the membership votes in favor of this project. A preliminary organization meeting was held at UNM-LA with Jenny Duran and Kathryn Vigil. A summary of the notes taken at that April 16th meeting will be summarized by Denise George for a presentation at the Spring Tea, noting that it is an appropriate project at this time because it fits with our mission of outreach to college age non-traditional female students in partnership with the UNM-LA campus.

State Programs:

*The Ingenious Ideas Award nominations are due April 20th.

*A Work Smart event is being offered at the UNM Law School.

Old Business: The membership will be advised at the May 10th meeting that a vote will be taken, as prescribed in our ByLaws, at the Fall Annual Branch meeting about a proposed change in dues, to be in place in 2020.

New Business: There is an article written on Wikipedia about the gender diversity problem (<https://www.aps.org/publications/apsnews/201904/wikipedia.cfm> and as well as a related article in APS News at <https://www.aps.org/publications/apsnews/201904/wikipedia.com>

***State Convention** is April 26-27 in Las Cruces. Three cars from Los Alamos will be going. The following members plan to attend: Helena Whyte, Natalie Markin, Nina Thayer, Carol Neal, Judy Prono, Marilyn Doolen, and Sarah Michalak.

Hilltopics Deadline: (Denise George) April 23rd. The following items will be included: Spring Tea announcement, a summary of the proposed UNM-LA scholarship, the proposed dues change (an increase to \$20.00 from \$10.00), and the summer book title.

Adjournment: 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Doolen

Minutes of MAY 22, 2019 AAUW Coordinating Council

Present: Bev Cooper, Marilyn Doolen, Denise George, Margaret Gibson, Mary Ann Lindahl, Carol Neal, Alahna Weller, Helena Whyte

The Meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m.

The Minutes of May 10, 2019 and May 22, 2019 (Annual Spring Tea meeting) were accepted as written.

Facilitator's Report: (Alahna Weller)

All collected historical items of the past year will be given to Marilyn Minshall branch historian.

Treasurer's Report: (Margaret Gibson)

*the current LANB bank account balance is \$3031.98.

*branch dues were collected at the May 10th membership meeting, and are still being sent to Margaret.

*there are 26 renewed memberships, 4 life members, and 4 National life members.

*discussion followed concerning the AAUW Fund, and it was agreed that the amount is accrued and will be donated as needed.

*council thanked Margaret for her conscientious work on behalf of the council and the membership at-large.

Membership: a new branch member is Brenda Hendersen.

Tech Trek: (Helena Whyte)

*60 girls will be the 2019 campers in Socorro; Malea Joyce, a former Los Alamos 2015 camper will be a junior Counsellor.

*the first campers (in 2014) are now 2019 high school graduates

*there will continue to be written any available education or career success stories of these young women, for the purpose of showing the stories to the many donors who are interested.

*two photographers will be at camp this summer.

*there is seed money accrued for the expenses of future camps, and several generous donations have become self-sustaining.

*a guest from NASA will be leading a workshop at camp.

*council thanked Helena for her continued leadership in this very successful STEM New Mexico project since 2014.

Program: (Mary Ann Lindahl)

*the date for the fall membership luncheon will be determined, with the consideration of other local simultaneous community events which might conflict, the fall holiday season, and the availability of the possible invited guest speaker, Patricia Trujillo, Northern New Mexico Community College professor.

Out 'n About: If there are any suggestions for an outing in the coming weeks of summer, members are encouraged to notify Carol Neal who will help to publicize it.

Publicity: (Bev Cooper) relayed the message that the local radio station KRSN is willing to give on-air time to publicize or highlight any event AAUW hosts in the future.

AAUW-UNM-LA SCHOLARSHIP: (Mary Ann Lindahl) \$1,000.00 was either donated or pledged since the announcement of the new scholarship project on May 10th. Twelve members donated to initiate this award seed money, which was delivered directly to the UNM-LA Foundation office. The Foundation office will send out individual acknowledgments to the donors. The committee (Mary Ann Giesler,

lead, Carol Neal, Mona Wecksung, and Marilyn Doolen) will be contacted when there are 3 or less candidates for the fall, 2019, school term.

