

2023 AAUW combined minutes

January 17, 2023

Los Alamos AAUW Coordinating Council Meeting January 17, 2023

Present: Judy Prono, Margaret Gibson, Nina Thayer, Helena Whyte, Marilyn Doolen, Mary Ann Lindahl, Denise George, Carol Neal, Bev Cooper, Maryjane Giesler

Meeting was called to order at 2:05 P.M.

Minutes from previous council meeting were approved

Facilitator's Report – Carol Neal

Fire Book Committee Report: The books were taken to Boulder. Judy Crocker spoke to the librarian and will arrange with the worse affected schools in the area to give Caldecott and Newberry Awards books to those schools.

The Citizen Advocacy Workshop can be reviewed at lwvnm.org.

A link for the LTM report for the upcoming January 29 meeting will be posted on our website.

Facilitator's Report – Judy Prono

A survey was filled out by Carol and Judy for national AAUW. It was a 16 page survey requesting a summary of all you as a branch have done in the last year. They had trouble filling out this form because it only had very small text boxes and was unclear how much information National wanted in the boxes. There was also no way to see what they had already submitted. The survey was supposed to take 10 minutes, but it took Judy and Carol two hours to fill out. National intends to make a one page brochure for recruiting using this survey from all the branches. Our branch already does a lot of mission- based activities.

Judy said NCWSSL will be in person this year, and she wondered if there would be any applicants this year. The proposed scholarship application would require three essays, including 100 words on why you wanted to attend and 100 words on how you would share your experience.

Maryjane said she had talked to one student who has since gone to Socorro. School here (at UNM-LA) has not started yet, but she will look for others who might be interested. Maryjane said she has had a hard time getting students to fill out an application. Judy urged Carol and Helena to ask at the upcoming LTM that the NM scholarship application be kept as simple and short as possible.

Treasurer's Report – Mary Ann Lindahl

Following is the treasurer's report as presented by Mary Ann

Treasurers Report for Board Meeting on 10/31/22

Bank Balance on 9/30/22	\$5252.84
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Expenses	
AAUW DUES	\$663.00
PO BOX rental	166.00

Income		
Dues		\$105.00
AAUW	DIRECT PAY	20.00
Interest		\$00.21
Bank Balance on 10/31/22		\$4549.05

Treasurers Report for Board Meeting on 11/30/22

Bank Balance on 10/31/22	\$4549.05
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Expenses	
AAUW	\$134.00
RUBY K	\$299.85

Income	
Dues	
AAUW DUES	11/10 193.00
AAUW DUES	11/26 62.50
AAUW DIRECT PAY	20.00

Interest	\$00.18
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Bank Balance on 11/30/22	\$4,390.70
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Treasurers Report for Board Meeting on 12/31/22

Bank Balance on 11 /30/22	\$4390.70
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Expenses	
AAUW DEBIT	\$85.00

Income	
Dues	\$105.00

Membership Report – Judy and Mary Ann will follow up on the issue of 12 branch members not having renewed.

University Rep – **Maryjane Giesler** said we will wait until next year to discuss a scholarship recipient. The program on Title V should be on a Tuesday or Wednesday after Easter, perhaps in April.

Public Policy – **Judy Prono**. January 30 is Advocacy Day, and the program will kick off at the land office. You can find information at the state website. Helena, Denise and Nina are planning to go.

Tech Trek – Helena requested that we do a fundraiser for Tech Trek this year. The committee decided to do the traditional un-tea fundraiser. Carol Neal will be in charge, and several people volunteered to help.

New Program – It was decided that February 14 would be a good day to have a branch lunch at Rancho de Chimayo with new members as our guests. Helena will talk about Tech Trek. Nina will contact the restaurant (as Mary Ann reported, they are presently closed for their annual deep cleaning).

Science Fair – Judy, Mary Ann, Denise, Marilyn, and Bev will be judges at the science fair. Mary Ann will bring the money in \$20 bills for easy distribution. We have a long tradition of judging elementary science fair projects.

Other Programs – Bev will be calling Self Help to discuss possible dates for a program. She requested that it be held over Zoom.

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:02 P.M.

