

## AAUW Planning Meeting -- July 14, 2012

**The following Board, Administrative and Appointed Members attended:**

Holly Sauer, President	Karen Large, Co President Elect	Loretta Altshuler, Co President Elect
Tena Gallagher, Co-Membership VP	Elizabeth Williams, Co-Membership VP	Roseann Krane, AAUW Funds Vice President, E-mail Manager.
Kerry Montalvo, Database Manager	Melanie Wade, Webmaster	Asha Bajaj Public Policy Co-Chair
Kathy McKnight, Garden Tour Co-Chair	Mary Holzheimer, Garden Tour Co-Chair	Karen Abu-Hamdeh Public Policy Co-Chair
Pat Foster, Advocate Circulation Manager	Caroline Sanchez, Women's History	Joan Conley, Public Policy Co-Chair
Lynn Dodge, Programs Co-VP	Mary Ellen Blake, Holiday Home Tour Co-Chair	Cynthia Savell, Women's Issues Chair
Dora-Thea Porter, Graphic Designer	Lynn Goodwin-Brown, Local Scholarship Chair	Kathie Hixon, Corresponding Secretary.
Mary Mix	Marcia Steinhardt	Iris Stone, Co-EYH Chair
Marian Bliss	Carol Allen	Pam Burdusis, Co-EYH Chair

**Call to Order and Announcements (Holly Sauer):** The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by President Holly Sauer at the Shadow Hills Cabana, 1001 El Capitan Drive, Danville. She thanked everyone for joining the Board and gave out colored folders for materials. She noted all handouts Emailed and that additional copies were available. A copy of the agenda is attached to these minutes. All members introduced themselves sharing their name and position. Kerry Montalvo shared that all changes to the directory should be sent to her. Kerry also stated she can provide member information reports to board members if a request is sent to her. Holly was thanked for her excellent organization and preparation for the meeting. It was noted that to qualify as a new member one can now have a two year AA or AS degree.

**Approval of Minutes (Loretta Altshuler for Callie Gilbert):** The minutes from the May 14, 2012 Board Meeting were accepted as corrected. The Minutes from the Installation May 31, 2012 were accepted as Emailed.

**Public Policy (Asha Bajaj, Karen Abu-Hamdeh, Joan Conley, Cynthia Savell):** An overview of plans for 2012-2013 were presented by all three members. Joan Conley, who is also a member of the League of Women Voters, shared some of the organizations direction with us. Included were the five things you need to know on election day, an easy voter guide. We were asked to consider assisting foster boys and girls to understand the voting process and actually teach them through a hands on opportunity in a trial vote. The League will be completing a pro/con paper about the election. "It was stated that democracy is not a spectator sport- we need to understand and push for all measures."

Asha reported that the public policy chairs plan to divide their focus this year between the areas:"

1. Voter Registration and Budget
2. Education and Water Policy
3. Health Care Act and Facts
4. Outreach and Community College

The goals of public policy are as follows:

1. Present AAUW mission-based events with introductory newsletter articles preceding the event, appropriate hand-outs at the event and follow-up.
2. Provide articles for the Advocate which explain how an issue affects the welfare of women and girls, what action can be taken and the consequences of inaction.
3. Form an interest group to engage the membership in study, discussion and advocacy which support the AAUW mission statement.

Then Cynthia Savell shared with all of us her appreciation for delivering public policy during the past years, especially around the fair payment policy and a work life balance. She gave some advice from a recent Article (Tena to follow up on Emailing link of article) that "Women can have it all but not at the same time..." In addition, she wanted to pass on the important message that one must put a value on the life you put into this world and he/she is responsible for what they bring to the table. All goals we place on children need to be supported. "Asha recommended that women's issues not be limited to just women or the nuclear family."

Holly requested that the new public policy special interest group present a proposal for the Board's vote. However, they were not ready to do this so it was decided that after they meet as a team they would develop a proposal for presentation at the next August Board meeting. Since a proposal motion had started it was necessary for Tena Gallagher to move that we table the motion for a public policy interest group until the August 6, 2012 Board Meeting . It was seconded and passed.

**Programs (Lynn Dodge):** Scheduled for the Branch membership on October. 20, 2012 is a presentation by Sarah Henry at the Diablo Country Club in Diablo called NEXT 10 an interactive session on the California Budget that has gotten excellent press from those who have attended in other locations. Under consideration is a brunch, lunch or snacks. A follow up flyer about this event will be prepared and sent to the advocate for member distribution by July 20th. Additional details of the event are being finalized.

Other programs for 2012-2013 under consideration include the following

1. Adam Gassaley regarding attention and the brain
2. Ruth O'Hara, M.D., an associate professor in the Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University School of Medicine. Her subject was "Healthy Brain Aging." She has an effective PowerPoint presentation. Her research investigates the contribution of stress, sleep disorders and immune function to psychiatric and cognitive problems that we experience with age. The subject was

fascinating and the presentation quite involving. (Her talk drew over 100 attendees with a waiting list).

