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**Minutes of the California Online Branch
Board Zoom Meeting
January 31, 2023**

Branch Established October 2, 2001

Attendance:

Gail Swain, President

Kristina Rueckert, Treasurer

Bev Van Citters, Jean Simutis Program VP

Tobi Balma, Membership VP

Charmen Goehring, AAUW Fund VP

Randa Blanding, Communications Chair

Cathy Foxhoven, Public Policy Chair and Speech Trek

Tech Group, and Gov Trek, Bev Van Citters

Sharon Westafer, Secretary

Absent:

Patrice Lyn, DEI chair, Harriet Tower, Book Group, Shelley Mitchell, Newsletter

Gail Swain called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. and gave brief inspirational remarks.

The agenda was approved as presented.

Board Reports:

Financial: Kristina discussed budget expenses which currently are lower than income. The bank balance is \$1667.00, and we are within budget with income greater than expenses. The report was accepted as presented.

Program: Bev and Jean hope Cathy's niece will be able to do a program this spring. It will depend on her health status. The January program has been uploaded to YouTube. Pat Lehman from the Oregon branch was inadvertently omitted from the introductions at the beginning of the program. Gail sent her an apology.

Fund: Charmen requested nominations for the branch Named Gift Award. The nominations are due the end of February. It was decided to nominate one person for the Named Gift Award. The next financial report from National will be sent in February and will be the year-end report.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Cathy reported that Patrice gave an excellent program on January 16th. The meeting announcement was sent to the committee and published in the newsletter. The next meeting will cover gender and sexuality.

Public Policy: Cathy keeps up with Public Policy through Kathy Harper of the State Public Policy committee.

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Communications, Website: Randa will check the website to be sure DEI and Branch Programs are there.

Zoom: Bev explained the standard operating procedures for the zoom account. To log in, use the branch email and branch password. Randa is willing to host meetings and then turn the meeting over to a host. She would take over the email and zoom account. Bev agreed to be Randa's backup. Bev, Jean, and Tobi will convert the zoom account to Randa.

Book Group: No report

Tech Group: The group met in December and the next meeting will be February 13th. Bev plans to have her husband give a brief talk on cybersecurity. The March meeting will feature podcasts.

Speech Trek: Cathy has four contestants, however only one has sent in their paperwork. Cathy will follow up with the other three students. Jean Simutis, Gail Swain, and Bev Van Citters volunteered to be judges, Gail will serve as the head judge on February 18th.

Newsletter: No report. Cathy suggested that each article for the newsletter be sent separately, make the headings for each article larger, and be sure to tell the editor how many articles are being sent so no submitted articles are missed.

Gov Trek: Randa reported that Nancy Pelosi did an excellent video for girls in California.

Membership: Tobi reported that 93 of 96 members responded to the branch survey. When a new member joins, their membership will expire one year from the date they joined rather than on June 30th. Tobi explained her rationale for the questions she included in the survey. Going forward, she will submit documents to the board for approval before sending them to members or posting on the website.

Committees:

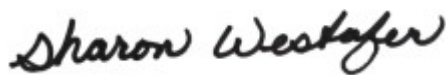
Nominating: Jean and Gail will serve on the nominating committee. Cathy Foxhoven agreed to continue with the DEI and Speech Trek committees, Jean Simutis will continue with Program, Randa Blanding will continue with Communications and Charlene Goehring will continue as AAUW Fund VP.

Dues Increase: Jean will chair the committee which consists of Kristina, Jean, Tobi, and Gail.

Policies and Procedures: Bev, Shelley, Patrice, and Gail. Gail will chair the committee.

Next Board Meeting will be March 28th.

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.



Sharon Westafer, Secretary