

American Association of University Women—East Mesa Branch
General Meeting November 6, 2024

Welcome: Janice Dill called meeting to order at 1:35PM. She introduced several new members.

Quorum: Elaine Prom established a quorum.

Secretary's Report: Molly Brenza

- Minutes were sent from April, 2024 general meeting to members. These minutes were approved by the board.

Treasurer's Report: Mary Karen Scullion was introduced as new treasurer.

- Checking account balance as of Sept 30, 2024 is \$14,450.28 with a dedicated balance of \$8,338.61.
- Sandra Lackore and Marilyn Kunde did a financial review of records from July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024 and found all in order.

VP Program: Janice Dill for Mary Linnemann.

- The December speaker is Renee Parker from Mesa Public School to talk about STEM program. The goal of this branch is to become more involved and will seek volunteer opportunities.

Committee Reports:

Membership: Elaine Prom

- Current membership—68 members.

Scholarship: Xenia Johnston

- She is pleased to report that 3 graduates of our program have transitioned to become mentors to scholars. Previous mentors are now advisors to assist them in their new role.
- The scholar term should be capped at 4-years for all scholars. Extenuating circumstances will be brought to the scholarship chair in writing for review and decision by the committee.. Any

extenuating circumstances which impact dollar amounts must be presented to the Violet Laney Trust Committee for final approval.

- Scholarships to any one student be capped at **\$76,000** when a scholar enters a 4-year program and **\$38,000** when a scholar enters a 2-year program. Scholars entering our program in the middle of their degree program will be capped based on \$19,000/year for the years they have left.
- Scholarship chair was asked by the scholarship committee to find out from mentors and scholars the continued value of the mentor program and what changes we can make to improve the program.
- Scholarship chair was asked by the scholarship committee to ask ACF to send only 10 application for review.

Public Policy: Betsy Flaten

- Lynda Godkin was introduced as the new co-chair of DEI.
- The first meeting of the interest group is Monday, November 11, 2024 in Rec 3. They continue to meet on the second Monday of the month. The focus is to promote the interest of women and health equity for all. They continue to support the Mesa Public School and Marcie Hutchinson will update them on the search for a new superintendent and the voucher program.
- The group is also working with MPS Jonas Salk School in a community partnership for STEM.

Women in History: Mary deChesnay gave an interesting talk on Mary Katharine Goddard who assisted in the printing of the Declaration of Independence.

Old Business:

1. The ice cream social was well attended and enjoyed by all.
2. Special interest group information and schedule shared.
3. Several donations were made last spring to 501c3 groups with money distributed to the following organizations. \$5,000 to MPS Foundation for Stick to Read Program, \$2,500 to Assistance League of East Valley, \$2,500 to United Food Bank, and \$2,500 to Native American Fatherhood Association.

4. The branch contributes to the LW Foundation Employee Scholarship program. This year's recipient earned a certification for payroll and is currently working toward a degree for human resources.
5. AAUW Constant Contact is a program at the state level to disperse information in a timely manner.
6. Communications Chair is needed to provide monthly article to LW paper about our meetings as well as a monthly newsletter for our members.

New Business

1. Congratulation to Rhysa Davis as a 50 year member.
2. AAUW Fall Forum is November 9. Several members will be attending. Bev Byrd and Betsy Flaten are co-chairs of Public Policy at the State level.
3. Bev Byrd gave an update on the AZ Public Policy committee which now meets every other month. The State PP committee will meet with each branch over the next year to collect and distribute information.
4. Legislative Day will be in early February.
5. The State Spring Forum will be on March 29, in Scottsdale.
6. A new member gathering is pending but will be held in the next month.
7. Ideas needed for March Event. March 1 is the date and we are thinking about an event for empowering women.

Next general meeting is Wednesday, December 4, 2024.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00PM

Program: Jannifer Gorney, Assistance League of the East Valley.