



**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY WOMEN
CALIFORNIA ONLINE BRANCH
MINUTES OF BOARD BUSINESS
CONDUCTED VIA EMAIL
October-December 2020**

Branch Established October 2, 2001

Attendance:

Shelley Mitchell, President
Jean Simutis, Treasurer
Gail Swain, Program VP
Bev Van Citters, Membership VP
Harriet Tower, AAUW Funds VP
Sandy Kirkpatrick, Communications Chair

October

- Distributed *Onliner News* to members.
- Approved the Q1 (July-September) minutes, which was then posted on the branch website.
- Approved the Q1 (July-September) financial report, which was then posted in the Members Only section of the branch website.
- Agreed to automatically subscribe new branch members to the program email list rather than expecting them to understand they need to opt in.
- Continued the program email list discussion that began on September 29 of *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo.
- Held a Zoom program on October 3 with guest speaker Nancy Mahr from the AAUW CA Public Policy committee to review AAUW CA positions on propositions on the California ballot.
- Discussed making some changes to the branch's public Facebook group to more effectively screen requests to join the group and use those requests to recruit new branch members.
- Noted that Google is changing our account from "G Suite" to "Google Workplace," which does not appear to impact the way our email lists function.
- Motion on October 23 (Harriet Tower): "I move we sign the Speech Trek Memorandum of Understanding for our branch to participate in the contest this year." Motion adopted October 24.

November

- Distributed *Onliner News* to members.
- Held "White Elephant" fundraiser for AAUW Funds on the branch's public Facebook group November 1-14 (see report below).
- Held a Zoom branch "Happy Hour" on November 13 and, after polling branch members, agreed to make it a regular branch social event on the first Friday of each month.
- Held a Zoom program on November 21 on "Women's Suffrage Centennial" with guest speaker Ginny Baxter.
- Received Harriet Tower's November 24 Auction Fundraiser Report:
 - The auction was a huge success, bringing in **\$1292.50 for AAUW Fund**.
 - 68 auction items were donated by 11 branch members.
 - The items were estimated to value from \$5 to \$500.

We allowed two weeks for bidding.

49 items were bid on, for a total of \$1119.50.

19 items had no bids.

Some winning bidders added extra donations when paying, bringing the total to \$1292.50.

\$575 was paid directly to AAUW through AAUW.org. This amount includes \$35 paid by me because of:

1. \$5 cash mailed to me
2. \$25 check payable to me

\$717.50 was paid by checks received by me and mailed to AAUW.

Although very successful, the auction is time/labor intensive.

Creating an Excel spreadsheet to keep track of items, donors, bids, winners, payments.

Creating the Facebook page for each item, with photos and descriptions – 68 separate pages.

Emailing to thank item donors, notify winning bidders, request payments, notify donors to mail items to winning bidders, answer queries throughout the process.

Completing Contribution Report to send to AAUW with the checks.

- Discussed the Auction report, and agreed for future auction fundraisers to:
 - Continue to use Facebook as the platform for the auction, since it reaches many non-members.
 - Limit the number of items available for bidding to make it more manageable and less overwhelming to prospective bidders.
 - Create an Auction Committee so that the tasks noted in Harriet's report can be delegated to several people rather than all of it falling on the chair. Further discussion is needed to determine the mechanics of how this committee would operate.

December

- Distributed *Onliner News* to members.
- Held a Zoom branch "Happy Hour" on December 4.
- Agreed to hold a Zoom board meeting on January 12, 2021 at 7pm for a mid-year evaluation of branch goals, finances, and program plans.

Signed,

Sandy Kirkpatrick