

DRAFT

## **Minutes of the Coordinating Council Meeting held January 30, 2020**

Meeting was called to order at 2:08 pm. Facilitator's Report [Alahna Weller]:

- If one wishes to attend the Lobby Day at the legislature one should meet Monday February 3, at 8:30 am in the Capitol Building.
- Alahna said she plans to attend the Leadership Team Meeting in Santa Fe on Sunday, February 2, 2020.
- Georgia would like attendees at the Lobby Day on Monday, February 3, to please make her a list of the bills important to AAUW. She will mention them in the newsletter.
- February 6, there will be an AAUW booth at the Capitol Building from 12 noon till 5 pm.
- Coca Cola Corp. has renewed its grant to the national AAUW.

Secretary's Report [Carol Neal]:

- The minutes from the previous Council meeting held in November were reviewed and approved for filing.
- Carol admitted her failure to send a formal thank-you to Stephanie Garcia Richards for her excellent presentation at the November 7, 2019, branch general meeting. Carol will write a "double" thank-you letter if a group accepts Stephanie's offer to visit the Land Office.

Membership Report [Margaret Gibson]:

- Julie Van Camp has joined Los Alamos Branch of AAUW.
- Jill Foreman has re-joined Los Alamos Branch of AAUW. Treasurer's Report [Margaret Gibson]:
- \$200.00 for Science Fair awards is available for Karen Henderson, who is chairing the branch's Science Fair Judging, is ready to be picked up. Arrangements were made for Karen to pick it up.
- Margaret reported she has filed the annual tax deduction report. Publicity Report [Bev Cooper]:
- Bev said she had submitted publicity for the February 20, 2020, general branch meeting to the usual places. That meeting will be at 7 pm at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Margo Batha has arranged for the Los Alamos High School Speech Team to present a program from speeches they did at the National competition.
- Bev will be out-of-town during February.

DRAFT

Minutes of the Los Alamos Branch Coordinating Council Meeting Thursday, June 4, 2020

Note: This meeting was held via the computer application called ZOOM because an “in-person” meeting cannot be held during the Corvid-19 Pandemic.

Those present via computer: Alahna Weller, Denise George, Bev Cooper, Margaret Gibson, Terry Marzili, Helena Whyte, and Carol Neal

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 pm.

Secretary Report (Carol Neal): Carol pointed out that our most recent council meeting had been on February 19, 2020; that all had received a copy of a draft of the minutes of that meeting shortly after it was held and those who had corrections had submitted them, those corrections had been made, and a new draft had been sent out via email. The minutes as they currently read were accepted to be filed.

Facilitator Report (Alahna Weller): Alahna explained that she has been in Georgia with her ailing father since early March and is still there. She had no report of activity.

Discussion:

1. Carol Neal reported that Judy Prono has offered to serve in the capacity of Public Policy Chair for the Branch. Nina Thayer, who has served in that position many years has said she thinks that having Judy in that position would be excellent. Later Carol called Judy to see if Judy would like to serve as Public Policy chair as a member of the Coordinating Council or be appointed to the position in the “Other” category. Judy would be happy to become a member of the Council. Thus we as a Council will nominate her as such for a vote by the general membership.

Bev Cooper has offered to ask another member of the Branch to see if that person would consider being nominated to the general membership to be voted a member of Council. Bev will report how that offer goes to Carol Neal.

Carol also reported that a person who had been suggested as possibly being willing to serve on Council declined for this year.

Carol also reported that AAUW has given permission for us to hold a vote on leadership via the internet because of the Pandemic restrictions on “in-person” meetings.

Denise George will include the nomination(s) for Council in the next newsletter along with instructions on how to cast a vote for or against said nominations. [The newsletter also probably should include a request for nominations “from the floor”.]

In the conversation mentioned above that Carol had with Nina Thayer, Nina said she would be happy to chair a fund raiser this coming year if anyone has an idea for one. Bev mentioned that some organizations have good luck with Silent Auctions. It was also mentioned that a musical

## **Minutes of the Coordinating Council Meeting held**

## **February 19, 2020**

Before the meeting officially began four thank-you notes from students who were awarded AAUW prizes at the LAPS Science Fair were read.

