

Technical Vice President Amber Chiang announced, via the branch listserv on November 17, 2005 that the proposed amendments to the branch bylaws were posted on the branch website for member review. A deadline of December 1 was set for branch discussion and amendments via the listserv.

On December 2, 2005, President Sandy Kirkpatrick requested a motion to approve the amendments to the branch bylaws. Donna Lilly moved (Harriet Tower second) that the proposed amendments to the AAUW California Online Branch bylaws be accepted as posted on the branch website.

President Kirkpatrick asked for additional discussion or amendments (moved and seconded) to be posted to the listserv no later than noon December 4, 2005.

Mary Rack moved (second, Nancy Shoemaker) to amend Article VI, Section 5 by striking and inserting: The annual budget shall be adopted by the board of directors for presentation to the branch.

Rationale presented by maker/seconder of motion: This language puts the responsibility for the budget in the correct place: with the board. It satisfies the intent in the change that it may be the new board that presents the budget in September rather than the old board presenting the budget at the annual meeting. Indeed, it allows the board to modify the budget as circumstances change -- but the requirement to present the budget to the branch preserves "transparency". Since the board approves all spending and is responsible for raising money, it is difficult for other branch members to have specific comments on the budget. Once we approve the dues and elect the officers, let's allow the board to function without requiring our explicit approval of their plans, although we would expect them to listen to any concerns we raise and rework the budget if our concerns are widely shared.

President Kirkpatrick extended the discussion period to December 5.

On Tuesday, December 6, President Kirkpatrick called for the vote on the following:

• The amendment to Article VI, Section 5

• The amendments to the bylaws as originally proposed.

Members were directed to the Members Section of the branch website to access the voting page. Polls were open until noon, Friday, December 9, 2005.

President Kirkpatrick announced the results of the vote at 7 p.m. December 9:

- The amendment to Article VI, Section 5: Ayes: 8 Noes: 5
  Motion passed
- The amendments to the bylaws (as amended by Motion 1) as originally proposed. Ayes: 13 Noes: 0 Motion passed