Feb. 28, 2023

AAUW-Los Alamos Coordinating Council Meeting: Feb. 28, 2023

Present: Denise George, Carol Neal, Marilyn Doolen, Margaret Gibson, Bev Cooper, Maryjane Giesler, Nina Thayer, Judy Prono, Helena Whyte

Meeting was called to order at 2:07 pm

Minutes from previous meeting were accepted as sent.

Facilitator's Report: Carol Neal

- Firebook Project is done. We collected \$575 and spent \$419.18; remaining funds can be used for books for schools affected by the Calf Canyon/Hermit's Peak fires. We have 10 copies of *The Forest and the Fire* left (though Bev would like 4 cc). Carol has written a full report on the project that she will send to Council members. Denise will summarize the report in the March newsletter.
- UnTea Tech Trek fundraiser is done. Marilyn Doolen helped assemble invitations and teabags; the only hiccup was getting correct extra postage needed due to bulk of teabag in envelope. They sent out 48 invitations; Council members had received theirs.
- Valentine's luncheon: 12 attended. Good time was had by all.
- Council elections in May: 3 Council members will reach term limits (Carol, Margaret, Bev) and will need to be replaced. Carol suggested we put out a call for volunteers in the March newsletter. Nina offered to call 10 members; Carol, Judy, Denise, Marilyn, and Bev volunteered to call as well. Denise and Nina will divide the membership list between the 6 of us and let us know whom to call. Denise will also put a notice in the March newsletter on the need for Council candidates.
- At the January LTM, it was announced that there was still money for Branch Project awards (up to \$200/award). Should we apply for one to defray costs of sending books to schools affected by the northern NM fires? Consensus was we need more information on the number of schools affected; Carol also indicated the Las Vegas branch might want to join us

in this work. Carol will follow up on how to proceed; perhaps Judy Crocker will be willing to research the issue.

Facilitator's Report: Judy Prono

- Judy discussed the pending “reinventing” of AAUW-NM, following up on Shelley Rossbach’s and Phyllis Ludi’s notes on “The Future of AAUW-NM.” Question was should we have a branch meeting to discuss proposed changes to state organizational structure. Nina said she had drafted a proposal to form a task force to study the issue and report back by next summer’s LTM on recommendations, with the end being changes made at the 2024 state convention; she has sent the draft to all Council members. Carol, Marilyn, and Judy agreed to review/edit her draft and get back to Nina. We would then ask that the proposal be taken up at the state convention in April.
- Santa Fe has changed its Equal Pay Day luncheon venue to Dr. Field Goods at the DeVargas Center; lunch will now cost \$25-\$30; RSVPs are required. Pamelya Herndon will be the speaker. Denise has sent out the new invitation to all members. Carol, Helena, and Judy said they would attend.

Treasurer's Report: None. However, Judy noted that Mary Ann and she had called the 12 members who had not paid their 2022/23 dues, and who had therefore been dropped by national from our membership list. All but 2 paid their dues; Cindy Rooney and Kyle Wheeler did not renew. Judy asked Denise to double-check with Mary Ann on the renewals and then update our membership list.

Membership Report: None

University Rep: Maryjane Giesler

So far, Maryjane has not been able to generate much interest in NCCWSL, but she is still trying. She reported progress on the April 20 meeting at UNM-LA on its Title V Grant. There will be a panel discussion on the grant, which is given to educational institutions serving Hispanic communities to help them tailor their teaching techniques to the needs of Hispanic students. Maryjane will be on the panel. Due to ongoing renovations on campus, a specific room has not been booked but it will probably be either the Jeannette Wallace room or a room in the student center. UNM-LA will provide refreshments. Maryjane is working with Ann Jarrett on meeting details.

Public Policy: Judy Prono

A notice was sent to members about contacting Chandler/Jaramillo/Gonzales about supporting pending gun safety legislation. Nina Thayer testified in person on HB 9 and online for SB 44. HB 9 on safe storage of guns received a “do pass” from the Senate Judiciary Comm. Nina also mentioned that SALA will host women-focused programs two nites a week during March, Women’s History Month.

Tech Trek: Helena Whyte

Applications have been slow coming in; the deadline to apply is Feb. 28. The minimum camp attendance is 48; the maximum is 60.