A copy of publication "UNM Medicine" was passed around. Its cover displays a photograph of Harshini Mukundan who will be our guest speaker at Spring Tea. The magazine contains an article about her work.

The meeting was called to order at 2:20 pm. Alahna Weller, Margaret Gibson, Maryjane Giesler, and Carol Neal were present.

Carol Neal presented the draft of the minutes that had been most recently sent to all members of the Coordinating Council. No one present suggested any further corrections so the minutes were accepted to be filed.

### Facilitator's Report [Alahna]:

Alahna distributed a printed agenda. On that agenda she had printed a report she wrote about attending the New Mexico AAUW Winter Leadership Team Meeting in Santa Fe on Feb. 2, 2020.

Here is her report from the agenda:

I attended the Winter LTM on Feb. 2, in Santa Fe. The 2020 State Convention will be in Las Vegas, NM April 17 – 19. Lodging will be at the Plaza Hotel and meetings will be at Highlands Univ. Having an attendance of at least 50 members was stressed to make it a viable convention. New Members joining through "Shape the Future" pay half Nat'l dues and half state dues. There are 71 student affiliates statewide. The highest rated strategic area of focus for NM is ensuring livelihoods for women. NCCWSL scholarships deadline extended to April 3. Judy Prono spoke to the 5 Star Program. The web site is [www.AAUW.US/fivestar](http://www.AAUW.US/fivestar) to find the criteria for reporting progress. The featured speaker at LTM was Angel Charley, a Laguna Pueblo native, currently serving as Interim Exec. Director of the Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native American Women-also children and girls. She stated that nearly 85% (4 out of five) of native women experience violence. There are 23 Tribal Nations in the State of NM. Native Americans are paid 58% less than white males and that there is 22% unemployment among Native Americans.

Alahna also reported that a revised Strategic plan for AAUW NM was given out at the LTM. It was also suggested that we put effort toward helping women via online Work Smart.

Alahna also reported she attended Lobby Day at the legislature on Feb. 3, 2020. Members of Los Alamos Branch present at Lobby Day were Alahna Weller, Judy Prono, and Nina Thayer. Maryjane Giesler of Los Alamos AAUW Branch was also present but in the capacity of a faculty member of UNM-LA. She was with the two UNM-LA students who are on the All-New Mexico academic team.

### Treasurer's Report [Margaret Gibson]:

Margaret reported that there were no financial transactions since our last Coordinating Council Mtg. Our balance is currently \$3097.54, which includes \$.03 of earned interest on the account.

Membership Report [Margaret Gibson]:

There have been no new members since the last Coordinating Council Meeting.

College/University Representative Report [Maryjane Giesler]:

One student at UNM-LA has applied for the NCCWSL scholarship. Maryjane is encouraging a couple of others to also apply.

Maryjane has been approached by one of the UNM-LA student advisors, Tony Gallegos, telling her that there is being planned a scholarship recipient recognition event for August. They would like an AAUW-Los Alamos representative at that event. She reported that this same advisor is encouraging prospective students to apply for the AAUW Los Alamos sponsored scholarship.

Maryjane does not yet have a firm date for the Branch Scholarship committee to meet but it will be in the first two weeks of March.

Other Business:

- Carol Neal will speak with Helena Whyte about whether or not we should do the “Un-Tea” this year to support Tech Trek.
- Nominations are needed for members to serve on next year’s Coordinating Council and in some appointed positions. Alahna announced she will happily continue on the Council but will not serve as Facilitator next year. Carol agreed to ask a couple of people if they would like to serve on council or in some other capacity.

The next Coordinating Council Meeting will be held April 30, 2020, at 2:00 pm at Alahna’s home.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:25 pm.

Minutes of AAUW Board Meeting Aug 13, 2020 (started on Zoom at 1:30 P.M.)

