**AAUW Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek Branch**

**Board Meeting – April 12, 2016**

Liz Williams’ Home, Danville

**Attendance**: Charla Gabert, Tena Gallagher, Sandy Killoran, via phone – Roseann Krane, Soni Leighton, Kate Reed, Susan Terzouli, Melanie Wade, and Liz Williams

**Consent Agenda:** items all approved

**Updates:**

**Nominating Committee** – Melanie reported that we continue to seek a president-elect and requested suggestions. Soni would be our Membership Chair if a change of policy allowed this 1 year extension. Liz moved sending out an e-mail to the full board seeking approval for a 1-year extension of the Membership Chair position. Kate seconded and the motion passed.

We have a willing individual to chair Programs, but she would prefer to share the post. The Graphics, Advocate, and TechTrek positions are open. We are asking Kerry Montalvo to query our membership database to identify individuals who have interests that might allow us to fill open positions.

**Scholarships** – We have 5 applicants for 5 scholarships. 1 applicant is for the Jane Trittipo scholarship for Medical Science and the other 4 are general applicants. If each meets the criteria, each will be awarded a scholarship. The Scholarship team plans to meet next week to review applications and make decisions.

**April Program** – Women’s Bone Health is the topic. The program will take place at the Danville Town Hall. An e-blast will be sent to our membership to remind them about the event. At the event, we will ask members to volunteer for the garden tour. The Town Hall is equipped with computer projection technology, but Judy will purchase a projector for our programs as per our earlier board decision.

**Appreciation/Installation –** The event will occur on Thursday, June 9th at Carol Highton’s garden. We will have the taco bar with the same menu as last year. A deposit of $50 has been paid to secure the caterer. Tables and chairs are being rented from Gagnon’s. MaryEllen will handle the installation and put together this year’s brochure. We need someone to put the program together, and we suggest that an article about the event be placed in the Advocate. The deadline for the article is April 22.

**EYH** – This year was very successful with 32 workshops. We did not attract “new” members to help at the event. All who helped responded to e-mails and phone calls. We partnered with the Livermore branch. Should we partner in the future with Lamorinda? At our current location, Las Positas Community College we are limited to 300 attendees due to space.

**Tech Trek** – This year we experienced a significant drop off in the number of girls who applied. Additionally, several did not respond to our invitation to interview. The Ice Cream Social sponsored by the IBC will be run by our branch this year under the rotation put in place last year. This will occur on June 12. An informational article will be submitted to the Advocate about Tech Trek.

**Membership** – Soni recommends that we strive to develop talent and new leadership by inviting targeted individuals to shadow current leadership and/or asking them to do specific tasks within the larger job.

Soni moved that our Branch join the Membership Payment Program (MPP). Charla seconded. Considerable discussion ensued with negatives and multiple positives of MPP being presented. The big negative is that MPP is not customizable – meaning we cannot add our own specific or special donation categories. We do not know how quickly our branch will receive the database information derived from the MPP program. To overcome the issue of not being able to customize the program, we could do our own AAUW fundraiser, as we do now, from Oct. – Nov. The positives are that: a major amount of bookkeeping is removed from the treasurer’s job; the Branch will receive its dues quickly, usually within 3 days of a payment; our website will have a link for new members; and there is no cost to us for using MPP. Tena suggested that we contact members who renew at the start of their second year to ascertain their interests.

After the discussion about the pros and cons of MPP, the motion passed unanimously.

A second membership motion was presented and seconded. The committee proposed as incentive for those who renew or join by June 30th. That incentive would be the renewed member being entered into a drawing for 2 HHT tickets. We noted that this incentive is at no cost to the Branch. The motion passed unanimously.

Additional discussion occurred as we talked about how to make our Branch and the work of AAUW more apparent in our community. Membership has a brochure that we hand out at events and which is available at the library. Unfortunately the calendar is not always accurate. We note that San Ramon does not include dates in their informational brochure, directing potential members to their website. We wonder if DoroThea could create a similar brochure for us. We anticipate that we would need approximately 250 for 2 years and that the cost for 4-color printing is $339 for 500.

**Membership Brunch** – Thinking ahead to next fall’s Membership Brunch, Charla indicated she would assist Soni in finding a speaker. Since this is an election year, would the League of Women’s Voters or our State AAUW leadership have a good speaker? Soni will e-mail us for ideas. She asks that we please respond.

**Garden Tour** – Tena needs help. She seeks a refreshment chair and more shuttle drivers. Charla volunteered on the spot! With the exception of 1 home on a hill, parking is excellent. The gardens are close together, making them convenient. We will have no restaurants supporting our tour. The insurance certificates are in the works. The head docents are making appointments with the garden owners this week. As noted on the mailed flier, 95% of the ticket price of the garden tour is tax deductible as the monies go to AAUW funds.

**Open Discussion** – Do we wish to continue using the Shadow Hill Cabaña for our meetings? We believe that Melanie and her team should decide this.

Our next board meeting will be held at Liz’s home.

The meeting was adjourned at 11 p.m.