Public Policy: This chair position on Council is open.

Strategic Plan: If the New Mexico AAUW chair requests a branch report, a report will be created and submitted in due time.

New Business: By unanimous consent, the following officers will serve on the Coordinating Council for the year 2019/2020:

*Facilitator Alahna Weller

*Secretary Carol Neal

*Treasurer/Membership co-chair Margaret Gibson and Terry Marzili

*Publicity Bev Cooper

*College Rep Maryjane Giesler

Appointed officers will be:

*Hospitality Mary Ann Lindahl

*STEM Helena Whyte

*Historian Marilyn Minshall

The next scheduled Coordinating Council meeting: August 22nd @ 2:00 p.m. at Alahna Weller's home.

Adjournment: 1:35 p.m.

An informal social time followed. There were expressions of thanks to all present, including Marilyn Doolen for her 6 years on the Council serving as publicity (1 year), co-facilitator (4 years) or secretary (1 year).

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Doolen

**Minutes of Coordinating Council Meeting held
August 22, 2019**

The meeting was **called to order** by Facilitator Alahna Weller at 2:15 pm.

Present: Alahna Weller, Maryjane Giesler, Denise George, Mary Ann Lindahl, Margaret Gibson, Beverly Cooper, and Carol Neal

The **minutes of the May 22, 2019** Coordinating Council meeting were presented and discussed. A typographical error (that the minutes of the May 22, meeting were accepted during that May 22 meeting) was pointed out and corrected. Denise George moved and Mary Ann Lindahl seconded, that they be accepted as corrected. The minutes were accepted as corrected.

Facilitator's Report:

Carol Neal, immediate past co-facilitator, reported that she had entered the 2019-2020 Los Alamos AAUW Branch officer list in the AAUW Member Services Data Base.

Carol also reported receipt of a draft of the application form for the new Los Alamos Branch AAUW scholarship to be given to a UNM-LA student. The draft was prepared by Jenny Duran, UNM-LA registrar. Carol sent back to Ms. Duran some suggestions for revisions. Maryjane Giesler also read and commented upon the draft application form. Neither Maryjane nor Carol has yet seen a final copy of the application form. Further discussion of this topic was left for the University Representative's report later in this meeting.

Alahna Weller, current Facilitator, reported that national AAUW wants as many people as possible to try the online Work Smart course by tomorrow (Aug. 23, 2019). AAUW needs to show there is much interest in the course.

Alahna also reported there will be a "5-Star Program" for AAUW branches that will soon be introduced via a webinar.

Alahna also reminded Council that National AAUW still welcomes donations that are "un-restricted" and so can be used for overhead expenses.

Treasurer's Report:

Margaret Gibson, treasurer, reported that she will meet with Terry Marzili soon to help Terry learn the details of her new position as co-treasurer.

Margaret presented the printed treasurer's reports for both June and July, noting that the fiscal year begins on July 1. The reports were read and discussed. A "typo" in the July beginning balance was noted and corrected. The reports will be filed as usual. The balance on July 1, 2019 was \$3377.34.

The Coordinating Council agreed that Treasurer Margaret Gibson, Co-Treasurer Mary (Terry) Marzili, and Facilitator Alahna Weller will be signatories on the AAUW bank account at Enterprise Bank and that Past Facilitator Carol Neal will be removed. Margaret Gibson will make the necessary arrangements. Carol noted that she has given the US postal box key to Alahna Weller.

Membership Report:

Margaret Gibson, membership chair, reported that seventeen of last year's members have not yet paid dues for the current year.

Program Report:

Fall Luncheon:

Mary Ann Lindahl reported she is having difficulty reaching Patricia Trujillo, whom she would like to invite to speak at our branch's Fall Luncheon. Ms. Trujillo did a study on the help given by Northern New Mexico residents to the Manhattan Project. Mary Ann will continue trying to reach her.