Diversity, Inclusion, & Equity: Marilyn Doolen

Marilyn had no report but asked if we had received any thank you notes from our Science Fair awards; since Mary Ann was not at the meeting, no one knew.

Programs: Our March 7 program with Self Help will be on Zoom. Denise will run the meeting. She will send Bev an email address for nonmembers to use if they wish to attend; Bev will put a write up about the program in the online papers.

Our Spring Tea is scheduled for Friday, May 12. Nina will check on the availability of the Bethlehem Lutheran church on that date. We'd like to have our UNM-LA scholarship winner speak briefly. Beyond that, no plans have been made.

New Business: Carol mentioned that two state awards have upcoming nomination deadlines: Mission in Action, March 10; Ingenious Ideas, March 15. Although no cash award comes with the latter, we suggested nominating the Firebook Project for it; Carol will follow up on that. Nominations go to Helena.

Next Council meeting: March 28 @ 2 pm on Zoom

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm

Respectfully submitted, Judy Prono, co-Facilitator

Council Minutes of AAUW Los Alamos Branch

The meeting, conducted via zoom, was called to order on **March 28, 2023** at 2:08 p.m. by Carol Neal.

Members present were: Carol Neal, Judy Prono, Margaret Gibson, Maryjane Giesler, Marilyn Doolen, Mary Ann Lindahl, Nina Thayer and Denise George. Linda McLellan filled in taking minutes. Absent were: Bev Cooper, Helena Whyte, Alahna Weller.

OLD BUSINESS:

Judy will send the final corrected February minutes to Denise. Carol will get all the minutes to Linda. All the minutes are also on the website.

Nominations report: Carroll Thomas has agreed to serve on the board. Linda McLellan will serve on the board as Secretary. Denise will put a note in the next newsletter that one volunteer for Council is still needed.

Fire Book report: no new committee has been formed at present.

AAUW State Convention is coming up and will be held at Santa Ana Star Center near Rio Rancho, and an invitation has been sent out to all our members.

Tech Trek report: All the essays have been scored and interviews are underway. Plans are to invite selected candidates by mid-April. Our Branch participated by reading 35 essays and interviewing 5 candidates from our region of Los Alamos, Espanola and Taos. We will not know the names of the students selected until camp is over. We hope to have a camper attend our fall luncheon to share her experiences. All 3 NM candidates to 2023 AAUW-NCCWSL are Tech Trek graduates. They are future MD's and engineers!

Financial report: Mary Ann gave a financial report. Our current balance in the Branch is \$4,587.47. Six members, who had not paid dues, have now paid. \$50 was left from the Science Fair. We have submitted a report to the Secretary of State with a fee of \$10.

Science Fair report: Carol said we have received thank you notes from the Science Fair winners and they will appear in the next newsletter.

AAUW National: Judy said we will be receiving a survey covering 2022 from National which will need to be filled out and returned.

University representative report: Maryjane said we do not have a local NCCWSL candidate. NM has representation from other branches.

Monthly Meeting: Our next Branch meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 20, 2023 at 7:00 pm at UNM-LA Jeannette Wallace Room, Building 5. The title of the presentation is: Title V— PASE “Pathways to Academic Success and Excellence. UNM-LA as a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HIS), applied for and received a Title V grant to expand educational opportunities for, and improve the attainment of, Hispanic Students. These grants also enable HIS’s to expand and enhance their academic offerings, program quality and institutional stability. The panel listed below, composed of UNM-LA staff, will explain how this grant will benefit all students at the university. Each speaker will have 10 minutes to speak and show slides outlining the new programs and tools that will result from this grant. There will be time for questions.

Refreshments will be provided which the Branch is not responsible to provide. We are not responsible for promoting with posters either. Judy asked for someone to take notes, as she will be out of town. The League of Women’s Voters and the Los Alamos High School need to be made aware.

Public policy report: Judy had no report.