After looking around at the Zoom attendees, it was noted that Alahna was probably still in Georgia, and Carol was with her husband Tim in Albuquerque after his brain surgery at UNM Hospital. Denise took a look in her files to find the last draft of minutes that Carol had sent out. After looking at the minutes, it was noted that in the absence of a coordinator, turns would be taken by board members to run the meetings. Denise then proceeded. Margaret offered to take notes. Those in attendance were Denise

George, Margaret Gibson, Bev Cooper, Judy Prono, and Mary Jane Giesler. The minutes of the last meeting were read, and as no corrections had been sent, they were accepted. Denise did comment that the officer list had been submitted to National, that Nina had offered to chair a fundraiser for National, and that AAUW Tech-Trek-in-a-Box had been held. Judy Prono said that there had been a very good article in the Los Alamos Daily Post about Tech-Trek-in-a-Box, and that she would send this to Denise so that Denise could include it in the next newsletter. Margaret agreed that this was a great article and should definitely be sent to the entire membership.

Margaret stated that we had \$4,049.69 in the checking account, and \$81.94 in the AAUW Funds account, which was originally set up to deposit matching funds from the lab for volunteer hours. As the lab no longer does this, the amount has not changed for some time. Judy Prono said that this money belongs to AAUW National, since that is how the account was set up. (Margaret will look into this). A comment was made that since we charge dues, but haven't spent money this year, that the checking account had a large balance. We have 53 total members. 7 did not renew, and replies were received from most of those saying they were not renewing for various reasons (or no reason given, although most did give a reason). Denise will contact Rosmarie Fredrickson about renewing, since we did see her at the recent non-fiction book group Zoom meeting. 10 of our members are life members (either paid or honorary), and it was noted that one of our long-time members, Pat Mendius, had recently entered hospice and would not be with us much longer. She has since passed away. Margaret questioned if we had any plan for those few people who might not be able to afford a membership. We do not, and Denise suggested that Margaret come up with a proposal to offer a reduced-price membership to them, similar to National's new member discount.

Mary Jane said that she had spoken to Jenny Duran at UNM-LA, and that we had enough money for our AAUW scholarship of \$1000 at UNM-LA, and that there were three applicants. (Side note: Margaret collected this year's donations, and Carol Neal delivered the money to UNM-LA. The money given this year totaled \$585.00. There was also money left from last year.) The deadline to apply for the scholarship this year is 21 August 2020. Mary Jane also said she had somebody interested in NICWSSL from last year, but no meeting was held, so the application was rolled over to next year. Mary Jane would like to know if there is any new information about NICWSSL, such as application dates.

We discussed group and general meetings. The nonfiction book group has been meeting by ZOOM. The fiction group was initially uninterested in meeting this way, but will start meeting in September. Bev and Denise both commented that they missed the world policy discussions. Mary Ann Lindahl was not present, so we are unsure if she asked Harshini Mukundan about holding a meeting by Zoom. Harshini was scheduled to speak at our spring lunch about her work getting young women involved in science. Denise will contact Mary Ann again. Bev Cooper suggested having Liddie Martinez speak at a meeting; she has written a New Mexico cookbook and can talk about original New Mexico recipes and growing up in New Mexico. She also writes a column in the Los Alamos Daily Post.

Denise suddenly disappeared from Zoom. We asked if there was any other business. Since nobody had any, Margaret adjourned the meeting at 2:27 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Margaret Gibson Acting Secretary

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Denise suddenly disappeared from Zoom. We asked if there was any other business. Since nobody had any, Margaret adjourned the meeting at 2:27 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Margaret Gibson Acting Secretary

## Minutes of the Los Alamos Branch Coordinating Council Meeting

Thursday, September 10, 2020

Note: This meeting was held via the computer application called ZOOM because an “in-person” meeting cannot be held during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

This meeting was called to order by Denise George who was acting as meeting facilitator in the absence of the Branch Facilitator Alahna Weller who is in Georgia at this time.

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 pm.

Those present were Denise George, Carol Neal, Mary Ann Lindahl, Judy Prono, Margaret Gibson, and Maryjane Giesler.

The minutes of the last meeting that was held August 13, 2020, were accepted for filing after two minor corrections of spelling were made.

Membership Report from Margaret Gibson:

- The Council members noted the passing of long-time member Pat Mendius.
- One more member has renewed her membership bringing our current membership to 54.