Maryjane Giesler suggested that if the above speaker turns out not to be available, perhaps Jean Wilson might be a possible alternative speaker.

It was decided the date for Fall Luncheon will be Saturday, September 14, at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Mary Ann will make the arrangements with the church, and with Ruby K's for catering—roll up sandwiches cut into thirds and chicken salad. Each Council Member will bring a dessert and Denise George will bring a salad. Mary Ann will ask Mona Wecksung if she would like once again to make punch. Carol Neal will bring a bouquet of flowers and any other council members with flowers in their garden may also bring flowers. The price of the luncheon will be \$15.00 and Mary Ann will take reservations.

Mary Ann will ask Helena Whyte to make a short report about Tech Trek 2019, and, if possible, show the short video made this summer at the camp.

Mary Ann will see that the girl from Los Alamos who attended this summer's Tech Trek will be invited to make a short report about her experience at the camp.

Carol Neal will take to Fall Luncheon forms for signing up to participate in the various interest groups, and a form on which suggestions for future programs may be listed.

Denise George will describe the Non-fiction Book Group at Luncheon. Denise will ask Karin Roberts to do the same for the Fiction Book Group. Denise will ask Linda McClellan to talk about the daytime Great Decisions Group.

Publicity Report:

Bev Cooper reminded the Council that KRSN Radio will happily let us talk about Fall Luncheon (or any other of our programs) on air if we so request. Alahna will see about arranging for such a presentation about Fall Luncheon with KRSN.

University Representative:

Maryjane Giesler reported that Mary Ann Lindahl, who collected the donations to the AAUW Los Alamos Branch Scholarship Fund from members of our Branch, delivered to Jenny Duran, Financial Aid Advisor of UNM-LA, approximately \$1600. A scholarship of \$1000 will be awarded after the "official enrollment count" day has passed. Ms. Duran has yet to give to our Branch Scholarship Committee any applications to consider for receiving said scholarship. Any money donated for this scholarship that is not used this year will remain in an account with the University of New Mexico Foundation until awarded next year. At present our Branch Scholarship Committee consists of Maryjane Giesler, Mona Wecksung, Marilyn Doolen, and Carol Neal.

Maryjane agreed to acquire a copy of the scholarship application form to include with these minutes.

Public Policy:

Carol Neal reported that she invited member Sarah Michalak to become our branch public policy chair. Sarah said she would be interested but that her life is somewhat unsettled at this time and so she could not accept. Sarah said that if her life circumstances change she would consider such.

New Business:

Council agreed the branch should do the "Fruit Project" again this coming December. It benefits the local food bank, LA Cares.

The following ideas for future programs were offered:

- Bev Cooper suggested inviting Maura Taylor, director of Self Help, to speak.

- Denise George suggested inviting Stephanie Garcia Richards, the NM Land Commissioner and a member of our branch, to speak. [Mary Jane noted that Garcia Richards will be a speaker at the Honor Society Regional meeting.] It was further suggested that Stephanie's husband, Eric Vasquez, would be a good speaker. He is program manager of the Regional Economic Development Initiative.
- Bev Cooper suggested that maybe the head of Pebbles, Inc., a person by the name of Sayre, might be a possible speaker for a future program.
- It was also mentioned that someone from Viome might be a speaker. Viome is a wellness services business.

Mary Ann Lindahl said she would call Maura Taylor, Stephanie Garcia Richards, and Eric Vasquez and explore if any of them might be available for such a speaking engagement.

Alahna reported that if an AAUW member calls the company Geico and gets a free insurance quote and mentions AAUW, Geico will make a contribution to AAUW.

Denise will put a notice in the coming Newsletter reminding members that there will be a vote at Fall Luncheon on raising branch dues.

The next Coordinating Council meeting will be held at the home of Mary Ann Lindahl on Thursday, Oct. 3, 2019, at 2 pm.

The meeting was adjourned about 3:50 pm.