Legislature Review report: Nina reported that “Pay for Legislators” didn’t gain any ground. She suggested AAUW might get behind it and push for a constitutional amendment. Pamela Herndon says that the Fair Pay Act for Women has opened up opportunities for women in the state. Wider knowledge of this Act needs to be disseminated. Nina reports that Bill HB9 (safe gun storage) was passed by the House and Senate and signed by the Governor. Bill SB43 (Intimidation of Election Officials) also passed but has not been signed by the Governor yet. Nina suggested that AAUW might be more active in the summer on what we want to support. Denise – showed an article on Apache Women “Keepers of the Way” and asked if she might put this in the April Newsletter, and the council agreed she should include a write-up. The article appeared in a publication of the Chiricahua National Monument.

Publicity report: Bev is out of town. We don’t have anything that needs to be put in the newspaper.

Spring Tea report: Nina reported that the Tea will be held on May 12, 2023 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church upstairs in the library/coffee bar area; the room is reserved from 3:00-6:00 pm. It was suggested that scrap books be at the Tea. Some ideas for the program include: a travel log presented by 2-3 members with an emphasis on culture and people, a local author could speak, or a program on the Southwest. We will discuss this further at the next meeting. Maryjane will invite our scholarship recipient to say a few words. We need to invite new members to the Spring Tea. A suggestion was made that we send an invitation to the entire membership for the Spring Tea and have them in the mail by April 30.

Membership report: Alahna was not present. Nina suggested we need to lower the age of prospective members.

NEW BUSINESS:

It was asked how much was donated by our Branch from to the Tech Trek Tea campaign. Helena was not available to answer the question, but we can announce this at the Spring Tea.

A possibility for the Fall Luncheon speaker might be the new Superintendent of School, Jennifer Guy.

Next meeting: April 18, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. by zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Linda McLellan

April 18, 2023

Minutes of AAUW Council Meeting **April 18, 2023**

Present: Denise George, Margaret Gibson, Carol Neal, Judy Prono, Maryjane Giesler, Nina Thayer, Marilyn Doolen, Bev Cooper

Meeting was called to order at 2:15 P.M.

Minutes from previous council meeting were taken by Linda McLellan; she did not send out copies to everyone. Denise will send a copy to Judy Prono, and the minutes will be filed.

Facilitator's Report – Judy and Carol and others who attended convention (Nina, Denise, Natalie)

State Convention: Guest speaker via Zoom, Malinda A. Gaul, Esq, AAUW Board of Directors Vice Chair and Chair of AAUW Governance Committee. There were mixed reviews of what she said. New Mexico has 10 branches, which is better than some states with larger populations. Gaul shared ways other states are dealing with dwindling memberships and noted that in "reinventing" our state or branch organizations, our focus should be on determining the value-added of AAUW membership. If the goal is simply social interactions, AAUW affiliation is not needed. Younger populations may not be interested. Judy said the convention was not well attended; the attendees were the same 18 people that show up at conventions and state meetings. Some values of AAUW-NM were listed: supports branches, education, and advocacy. Registration did not cover the actual expenses; this is why governance changes were brought up. Changes in the AAUW-NM organization were discussed; only three LTM meetings were held this year, and we are having difficulty filling the offices required by the current AAUW-NM structure. There was a guest speech by Albuquerque member Danielle Martin (Carol said it was a good talk). Her talk was divided into two sections: Cybersecurity for Everyone (put your password in your will), and "AI Is Here: What Do We Do?". Under the second part, it was mentioned that Chat-GPT, a generative pre-trained transformer was here, and that it was impressive. NCCWSL scholarships were awarded: two are going, one of whom has a national scholarship, and one who has a state scholarship and was awarded travel money.

Treasurer's Report – Mary Ann Lindahl

Mary Ann reported no change in the treasury. There is some question on how many members we actually have, Mary Ann is moving to 928 Circle Drive.

Alahna Weller was not present, so there was no membership report.

Judy Prono said Tech Trek will accept 60 girls. \$1500 is the cost per girl.

Maryjane Giesler reported on the upcoming program at UNM-LA on the Title V panel discussion that will take place on April 20 at 7:00 P.M. Denise will send out a Zoom link. Anne Jarrett has the program ready. Maryjane will invite our AAUW scholarship recipient, Sara Lujan, to the spring tea.

Marilyn Doolen, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer was planning to attend a national webinar on Monday.