3. A program on five new additions to the scientific table of elements. The speaker would be a young woman scientist (probably PhD physicist or chemist) from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (and a colleague of Luisa Hansen's) whose team discovered five new elements to the Periodic Table of Elements. One they named Livermorium.
4. Sacramento speaker, Women's participation in public policy
5. Women's History Month: A day Bus Trip in the Bay Area to highlight past accomplishments of women as shown during World War II such as Rosie the Riveter, Red Oak Victory Ship (etc.) At each stop you are met by a docent who has a prepared presentation for the group.

### **Membership (Tena Gallagher and Liz Williams):**

Current membership status: 80 members who are delinquent and not yet sent checks, anticipate 20 who will not renew, goals are 285 members for 2012-2013, in the current directory are 270 members, 250 member estimate with 35 new members as a goal and 9 honorary members. This year there will be three honorary members with 50 years of membership. A speaker for the September 15th Brunch at Round Hill Country Club in Alamo is still outstanding. At the brunch there will be an escript program sign up. This is money received from stores for enrolling in their program. One must provide a credit card. At this time we have made \$36 from this escript program. The Past President Book Sale needed a coordinator and Asha Bajaj graciously agreed to be the chair. A follow up for everyone is to bring books to the August Board meeting for her to sell. Round Hill Country Club has required a \$250 deposit. Membership is reaching out to life members who may not have renewed. Tena has developed an excellent informational brochure to be used by all members in sharing information about our branch to prospective new members. Her vision for members is to always carry a copy and if you find someone who would be interested in joining that you give them the brochure. Last year 112 people attended the brunch. Follow up on the calendar to make certain it is up to date since it is given out at the brunch. Interest groups will be represented and this is being coordinated. It was noted that Interest groups that exist do not go to the Board for approval only when a new one wants to be formed. If there is a new interest group example the public policy then it must be voted upon and approved by Board members. New Member Socials were discussed for October 11th and March. Discussed was a Saturday morning brunch.

### **Board Guidelines, Board Dreams, 2012-2013 Board Goals (Holly Sauer):**

Attached to these minutes are copies of the following handouts developed by Holly and reviewed during this portion of the meeting:

1. 2012-13 Board Meeting Dates
2. 2012-13 Board Member Roster
3. Branch Administrative Calendar (from our Policies & Procedures)
4. 2012-13 Draft Monthly Events Calendar
5. Board Member Reports: Public Policy, Programs, Membership, and Hospitality
6. Board Member and Meeting Guidelines

7. Brainstorming Ideas
8. Last Year's Branch Goals

Holly stated that her goal is to provide board members with the agenda and handouts at least three days in advance of the meeting to allow attendees time to review. She wants members to review the agenda and attachments before meeting and print appropriate documents. A timer will be used to keep the presentations on track and this will be the responsibility of the Parliamentarian position. All general members will receive a monthly newsletter and calendar. The Email manager stated that information given to her for mass distribution will not be sent out ASAP as many have requested. Instead the bimonthly or monthly format will be used. The website to view is AAUWDAW.org.

The members in attendance were then asked to brainstorm ideas. Refer to the handout for ideas. It was suggested that we do something just for fun. An example was the new Creativity night. Many felt that supporting sports events would be a positive activity for our members. BITS (Butts in seats) could be a special interest group. A follow up was for someone to contact Connie Cady as a potential contact to lead this group since her children are active in local sports teams. A recommendation was that Mary Shelton Superintendent of Schools in the San Ramon Valley be a potential speaker. Another suggestion was to create a recreational league of women who are interested in participating in sports specifically roller hockey. There was interest in getting involved in letter writing or city government. There was continued interest in promoting the branch organization. There was a recent article in the Contra Costa Times about giving out the local scholarships and Installation. Someone suggested that we use the Contra Costa Times to solicit for homes and gardens for our tours.

The goals were reviewed and they were not changed from last year. There was a follow up question about what is the Eight Millennium Goals by the UN? The answer was to be discussed at the next board meeting since no one knew what this goal was about. Raffles will now be called drawings and the money raised from these activities will go to a non -profit such as LAF. LAF is a 501(c)4 status and Tech Trek is a 501(c) 3 status. Goal #11 Technology was discussed and will be on the agenda again in August. The pros and cons of a Face book presence was discussed. There needs to be an additional goal to add 35 new members. There was a suggestion to offer incentives and rewards for bringing in a new member. Also, members were encouraged to talk to someone who is not yet renewed. A follow up for everyone was to brainstorm and if you have any new or additional changes or ideas to Email them to Holly in advance of the August board meeting.

**Meeting was adjourned** at 12.59 p.m. by Holly Sauer.

Respectfully submitted by Loretta Altshuler for Callie Gilbert Recording Secretary