Submitted by Carol Neal

Los Alamos Branch Coordinating Council Secretary

Minutes of Business Meeting held as part of Fall Luncheon
Saturday, September 14, 2019

The **Business Meeting** was **called to order by Facilitator Alahna Weller** after lunch had been served and our guest speaker Malea Joyce, a senior at Los Alamos High School and a Junior Counselor at Tech Trek 2019, had spoken to the gathering about her experiences at Tech Trek as both a young camper and also as a junior counselor.

There were 21 members present.

- Minutes of the May 10, 2019 business meeting held during the Spring Tea were approved by the members present.
- Treasurer Margaret Gibson presented the proposed budget for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. Helena Whyte moved and Mary Ann Lindahl seconded a motion to accept the proposed budget. There was a short discussion during which Helena Whyte noted that in election years we help with the cost of publishing a voter guide jointly produced by AAUW-Los Alamos and the Los Alamos League of Women Voters. Maryjane Giesler said we should remember that there may be a NCCWSL candidate from Los Alamos that we

might offer help to this year. A vote was called and the budget was unanimously approved by the membership in attendance.

- Mary Ann Lindahl moved, and Judy Crocker seconded a motion to raise the AAUW—Los Alamos Branch dues from the current \$10 per year to \$20.00 per year. There was some discussion during which it was pointed out that we have needed to withdraw from savings most recent years to meet the expenses of the branch and that it has been many years since the branch dues were raised. A vote was called. The members present voted unanimously to pass the motion.
- University Representative Maryjane Giesler reported that the newly established AAUW-Los Alamos Scholarship for a female, non-traditional student enrolled at UNM-LA has been awarded to Dawn Law-Duran. She is the first recipient of this scholarship. She is presently a teaching assistant and hopes to earn a degree in education. She has three daughters, the eldest of them now a student at UNM main campus. Maryjane also thanked the branch member donors who generously supported the scholarship and also thanked the scholarship committee for their work.

Denise George inquired if the scholarship committee had been given three qualified candidates from which to choose the scholarship recipient. The answer was no, the committee had been given only two, one of which had failed to submit a required essay. Members of the committee felt, however, that the one candidate was qualified.

- STEM representative Helena Whyte reported that Tech Trek 2019 was a very successful camp. Helena is president of the Tech Trek Board of Directors. Helena said there will be another camp of 60 girls in June of 2020. She noted that the NM Public Education Department will not donate \$10,000 as in past years to Tech Trek 2020 but that there will still be major corporate support; Helena mentioned in particular both Sandia and Honeywell as supporters. Helena has extra Tech Trek t-shirts to sell at \$10.00 each.
- Judy Crocker reminded the members that an organization with 501c3 status is a recognized charitable organization. Judy also recommended that individuals might consider paying attention to upcoming local elections.
- It was noted that branch members Pat Mendius, Kay Harper, and Pat Harlow are all now residents of Aspen Ridge Assisted Living Center.

The Business Meeting was adjourned.

** For future reference, below are some further notes about the non-business-meeting parts of the Fall Luncheon:

1. Mary Ann Lindahl made all the arrangements for the luncheon and program. Nancy Nunnally assisted her and brought roses for the luncheon tables.
2. The meal was partially catered by Ruby K's, a sandwich shop in Los Alamos. The catered portion of the meal consisted of turkey, ham, and vegetarian wraps—each cut into

two pieces. Council members brought green salad, finger-food desserts, and beverages (tea, water, punch, and coffee).

3. The interest groups were “advertised” and sign-up sheets provided: Karin Roberts spoke about the Fiction Book Groups, both the evening group and the afternoon group. Denise George about the Non-fiction Book Group. Carol Neal spoke on behalf of the “Out ‘n About” group announcing that Nina Thayer, who was not present, is organizing a trip to the new exhibit about San Ildefonso Pottery at the Indian Museum in Santa Fe. Mona Wecksung told about the “Great Decision” groups.
4. Kay Harper, who is almost 95, requested time to speak. She advised members to look into ways to save money on taxes whenever, as an individual, one sells a major asset. In particular, she suggested one should investigate something she called a “5-year forward” tax plan. She mentioned that donating something valuable to charity can save money on taxes, and she also said some banks are now reducing taxes on re-financing of mortgages.
5. Helena Whyte ended the luncheon by showing the 8.5 minute video made at the 2019 Tech Trek. The video showed the range of activities and events in which the campers participated.