Bev Cooper will publicize the tea. She said the LA Daily Post was not being responsive to her publicity requests, although the LA Reporter was.

Website Manager, Denise George, said there are still broken links on the website that are supposed to link to National but they don't. Judy suggested contacting Katrina Breese.

The spring tea will be held Friday, May 12, from 3-6 P.M. at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church gathering space. Council members will bring refreshments. New officers will be voted on; the candidates are Carroll Thomas and Linda McLellan. Bev, Nina, and Carol will send out some invitations to the tea to our newest members.

The joint meeting of the old and new coordinating committee members will be held on Tuesday, June 6, at 1:00 P.M. at Mary Ann's new house. This will be the next board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret Gibson
Secretary

May 19, 2023

Minutes of AAUW-Los Alamos Spring Tea & Branch Meeting

May 19, 2023

The meeting was held at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church Gathering space and began at 4 pm. The business meeting was chaired by Carol Neal; a quorum was present along with two guests. The meeting began with remarks on the April AAUW-NM state convention by those who had attended. The main issue is ongoing work to restructure the state organization, minimizing both its number of meetings and officers. A task force is being organized to come up with suggestions

for changes. Carol Neal and Judy Prono also spoke about the keynote speakers' presentations on cybersecurity and AI developments.

We had hoped to hear from Sara Louise Lujan, our 2022-23 AAUW-Los Alamos scholarship recipient at UNM-LA, but she did not attend. Helena Whyte gave an update on the upcoming Tech Trek camp, which will accept 60 girls this year. She noted some of the challenges and successes of the STEM camp and answered questions.

Carol reported that the Fire Book committee would continue to research book donation options for schools affected by the Hermits Peak/Calf Canyon fires. It has money remaining from its work sending books to the Boulder County, Colorado schools. Judy Crocker has agreed to continue serving on the committee to find ways to use the money to benefit the NM schools. Carol also gave a status report on the funds available for our UNM-LA scholarship; the scholarship committee hopes to review applications in late August. She also announced that AAUW dues for the 2023-24 year are now due.

Election of Coordinating Council Officers: Linda McLellan, Carroll Thomas, and Judy Prono were elected to 2-year terms on the Council.

Carol Neal thanked 2023 Coordinating Council members for their service, and Judy Prono recognized the three Council members who had served for the past 6 years: Carol Neal, Margaret Gibson, and Bev Cooper.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Prono, Co-Facilitator

June 6, 2023

Council Minutes of AAUW Los Alamos Branch

The meeting was conducted at the home of Mary Ann Lindahl **on June 6, 2023** and was called to order at 2:18 pm.

Members present were: Denise George, Maryjane Giesler, Mary Ann Lindahl, Linda McLellan, Carol Neal, Judy Prono, Nina Thayer, and Carroll Thomas.

OLD BUSINESS:

The minutes from April 18, 2023 were accepted as corrected.

Membership: Judy Prono reported we have 51 members on our membership list, but National has 45 members. Mary Ann Lindahl will cross-check her records on 2022-23 dues payments that were sent in late and will follow up with National on discrepancies. Members might have been listed under the wrong branch.

Fund Raising from National: Carroll Thomas commented she had gotten a fund raising letter from National. The Council finds it annoying we get so many of these letters from National and perhaps we should make note of this to National.

Scholarship Committee: It was noted that our branch has enough funds at present to award one scholarship for the 2023-24 academic year at UNM-LA. The total amount in the scholarship fund, at present, is not enough to award two scholarships, but there is a balance that is a good start on the funds needed for a scholarship for 2024-25.

Fire Books Committee: This committee will resume in the fall and Carol Neal will continue to chair the committee.

