

**AAUW Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek Branch**  
**Monthly Board Meeting – December 2, 2014**  
Shadow Hills Cabaña, 1001 El Capitan Drive, Danville

Attended by: Mary Ellen Blake, Anna Freitas, Marilyn Lawver, Robin Halloran, Sandy Killoran, Marian Bliss, Liz Williams, Carol Kennedy, Kathy McKnight, Tena Gallagher and Cynthia Savell.

The meeting was called to order by Mary Ellen Blake at 9:35am. No quorum was present. The November minutes were approved as emailed.

The next general meeting will be at our January 15 program on GoldieBox at the Danville Veteran's Hall.

There was no financial report since Marilyn had not received the November bank statement yet.

Anna Freitas reported that our HHT ticket sales seems to be at same level as last year. More refreshments are still needed. Each house will be a drop off point for the Contra Costa/Solano County Food Bank.

Carol Kennedy announced that we were named first in the nation for branch donations for AAUW Funds for 2013. It is printed in the national newsletter, Outlook. About 35% of members of our branch have donated so far this year, totaling \$31,000. AAUW Funds use the calendar year, not the July- June as National AAUW does.

Tena Gallagher said that we have one new member and two more in conversation with membership. January 29 will be our next new member event starting at 6 pm at Tena's home. New members have been notified to save the date.

Mary Ellen asked that each program or event "owner" create a flyer that can be emailed to the public and also put up on our website. Teresa will create the web page when she has received the submittal. Dora-Thea can create the flyer but will need the messaging and a recommended graphic. Holly had sent a link to GoldieBlox video. National AAUW has sent members an email which recommends GoldieBlox as gifts. It was recommended that the company representative bring some of the toys for us to see at the meeting. Mary Ellen will send media links to all board members

Sandy Killoran and Robin Halloran reported that Norma Spencer has energized the neighborhood groups. They are getting members together and getting them enthusiastic. Many ideas were suggested and some used: making bath salts, cooking demonstrations, tours, going to lunch together, etc.

Tena made the suggestions that a membership treasurer might be needed to assist membership co-chairs so that they can focus on getting and retaining new members. Tena will work on a job description to present at our January meeting where there will be more discussion about this possible new appointed position.

Mary Ellen reported on these topics from the November Inter- Branch Council (IBC):

1. Our branch has committed \$195 toward supporting Start Smart program and bringing it into the Community Colleges in Contra Costa County. Start Smart helps women in college

understand how gender wage gap affects their lives, how to develop a personal budget to determine salary needs, how to benchmark salary and benefits and how to negotiate for their first salary out of college. AAUW recently bought the WAGE Project and is trying to get it integrated into more college campuses.

2. The Tech Trek social when the girls meet the other girls also going and their parents learn about AAUW has been a joint effort between Alameda and Contra Costa County. This year the social was just for our county so it was smaller and more manageable.
3. The next meeting will be on January 27 and our co-president elects are invited to participate. Jo Harberson has agreed to be IBC parliamentarian.

The committee looking into name tags will meet next week and report at our January meeting. It was recommended that each first name be much larger than the last name.

The committee that is looking into new ways to generate revenues other than tours will meet on the coming new year.

Web site review committee, comprised of Melanie Wade, Holly Sauer, & Mary Ellen Blake will meet the week after Christmas. Melanie has already made a good start on some of the drop-down menus.

An installation committee needs to be formed in January 2015.

Marilyn is researching possible financial software for ways to get our reports easily readable.

Mary Ellen would like suggestions from each board member as to what they encountered as difficult tasks and suggestions for making them easier for future board members. Robin suggested small jobs could be volunteered at various times of year to help with various committees.

Mary Ellen asked every member to check their branch directory in case there is need for any correction. We will ask Dora Thea why there were no membership numbers on the labels of the directories.

Marian Bliss asked for submittal of any suggestions for the bylaws and/or standing rules before January 15. Her committee includes Dot Healy, Sue DeVoe and Loretta Lewis.

We tabled the discussion about this spring's Garden Tour until next month.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Tena Gallagher