The Los Alamos Branch Fall Luncheon was a success.

Respectively submitted,

Carol Neal, Branch Council Secretary

DRAFT

Minutes of Coordinating Council Meeting held

October 3, 2019

The meeting was **called to order** by Facilitator Alahna Weller at 2:17 pm.

Present: Alahna Weller, Maryjane Giesler, Mary Ann Lindahl, Margaret Gibson, Beverly Cooper, and Carol Neal

Facilitator’s Report (Alahna Weller):

Alahna thanked Mary Ann Lindahl for organizing an excellent Fall Luncheon; she also expressed gratitude that Helena Whyte had arranged for the Melea _____?_____, who had served as a Junior Counselor at Tech Trek 2019, to be the featured speaker at Fall Luncheon. Helena also contributed to the Luncheon by showing the 8 minute video taken during Tech Trek 2019.

The Council agreed that no one had officially sent a thank-you note to Melea for her talk at Luncheon. **Carol Neal agreed to write and send such a note on behalf of the Council.**

Treasurer’s Report (Margaret Gibson):

Margaret reported that the branch group tax exemption form has been filed. This was done through national AAUW and Margaret has received confirmation that it was done.

Margaret distributed copies of financial reports for July and August for the council members to read.

Margaret initiated a discussion of dealings with Enterprise Bank (formerly Los Alamos National Bank). At issue was the small separate account named “AAUW Funds” which has only a small balance. The bank charges \$1/month service fee for any account which shows little or no

activity. **Mary Ann Lindahl moved, and Bev Cooper seconded, that the AAUW Funds account be closed and the proceeds be deposited into our main AAUW account, but kept as a separate line item. The motion passed unanimously. Margaret will make this change.**

A question was asked about how branch dues are handled. Margaret explained that if a person gives her, as branch treasurer, payment for all the dues—branch, state, and national— she retains the branch dues of \$10.00 and sends the remainder to national. But if a person sends all her dues directly to national, then national sends back to the branch the \$10.00 of branch dues.

Margaret reported that the \$15.00 charge for Fall Luncheon attendance more than covered the expenses—the excess was \$82.08. At Fall Luncheon one donation was received and quite a few members paid their annual dues.

Margaret said she has changed the budget to show the payment for insurance which cost \$185.00. She took a little from several line items to create this budget item.

Alahna asked if the branch had made any kind of donation to Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

Margaret said we have not done so and we have used their facility at least three times since September 2018 without being asked for any fees. **Mary Ann Lindahl moved, and Margaret Gibson seconded, that we donate \$50.00 to Bethlehem Lutheran Church as thanks for being allowed to use their building. The motion passed unanimously. Margaret agreed to write a note and send the check to the church.**

Membership Report (Margaret Gibson):

Margaret reported she had written letters to all members who had not renewed at or before Fall Luncheon. Five members have not, as of today, renewed: Jill Foreman; Stephanie Garcia Richards, the newly elected NM Land Commissioner; Cindy Rooney; Pamela Massey, who said she has chosen to spend more time writing poetry; and Barbara Seegar.

Programs Report (Mary Ann Lindahl):

Mary Ann reported she plans to talk with Margo Batha, the Los Alamos High School Speech Team coach, about whether it would be possible for members of the speech team to present some of their work as a program for a branch meeting.

Bev Cooper suggested the Robotics Team might also be a possibility for a program.

Maryjane Geisler suggested Stephanie Garcia Richards would be happy to speak to the branch about her work as Land Commissioner. Maryjane spoke to Stephanie at an event held at UNM-LA.

Margaret Gibson suggested we might invite Harshini Mukandan to speak at a branch general meeting. Margaret gave Mary Ann a copy of the LA Daily Post from September 12, 2019, that tells about Ms. Mukandan.