NEW BUSINESS:

Officer Assignments:

Facilitator: co-facilitators –Judy Prono and Carroll Thomas

Treasurer: Mary Ann Lindahl

Membership: Mary Ann Lindahl and possibly Alahna Weller

Secretary: Linda McLellan

College & University Rep: Maryjane Giesler

Public Policy: Judy Prono and Nina Thayer

DEI/Historian: Marilyn Doolen

Programs: Council will handle programs

Officer Assignments continued:

Publicity: Bev Cooper (appointed)

Communications/Website: Denise George

Hospitality: Nina Thayer (appointed)

STEM: Helena Whyte (appointed)

Fall Luncheon:

The Fall Luncheon will be held on Saturday, September 23, 2023 from noon to 1:30 p.m. at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. We will ask Tech Trek camper(s) from Los Alamos to talk about their camp experience; Helena Whyte may also have a camp video to show. If we have chosen our UNM-LA scholarship recipient by then, we might also invite her to talk about her academic goals. We will have lunch, speaker(s) and then dessert. Nina Thayer will reserve Bethlehem Lutheran Church for that date and time. We should encourage members to bring guests.

Donation to Bethlehem Lutheran Church:

A motion was made by Carol Neal and seconded by Denise George to give a donation to Bethlehem Lutheran Church in the amount of \$100.00 in appreciation of using their facilities. All voted in favor.

Next Coordinating Council Meeting:

Our next meeting will be held by zoom on Thursday, August 17, 2023 at 2:30 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda McLellan, Secretary

August 17, 2023

Council Minutes of AAUW Los Alamos Branch

The meeting was conducted by Zoom on **August 17, 2023** and was called to order at 2:34 pm.

Members present were: Bev Cooper, Denise George, Maryjane Giesler, Mary Ann Lindahl, Judy Prono, and Nina Thayer. Those absent were: Marilyn Doolen, Carroll Thomas, Alahna Weller and Helena Whyte.

OLD BUSINESS:

Minutes: The Minutes from May 19, 2023 Spring Tea/Branch Meeting and June 6, 2023 Joint Council meeting were approved unanimously by those present at the meeting.

Facilitator Report: Co-facilitator, Carroll Thomas, was absent. Judy Prono mentioned she had updated our officer list on the AAUW website. We do not have a membership chair and Judy will check with Alahna Weller to see if she will serve another year.

Treasurer's Report: Mary Ann Lindahl reported that we have \$5,861.54 in our bank account. Mary Ann will work on the treasurer's report and the budget for the Fall Luncheon.

Nina Thayer asked that \$100.00 be added to the budget to replace our old plastic tablecloths with cloth tablecloths. She will need to purchase 2 banquet size and 5 round tablecloths. The group decided on peach for the color of the cloths. The council gave Nina permission to purchase the cloths and get reimbursed for the cost.

Judy mentioned that Mary Ann should work with 47 members less six life members for our budget estimates.

It was also discussed that some of the smaller budget items be consolidated into a single item on the budget under "other miscellaneous".

Membership: Judy reported that there is still a discrepancy with National on membership. Both Denise George and Bev Cooper are shown on National records as being unpaid on their 2024 dues. Judy and Mary Ann will follow up and work to straighten this out.

Public Policy: National is working to remove the ratification deadline and to get the ERA passed as the 28th amendment.

College and University Report: Maryjane Giesler reported she has no real information on the scholarship. No applications have been turned in to Jenee Duran, but Jenee said she would get to work on our scholarship. Jenee would like to make sure the dates on the web are good.

DEI/Historian: no report

Council Minutes of AAUW Los Alamos

The meeting was conducted by Zoom on September 14, 2023 and was called to order at 2:40 pm.

Members present were: Denise George, Marilyn Doolen, Judy Prono, Linda McLellan, Mary Ann Lindahl, and Bev Cooper. We had a quorum.

Members absent were: Mary Jane Giesler, Alahna Weller, Carroll Thomas, Helena Whyte, and Nina Thayer.

Minutes: The minutes from the August 17, 2023 meeting were accepted as submitted and approved unanimously by those present at the meeting.

Facilitator Report: Judy sent out our AAUW-NM Restructuring suggestions to Lynn Heffron/Helena Whyte. The state wide task force meets on September 19, 2023. Our suggestions will be among those discussed.

Treasurer Report: Mary Ann Lindahl has not done a draft 2023/2024 budget at this time. She will provide a draft budget to the board before the Fall Luncheon. Judy mentioned we should add revenues based on 50 members. We discussed simplifying the categories under expenses and Judy and Mary Ann will send the board a draft.

Judy suggested donating \$100.00 for the League of Women's Voters. The board had no objections.

