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

**Board Meeting – January 12, 2016**

Kathy McKnight’s Home

Call to Order at 9:33

**Attendance**: Loretta Altshuler, Robin Halloran, Roseann Krane, Judy Lauper, Marilyn Lawver, Soni Leighton, Kathy McKnight, Kate Reed, Susan Terzouli, and Rita Wustner

Consent Agenda: The Consent Agenda is accepted as presented.

Updates:

Tech Trek: Loretta provided an in-depth update about the status of and issues surrounding this year’s program. (1) Only 3 of the 6 schools contacted have replied. She has re-contacted the nonresponding 3, giving each another week in which to reply. (2) Applications are out to all nominees from the 3 that responded. (3) We must pay for the program by Mar. 1. (4) Tech Trek has become a national program that has led to some changes. Foremost among these is the statement in the application that the $50 family donation, required in the past, is no longer required.

Three motions were presented and 2 passed. #1 – Sonoma State contact Rory Keller has sent a statement for our final payment, now in the amount of $8,603.28. If parents/families do contribute the $50 as they have in the past, up to $600 (12 x $50) will be credited towards the 2017 costs. Discussion of the $8K+ amount focused on the probability of our Branch losing any unpaid slots for future camps, as well as on our Branch’s reserves that can be used to fund any deficit. This first motion was moved seconded, and passed unanimously.

#2 – The motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously that our Branch spend $144 to purchase 12 Teddy Bears to be given to this year’s Tech Trek students at the Ice Cream Social in May or June, 2016.

#3 – The motion to fund some part of Tech Trek, beyond the $8203, if additional funds are available from the HHT proceeds or from our general branch account, was tabled until February after considerable discussion. Ideas and concerns included (1) Some branches have grants for Tech Trek and other opportunities; (2) The Sonoma State camp has asked if branches could help out with the camp’s costs since all of their reserves will be used this year; (3) Does AAUW regulations allow us to donate? (4) What might such a motion mean both this year and going forward?

Loretta gave us an overview of how statewide financing had been handled. Under the current situation, there are disparities among the various campuses’ programs. We would like to see an overall, statewide plan. At the least, shouldn’t Sonoma State be encouraged to create a long term financial plan for the program?

Expanding Your Horizons (EYH): Susan continued the conversation regarding financing STEM opportunities for young women. EYH is asking for a donation via a letter to our branch, to be held at Las Positas College on Feb. 27. The Branch may be prohibited from making a donation, as EYH is a 501c(3). Personal donations are fine. The program costs ~ $38K to hold.

Historically approximately 500 young women have attended EYH at Las Positas with 41 attending from our Branch area. We need 30 volunteers for the program of which 1/3 are identified. Shifts are 2 hours in the a.m. or p.m.

The Lamorinda Branch will hold its own EYH on the St. Mary’s College campus in March. Lamorinda has invited one school in Walnut Creek that might have come to the Las Positas event.

Holiday Home Tour: Roseann presented preliminary financials. Some expenses are not finalized, but profits are approximately $16,259.96. She noted that homeowners will receive a $50 gift certificate to Teresa’s restaurant, a CD documenting the homes, and a glass ornament commemorating the event. Roseann also has 1 confirmed home for the 2016 tour. Kathy commended Roseann and her committee for their fine work.

Challenges to this year’s tour included the late start to ticket sales. Roseann suggests we begin sales a week earlier in the future. Additionally, she recommends printing 600 tickets rather than the 800 we have had in the past, noting that the number of tickets sold continues a downward trend. Can we devote some time to brainstorming new, mini-fundraisers?

Nominating Committee: There is no committee despite attention to this important function. A review of the elected positions indicates that the Branch needs candidates for Treasurer and President-Elect. We have possible candidates for the other elected positions.

January Program: The program will be held on Jan. 21st at 7 p.m. and will cost $5. The program is posted to our website. Publicity is underway including the possibility of posters for windows. Only 25 tickets have been sold to date.

Advocate: Holly reported about new formats for the Advocate. Constant Comment did not work well and was costly. She will try Mail Chimp now.

Miscellaneous: The Feb. 9th Board Meeting will be at Liz’s home. We are invited to think about what goals have been met from those identified at the summer goal setting meeting.

As we consider ways to encourage members to fill both elected and appointed positions, Rita reminds us to read job descriptions in the Policies and Procedures and to send her comments on necessary changes. We note that we need to figure out how to avoid more than one person calling a member with an invitation to fill different positions. We would also like to see calendars in the job descriptions so that everyone has general guidelines for those positions.

Rita will send out NEW bylaws via e-mail so that we can vote on this next month. She also stressed that we think about the nominating committee and that we meet the requirements of dissemination of information as per Robert’s Rules and Bylaws. Specifically, we must inform the full membership of the proposed slate of officers and that the slate will need to be nominated from the floor at our annual meeting. If positions are open after the formal meeting and election, the Board may make appointments to fill these openings.

The meeting was adjourned at 11 a.m.