Carol Neal reported that Nina Thayer has proposed three possible dates for an “Out ‘n About’ trip to view, with a docent, the San Ildefonso Pottery Exhibit at the Indian Museum in Santa Fe. The proposed dates are Oct. 30, Nov. 6, or Nov. 13. Council discussed the dates and chose October 30 as their first choice, with Nov. 6 as second choice. **Carol agreed to report back to Nina.**

University Representative Report (Maryjane Giesler):

Maryjane said she had spoken with Registrar Jenny Duran at UNM-LA about her interaction with the, Dawn Law Duran, the recipient of our newly created AAUW-LOS ALAMOS scholarship

for a student at UNM-LA. Jenny (who is not a relation of the recipient) said Dawn's reaction had been one of "screaming with happiness" when she was told she had been chosen. Maryjane is concerned that no information about how to apply for the 2020 NCCWSL (National Conference for College Women Student Leaders) has been made available. Usually there is an AAUW-New Mexico scholarship for one applicant from New Mexico and Los Alamos Branch has added to that scholarship if the recipient is from the Los Alamos area. **Maryjane said she would contact Cassie Mars, of NM AAUW Board for more information. Alahna said she would try to find out anything about this at the Leadership Team Meeting (LTM) which will be held in Albuquerque October 25-26.**

Margaret Gibson suggested we ask Denise George to put information about on-line Work Smart training onto the branch website. Margaret said the branch will get a "star" if we do so. **Carol Neal agreed to let Denise know the council thinks this is a good idea.**

Publicity Report (Bev Cooper):

Bev Cooper mentioned she has spoken with Sue Watts. Sue said she might consider being Public Policy Chair but not this year—Sue's husband passed away recently.

New Business:

Mary Ann will pursue having a general branch meeting in November. A tentative date of November 14 at the White Rock Library was chosen with second choice of November 7, at the same location. The time would be 7 pm in either case.

The Holiday Luncheon will be December 14, 2019, at Rancho de Chimayo. **Mary Ann Lindahl will make the reservations.**

The next Coordinating Council meeting will be held Tuesday, November 19, at 2 pm, at Alahna Weller's home. Carol Neal agreed to send out a reminder notice via email a week before said meeting.

Facilitator Alahna Weller adjourned the meeting at 3:25 pm.

DRAFT

**Minutes of Coordinating Council Meeting held
November 19, 2019**

The meeting was **called to order** by Facilitator Alahna Weller at 2:13 pm.

Present: Alahna Weller, Bev Cooper, Margaret Gibson, Maryjane Giesler, Terry Marzili, Carol Neal, and Denise George.

Facilitator's Report (Alahna Weller):

Alahna reported she had attended the Fall Leadership Team Meeting (LTM) in Albuquerque on October 26, 2019. Alahna reported three main items from that meeting: (1) Judy Prono presented the new AAUW Five Star Program which is basically a set of requirements for earning stars that is an attempt to assure quality of branches. Alahna distributed a brochure about the details of the program to each Council Member. [Discussion of the Five Star Program was postponed to the "new business" section of today's meeting.] (2) Pamela Herndon, CEO of KWH Law Center for Social Justice and Change, presented a program entitled "Advancing Women's Economic Security in the 21st Century". During Ms. Herndon's presentation she discussed Fair Pay for Women and the Equal Pay Act of 1963. After telling us about Ms.

Herndon's presentation Alahna distributed copies of a brochure about the recently passed New Mexico Fair Pay for Women Act. (3) At the LTM it was announced that AAUW National needs \$750,000/month to operate and is requesting that each AAUW member contribute at least \$30.00 this year to unrestricted national funds to help pay operating expenses.

A discussion followed about National's request for funds. It was decided that **the next branch newsletter will contain a note about this request** but that the Branch will not, at least at this time, make any further attempt to raise said funds.

Secretary's Report (Carol Neal):

Copies of the draft of the October 3, 2019 Council Meeting were distributed and discussed. It was noted that Mary Ann Lindahl and not Helena Whyte as stated in the draft had issued the invitation to Melea Joyce to be the featured speaker at the Fall Luncheon. The error was corrected and the minutes as corrected accepted to be filed.