Membership: Mary Ann said we have an issue that some individuals have “grace” next to their name at National. Judy said we had 13 people still listed under “grace” who might have paid dues already through our branch. She talked to National membership and 8 names were reinstated who had renewed late. Mary Ann will check the names on her list against National and will clarify the issue. The 30th of September is the deadline to resolve with National.

Public Policy: Nina could not be here. Through Judy she reported that the legislative pieces we will work on are: reduction of class size at grade school levels and revamping the New Mexico colleges of education teacher program and approve the accreditation process.

College and University: Mary Jane said that Jenee Duran sent out information on our scholarship and the deadline to respond is September 29.

DEI/Historian Report: no report. Mary Ann gave appreciation to Denise for all the permanent records she does for us through the newsletter. Mary Ann will give information on Jean Nereson to Marilyn.

OLD BUSINESS:

Membership Chair: Alahna Weller will be membership chair

September 23, 2023

Fall Luncheon Business Meeting Minutes

The meeting was held on **September 23, 2023** at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Los Alamos, New Mexico and was called to order at 12:12 pm.

This was the Fall Luncheon and 23 members and guests were present.

Program: Judy Prono welcomed our group and she introduced our Tech Trek Campers, Julia Zou and Maya Somasekharan. They both talked about their experiences at Tech Trek and were very enthusiastic and positive! Tech Trek was held at New Mexico Tech, Socorro, New Mexico in June of 2023 and 60 campers attended.

Helena Whyte interacted with the campers and showed a video she made which gave an overview of life at Tech Trek. It was noted that even if a student wasn't chosen to attend Tech Trek, the skills of writing an essay and being interviewed for selection would be a benefit to the students later on.

Branch Interest Groups: Karin Roberts discussed our fiction book group and handed out our current schedule for the year. This group meets the first Monday evening of the month at 7:00 pm and the first Tuesday of the Month at 1:00 pm. Denise George discussed the non-fiction book group and mentioned it is a little less structured and meets every two months on a Monday.

Great Decisions Group was discussed by Denise George. This group meets starting in late January every two weeks with a leader selected for each topic. The group meets in the White Rock Library and usually begins the last week in January after the Great Decision books are received.

The Out 'N About group was discussed by Nina Thayer and Denise George. Denise Suggested a visit to the Museum of Western Film and Costume which is located off the high road to Taos.

Admission is \$10.00/person. Nina suggested visiting the New Mexico Museum of Art Vadem Contemporary which is newly opened in Santa Fe near the Rail Yard. She put out a signup sheet for both October 21 and November 4 to see which date is preferred.

2023/24 Proposed Budget: Mary Ann Lindahl presented the proposed 2023-24 budget for discussion. The budget was based on 52 members (41 paying members, 5 life members and 6 honorary life members). A suggestion was made to replace "Money Out – convention" with facility/rent. The budget was unanimously accepted as altered with a motion by Ginny White and second by Rozelle Wright.

Fire Book Committee Update: Carol Neal said we still have about \$150.00 left for fire books. Almost two years ago we sent books to affected areas in Colorado. The committee is researching distributing books to New Mexico schools affected by the Calf Canyon/Hermit's Peak fire. The committee is looking for branch members to join their group. The Las Vegas branch has indicated they might help. Carol has polled the committee members about what to do with the money and how to proceed.

Fall Programs: Judy asked members attending for ideas for programs and Out 'N About. She asked that a 3 x 5 card on the table be filled out with any suggestions.

The LA Cares Fruit Project will be held in November-December to provide fruit to families in need for the holidays. Denise will give further details in the newsletter requesting donations to buy the fruit. A holiday luncheon is being planned at Rancho de Chimayo, tentatively on December 9. Carroll Thomas suggested that Jeannie Gibson speak about the homeless in Los Alamos. More information will come in the newsletter.

Restructuring AAUW-NM: AAUW is reinventing our State organization to meet current needs. A small committee will look at what has been suggested by all State branches. The committee will recommend what we could and should do and create a leaner organization at the state level. We must have three officers.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda McLellan, Secretary

October 26, 2023

AAUW Coordinating Council Minutes

Meeting called to order at 2:39 by Judy Prono

Members present: Judy Prono, Maryjane Giesler, Denise George, Marilyn Doolen, Mary Ann Lindahl, Beverly Cooper, Nina Thayer

Minutes for the September 14 council meeting and September 23 branch meeting were approved for filing.