**Margaret said she would check that this number, 54, is correct.**

- Carol Neal mentioned that Brenda Andersen who joined our branch last year has moved to Idaho.

Treasurer's Report from Margaret Gibson:

- The Branch account currently has a balance of \$4089.72. College Representative Report from Maryjane Giesler:

- The Los Alamos AAUW UNM-LA Scholarship committee received three applications from UNM-LA for the 2020-21 scholarship. The committee members Mona Wechsung, Marilyn Doolen, Carol Neal, and Maryjane Giesler read the applications and using email, as an in-person meeting was not practical during the Covid 19 pandemic, came to a consensus as to which candidate should be the scholarship recipient. The chosen candidate was offered the scholarship and accepted it. Her name is Althea Denlinger. Marilyn Doolen reached out to the recipient to congratulate her on behalf of the committee. It was suggested that Ms. Denlinger be invited to “attend” the ZOOM “Fall Luncheon”. **Maryjane agreed to see that she gets an invitation after the meeting particulars are decided.**

- Maryjane reported that she has one candidate for the 2021 NCCWSL event if it takes place. This candidate is the one who had hoped to go in 2020; the state AAUW organization is keeping her application active for this year. **Maryjane is still waiting to learn more about deadlines and plans for the 2021 NCCWSL and will continue to check the national website for updated information.** She will also try to encourage more women to apply.

#### Minutes of the Los Alamos Branch Business Meeting

Held in Conjunction with Fall Luncheon via the internet app ZOOM Saturday, October 3, 2020

Note: Fall “Luncheon” was held via the internet app ZOOM because of the restrictions caused by the Covid 19 Pandemic. The keynote speaker at the luncheon was Harshini Mukundan, PhD. She is deputy group leader for the physical chemistry and applied spectroscopy group at Los Alamos National Laboratory. She gave an inspiring and informative presentation about her life story, her scientific research in biological applications of spectroscopy, and her work encouraging and guiding young women in science.

During the above presentation there were twenty Los Alamos Branch Members present as well as the speaker and two guests.

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The business meeting came to order after the keynote speaker had concluded her presentation. It was conducted by Denise George, a member of the Coordinating Council.

There were twenty members of the Los Alamos Branch of AAUW and one guest present.  
Reports from Coordinating Council Members:

- **University Representative Report (Maryjane Giesler):** Maryjane thanked the members of the scholarship committee for their work in selecting a recipient of the Los Alamos AAUW Branch Scholarship given to a student at UNM-LA. There were three candidates that were considered. The recipient chosen is Althea Denlinger. She was present at this meeting and spoke to the membership. She told a bit about her life and goals and expressed gratitude for the scholarship. After she spoke she left the meeting. Marilyn Doolen mentioned that donations to the scholarship fund will be needed this year if we are to have enough in the fund to offer another scholarship for Fall Semester 2021.

Maryjane also reported that she has one candidate for NCCWSL this year—a carry-over from last year as the conference was not held due to the Pandemic.

- **Treasurer’s Report (Margaret Gibson):** Margaret noted that the branch had a 90% renewal rate even in this time of a pandemic. She then presented a draft of the budget for the fiscal year 2020-2021. Following some discussion a couple of minor changes were made. Marilyn Doolen moved and Mary Ann Lindahl seconded, a motion to accept the budget as adjusted. The motion passed by acclamation.



- **STEM Representative Report (Helena Whyte):** Helena reported about this year's Tech Trek accommodations to the Coronavirus Pandemic. In-person camp was not held but each girl whose parents agreed (all but a very few agreed) were sent "Tech Trek in a Box". Each "box" contained a graphing calculator and a Kindle Fire. The Kindle Fire

## DRAFT

Minutes of the Los Alamos Branch Coordinating Council Meeting Thursday, October 29, 2020

Note: This meeting was held via the computer application called ZOOM because an "in-person" meeting cannot be held during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

This meeting was called to order by Denise George who was acting as meeting facilitator in the absence of the Branch Facilitator Alahna Weller who is in Georgia at this time.

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 pm.

Those present were Denise George, Carol Neal, Mary Ann Lindahl, Judy Prono, Margaret Gibson, Maryjane Giesler, and Bev Cooper.

