

**On Line Branch
American Association of University Women
Board Meeting Minutes
August 22, 2008**

The On-Line Branch Board meeting was opened by President, Harriet Tower on July 21, 2008.

Jean Simutis, Treasurer provided the Board with the 2007-2008 Financial Reports. She posted the audited reports on the Online blog on July 24, 2008. Nancy Shoemaker was appointed auditor by Harriet.

The 2008-2009 Budget will be ready for the September general meeting. Under consideration for this year are an honorarium protocol for out-going presidents (Past Presidents pin or EF Contribution), and support for an attendee to NCCWSL.

Gail Swain gave the membership report. At present, the Branch has 51 members, including 44 renewals, and 7 new members. Seven of the total have the Online Branch as their primary Branch. The Board discussed suggestions to make new members welcome, and making joining the Branch more user friendly, and a timeline for updating the roster and listserv.

Josephine Turner gave an EF/LAF report. She has updated the EF and LAF Online website pages. She would like to have the EF and LAF blogs be more active and interactive. Her suggestions resulted in a lively discussion of how many blogs should the Branch have, and their links to pertinent RSS feeds.

President Harriet Tower initiated a discussion of the Board's vision for the coming year in the following areas: Program, Public Policy, EF/LAF, and Technology.

Sandy Kirkpatrick, Program Chair, and Patty Hankins, Public Policy Chair led a discussion on the content of this year's programs and how best to present them without overwhelming the membership with too many emails. Sandy's vision is that the Branch "programs" be a combination of blog postings on the topics relevant to AAUW with one additional program in the fall and two or three in the spring on other topics. With Board consent, she plans to organize a program committee to develop the programs for the Branch.

Supporting this concept, Patty's plans include a fall focus on voter education, and the Proposition 4, the Parental Notification initiative on the ballot, with ways to encourage members to get involved in the political process. For Spring she plans a legislative focus. She also plans a series of blog posts on general AAUW public policy issues.

The discussion of EF/LAF fundraising and contribution procedures was led by Jo Turner. As an online entity, in person events are difficult for the Branch, so a "tea bag" fundraising approach seems best. The contribution procedure was discussed at length

because the AAUW and AAUW-CA guidelines do not fit well with an electronic membership.

Sandy Kirkpatrick has encouraged all Board members to set an example for the membership and become registered for the Branch blog and RSS Feed. The Board endorsed the concept, and with it encourages the membership to register for the Association's RSS feed.

Jean Simutis presented the Board with a proposed 2008-2009 Budget. After some corrections and modifications it is ready for implementation, and will be posted separately on the Branch website.

Recapping Action items from the Online Branch Board meeting:

- The 2007-2008 Financial Reports were approved for audit. Nancy Shoemaker was appointed to audit the reports.
- A Program Committee is to be appointed.
- The EF/LAF donation procedure was revised and clarified.
- The website will be updated with improved member access and use.
- Branch members are being provided the information about the RSS Feed and blog registration process, and encouraged to participate
- The 2008-2009 Budget has been approved

Respectfully submitted,

Mary S. Leavitt
Online Branch Secretary
September 16, 2008