Facilitator Report: Judy Prono attended the October 22 AAUW-NM LTM via Zoom and reported that work continues on the restructuring of the AAUW-NM state organization. The proposal under consideration is for 3 meetings (convention, fall Zoom, legislative session); three elective officers (president, finance, secretary); and a leadership team consisting of the 3 elected officers plus the presidents of the branches. Other positions, like Public Policy Chair, Webmaster, and newsletter editor, would be appointed. However, the terms of office, term limits, and the nominating process are TBD. The restructuring committee has been asked to “flesh-out” its proposal in time for consideration at the January LTM in Santa Fe. Final vote on changes needs to be done at the state convention in April. Once this new organization model is finalized and voted in by the membership, bylaws will be changed to reflect the new model.

Treasurer Report: Mary Ann Lindahl is dealing with bank issues and will file a report later.

Membership Report: Alahna Weller has resigned her position, and it will be filled by Mary Ann Lindahl. AAUW National has extended the ‘grace’ period to October 31, 2023. We still have 3 members in that status: Nancy Nunnelley, Rosmarie Frederickson and Jeri Hertzman. There is one member who has dropped off the roles as dues were not paid last year, Ginny White. Mary Ann Lindahl and Judy Prono will contact these members. When their status is resolved, Denise George will update our membership directory.

Public Policy: The council agreed to not send a letter to the editor in favor of the school bond election as all other letters submitted had been in favor and we had nothing else to add.

College and University Report: Mary Jane Giesler reported that the scholarship committee chose a recipient of our \$1000 scholarship from a field of four very qualified candidates. The winner is Amber Serree a nursing student. She is a very young mother of a young infant whose mother is supportive of her daughter’s efforts. We will ask her to attend our holiday meeting. Discussion ensued of allowing the scholarship committee leeway in the number of scholarships offered and the award amount dependent on the funds in our scholarship account at the time of announcing scholarships applications. At our next meeting, we will consider increasing the scholarship to \$1500 or awarding two \$1000 scholarships next year.

DEI/Historian: Marilyn Doolen attended an AAUW-national Webinar and shared with the council insights from participants:

The way to be diverse is to be part of the community

Geography is important; especially isolation

Some branches have social justice book group (the council suggested that when a book has social justice aspects, these should be topics of discussion in our book clubs)

“Well behaved women seldom make history”

Programs:

Nov. 7, 7:30pm Zoom: Five Cybersecurity Tips, by Danielle Martin, AAUW-ABQ.

Dec. 9: Holiday Lunch, Rancho de Chimayo, possibly Amber Serree will briefly speak.

Number of attendees needed by Nov. 30. Dec. newsletter will be our early.

Dec 13,14, LA Cares Project:

Mary Ann Lindahl and Denise George will order and pick-up fruit, Karin Roberts will offer her home for packing. Denise will ask for volunteers to help pack and will check with LA Cares to confirm the dates for the December distribution.

Jan: Legislative preview with LWV:

Nina Thayer asked about hospitality duties. Judy Prono offered to find out date and to ask that Nina be contacted about refreshments.

Other program ideas:

First Born

Carroll Thomas's contact on the homeless in LA county.

LANL contact on women in the LANL workforce.

Mary Ann Lindahl's contact with the LANL summer student program.

Denise George's contact with the county archivist.

Old Business:

Nov. 4, Out 'n About to Voldem Contemporary Museum 11am tour:

WR carpool will leave from Denise's at 10:10.

LA carpool(s) will leave from United church parking lot at 10:00.

New Business:

Jan. 20 LAPS Science Fair: Karen Henderson has signed us up but will be out of town for the event. Mary Ann Lindahl has agreed to organize the judging committee. Denise George, Marilyn Doolen and Bev Cooper have agreed to judge. The December newsletter will ask for more volunteer judges.

Next Coordinating Council meeting: Jan. 11, 2:30 pm

Adjourn: 4:15

Submitted by Denise George