Membership Report (Margaret Gibson):

Margaret reported that Beverly Edwards has joined our branch. She also noted that since her last report both Cindy Rooney and Barbara Seegar have submitted their dues as continuing members.

Budget Report (Margaret Gibson):

Margaret distributed copies of branch financial reports for September and October. She noted that the budget line for treasurer has proved insufficient as money was needed for bank form supplies. Otherwise there were no surprises and it was agreed the financial reports were without problems.

Program Discussion (Mary Ann Lindahl was absent)

- Maryjane reported she gave Marilyn Doolen information about Dawn Law Duran, the recipient of the first AAUW scholarship given to a student of UNM-LA, so Marilyn can invite Ms. Duran to come to the Holiday Luncheon and be recognized and given an opportunity to tell the branch members a bit about herself and her studies. If Ms. Duran attends the luncheon Marilyn will introduce her and if Ms. Duran doesn't come Marilyn will say a few words on her behalf.
- **Maryjane will check on the status of UNM-LA renewing its university membership in AAUW.**
- **Denise will get details about the Holiday Luncheon from Mary Ann** so as to be able to include them in the next newsletter.
- Denise reported that the check she gave for the UNM-LA scholarship fund has not been cashed. In the discussion of this matter it was reported that there is at least one other such check that has not been cashed. **Denise said she will check on this matter with both Mary Ann who collected the checks and if necessary, Gail Burns at UNM-LA to attempt to track down these checks.**

- Maryjane said she **will distribute NCCWSL application forms UNM-LA students** who might be qualified and interested in applying to attend this conference.
- **Carol Neal agreed to write a thank-you note to Stephanie Garcia Richards** on behalf of the Council for her excellent presentation about her work as NM Land Commissioner at the November 7, 2019, Branch General Meeting.
- Denise reminded us that Stephanie Garcia Richards invited our AAUW Branch to visit her office in Santa Fe. No actual assignment for organizing such was made but Nina Thayer heard the invitation and might be asked to organize such.

Publicity Report (Bev Cooper):

Bev reported that there were articles in both the *Los Alamos Monitor* and the *Los Alamos Daily Post* about the branch meeting that featured Land Commissioner Stephanie Garcia Richards.

New Business:

- The council members discussed the “Five Star Program” and in general thought it to be much paper work for little value. However, **Carol and Alahna agreed to work on a plan for the Branch’s response to this program.** One of the items in the Five Star Program requests a branch do a “community resource mapping exercise”. **Denise offered to investigate what this request is actually asking for. Denise will also put a link for Work Smart on our branch website.**
- Ideas for programs for the spring were discussed. (1) Have a program about women who contributed to the passage of the 19th Amendment. If such is done it was thought March 2020 would be an appropriate time to do so. (2) Bev mentioned that she had heard Lidia Martinez speak about her new cookbook, *The Chili Line*. Lidia works at Enterprise Bank here in Los Alamos but she lives in Espanola. Bev suggested she would be an excellent person to invite to speak to a branch general meeting.

Announcements (Alahna Weller):

- The Legislative Preview held in conjunction with the League of Women Voters will be January 8, 2020. Our AAUW member Helena Whyte will be the moderator for the Preview. Our branch members will be asked to bring finger foods (League members will also contribute goodies.) Our branch will also contribute ½ of the building rental fee for the evening.
- Denise has already collected about \$700.00 dollars for the fruit donation to LA Cares. **Packing the fruit into bags will be at Karen’s on Jan. 12 at 9 am. Denise and Mary Ann will arrange for acquiring the fruit. Carol volunteered her van to deliver the bags on Jan. 12.**
- **Carol will organize an Un-Tea to raise funds for Tech Trek.** The Un-Tea will be mailed out in early February.

The next Coordinating Council Meeting will be held Thursday, January 23, at Denise's.

Alahna adjourned the meeting at 3:35 pm.