*Note: In the following minutes any assignments that were taken on by council members are highlighted in bold for ease of reference.*

Minutes: The minutes of both the September 10, 2020 Coordinating Council Meeting and the minutes of the October 3 General Business Meeting held during the virtual "Fall Luncheon" were conditionally approved for filing. The condition was that **Carol Neal would try again to send via email the final draft of those two documents** and if any council member has an issue it will be addressed via email correspondence. Carol had tried to email them but no one received the mailing.

Treasurer's Report (Margaret Gibson): Margaret presented the final draft of the FY 2020-2021 Budget Proposal. It was accepted with a minor correction. Margaret also presented the financial reports for the months of July, August, and September 2020. All were accepted for filing.

Membership Report (Margaret Gibson): Margaret reported that Los Alamos Branch has earned one free membership. It was moved by Mary Ann Lindahl and seconded by Carol Neal that this membership be offered to Harshini Mukundan. Harshini was the excellent keynote speaker of the Branch's Virtual Fall Luncheon last month (October 3, 2020). The motion passed unanimously. **Mary Ann Lindahl agreed to ask Harshini if she will accept the invitation to join the Branch.**

University Representative Report (Maryjane Giesler): Maryjane reported that UNM-LA is planning on putting on their website a page to honor current scholarship winners and donors who made the scholarships possible. This is in lieu of a planned luncheon that would have honored them were there not a pandemic. **Maryjane will let this Council know when said website is completed.**

Report about the Fall NM-AAUW Leadership Team Meeting (Carol Neal attended in place of Branch Coordinator Alahna Weller who was unavailable): Carol summarized the meeting that was held via “Go To Meeting” computer program by giving a list of bullet point summaries:

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DRAFT #2

Minutes of AAUW- Los Alamos Coordinating Council Meeting Wednesday, November 18, 2020

Note: This meeting was held via the computer application called ZOOM because an “in-person” meeting cannot be held during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

This meeting was called to order by Denise George who was acting as meeting facilitator in the absence of the Branch Facilitator Alahna Weller who is in Georgia at this time.

The meeting was called to order at 2:02 pm.

Those present were Denise George, Carol Neal, Mary Ann Lindahl, Judy Prono, Margaret Gibson, Maryjane Giesler, and Bev Cooper.

*Note: In the following minutes any assignments that were taken on by council members are highlighted in bold for ease of reference.*

Minutes: The minutes of the Coordinating Council meeting held October 29, 2020, were approved for filing.

Treasurer’s Report (Margaret Gibson): Margaret presented the October 2020 financial report. Judy Prono noted that the column displaying the budget had a different dollar amount for total revenues than for total expenditures. **Margaret agreed to correct this error.**

Margaret reported that she had submitted the IRS 990 form and had received confirmation that it had been accepted.

Membership report (Margaret Gibson): Margaret offered the branch’s free membership to Harshini Mukundan, who accepted it. Mary Ann Lindahl reported she had sent membership information to Susan Dryja who has been a member of the Santa Fe AAUW Branch but has expressed interest in joining the Los Alamos Branch. Mary Ann reported encouraging her neighbor Nancy Combs to join, as well.

University Representative Report (Maryjane Giesler): Maryjane had checked with Gayle Burns of the business office at UNM-LA and learned that our AAUW-Los Alamos scholarship account with the UNM Foundation office has a balance of \$335.00 after paying out the scholarship for this 2020-21 academic year. Thus to be able to offer a scholarship for the 2021-22 academic year the branch needs to raise more funds.

Fruit Project (Denise George): Denise reported that she has already received several donations for the project to donate fresh fruit to LA Cares for its December food distribution. Denise had checked with LA Cares and learned they would again like the fruit put into bags for different family sizes but this year they wish only three sizes of bags, and probably only 80 bags total. **Denise said she and Karin Roberts will be able to pick up the fruit, pack the bags and drop them off at the distribution center.** LA Cares does not need help from AAUW at the time of distribution. Denise already has colorful bags in which to pack the fruit. **Mary Ann Lindahl agreed to order the fruit again this year.**