

AAUW BENNINGTON BRANCH BOARD MEETING
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2023, 2023

Present: Suzanne Kirkpatrick, Jan Day, Norma McShane, Madeline Kennedy, Kathy Wagenknecht, Judy Murphy, Berta Winiker

Absent: Fronia Simpson, Jennifer Kern, Dawn Rodrigues, Althea Church, Mary Feidner, Wendy Lyons, Julie Haupt

Suzanne called the meeting to order at 12.15

Judy moved to approve the minutes, Norma seconded. Passed

BRANCH LEADER REPORTS

Treasurer Jan Day reported 10/19/23 financials:

Operating	\$2,422.75
Reserves -	<u>500.00</u>
Available	\$1,922.75

Scholarships	\$10,434.00
Reserves	<u>-2,115</u>
Available	\$9,,319.00

Silent Angels	\$1450.00
Murphy gifts	\$2,925.00
Theater Outing	\$319.50

Secretary - Since Fronia was not able to attend, Judy offered to take minutes.

Corresponding Secretary - Jennifer was unable to attend. Kathy urged all to alert Jennifer of any events such as illness or awards etc., so that she might send notes.

Program - Berta reported 2 Program Committee meetings. Next meeting will be on Nov. 9, 2:30, Nowak Room at McCullough Library.

Berta reported that The Vermont Reads Program, will discuss *The Last Night at the Telegraph Club*. It will involve three groups —the North Bennington Library (Jenny Rozycki), Brookdale (Willimina Margalis) and AAUW. 75 copies of the book will be available. The program will take place sometime between April and June.

November 1, 7 pm - zoom interview with Dr. Robert Waldinger, MD

December 9, 1 p.m. - holiday program at the Barn, Roisin the Beaux, Sweets & drinks by hostesses

January and February not set yet

March - tea at the Barn?, to include a charge and to distribute a questionnaire re future programs

April - since there is a special discount on membership dues, "Shape the Future", it was discussed that a meeting with a speaker that would be a draw be planned for April. Kathy suggested a paid speaker from Vt Humanities to draw a crowd. She also suggested a speaker from National to discuss AAUW's priorities. Suzanne offered to contact Barbara Sando for suggestions.

Membership - Norma shared a list of members who have not renewed. Those present agreed to contact some of these former members. Norma plans to send notes by mail to lapsed members.. She will send paper newsletters to Gail Schonbeck and Gloria Alexander, who do not have computers.

Newsletter - While Dawn does the newsletter, Kathy takes over when needed. She requested that any suggestions or articles for the Newsletter be directed to both she and Dawn. Deadlines are the weekend before the first of the month. This month by the 25th of October.

Communications - Kathy sends out "blasts" and will send one to remind people about the Nov. 1 speaker and send the link. She requested that any suggestions re blasts be sent as far ahead as possible and be limited to AAUW events or interests.

Hospitality - Thea was not present but compliments were verbalized that she is doing a terrific job.

Theater/Silent Angels - Madeline reported on the Dorset Theater fundraiser and noted that it helps if there are some familiar names in the cast. The Dorset play raised \$319.50, which included contributions from members who were unable to attend. Mary called Oldcastle re professional programs coming up. Kevin, the ED, was vague. Judy heard from Eric Peterson that the new Artistic Director is planning three Equity plays next summer for Oldcastle.

It was suggested that Mary be asked to write a Newsletter article about the Silent Angels and invited others to contribute.

Publicity - Judy announced that the press release on the Nov. 1 program will go out next Tuesday and will also be sent to Front Porch Forum.

Scholarships - Norma said that 11 students at CCV have received applications and Wendy is waiting for applications to be returned.

Old Business

Advertising of Silent Angels - see above
Brochure from National about AAUW - received

Move to Adjourn made by Berta, seconded by Madeline, passed (Sorry I failed to note time.)