

**American Association of University Women  
Fairbanks Branch  
Board meeting  
April 26, 2016 at 6 pm  
At the home of Jodi Gouwens**

**Members present:** (7) Ritchie Musick, Gretchen Murphy, Gael Murakami, Carla Willetto, Margaret Soden, Vera Alexander and Rita Osborne

**Member absent:** Pat Babcock

President Ritchie Musick called the meeting to order at 6:14 pm. **A quorum of members was present.**

**No written agenda to approve.**

**Minutes:** The minutes were emailed to board members earlier today 4/26/2016. Gael moved the minutes be approved, Gretchen seconded. **Motion passed.**

**Financial Summary:** Vera reported a balance of \$2,892 in our travel account and \$4,590 in checking account. Vera distributed a list (attached) of scholarship luncheon attendees and donations for a total of \$581 (\$506 for lunches and \$75 donations) and membership dues of \$373.

**Committee reports:**

**Programs:** Room rent for the April scholarship luncheon was \$200 (\$150 room rental plus \$50 set-up fee) that was more than anticipated. Donations at the door were accepted to offset this amount. The May membership meeting will be held May 16 at 7 pm in the home of Karen Emerson and details are still being arranged. Gael will meet with Joyce Potter and Pat Babcock on April 27 to discuss duties of the Vice President Programs. Gael has created a meeting checklist and monthly program notebook that will be passed on to new Program VPs. Both Ritchie and Carla mentioned AAUW on-line has multiple program suggestions, such as Programs-In-A-Box, that supports the AAUW mission.

**House Tour:** The next committee meeting will be Wednesday May 4, 11 am at the home of Karen Emerson and it will be a salad luncheon. No commitments yet for houses so still requesting recommendations. Those on the house tour committee are Margaret Soden (chair), Gael Murakami, Gretchen Murphy, Ritchie Musick, Georgene Nielsen, Karen Emerson, Brenda Birdsall and Rita Osborne,

**Writer's Group:** The Writer's Group location will be at Pike's Landing on the third Thursday of the month at noon. It was decided to not rotate meeting places each month as previously stated and that Pike's Landing is easily accessible by those with limited mobility.

**Newsletter:** Ritchie needs news articles by Friday for the May newsletter.

**Book Group:** The May book group meeting will be held on Monday May 9, 1:30 pm at Barb Matthews's home. The book *The Innovators: How a Group of Hackers, Geniuses and Geeks Created the Digital Revolution* by Walter Isaacson will be reviewed.

**Historian:** Barb Matthews has decided to retire from this position. Stephanie Stowman has volunteered to take her place. Gretchen mentioned about having a newer member also be involved. Ritchie will get together with Pat and Stephanie about reviewing these historical files.

### **Old Business:**

**Membership Update:** There are currently 53 members on the National roster. This does not include those who submitted checks to Vera recently. The scholarship luncheon garnered the interest of two prospective members, Erica Nardella (scholarship recipient) and her guest, Amber Cagwin (UAF Dean of Students). There was discussion on the Shape the Future complimentary membership. Our branch has earned two of these memberships, and one will be offered to Jane Weber (math professor at UAF). It was reiterated that the Give a Grad a Gift memberships are available for recent graduates and are complimentary. Graduates are eligible to receive this gift up to 2 years after their matriculation date. Ritchie wondered if any of these recipients have joined the local branch; there are at least two, for sure, but it's hard to know because it's not a matter of record who gives these gifts to whom. There have been several. Ritchie okayed that Carla will designate Ellen Whitcher as deceased on the national Membership Database.

**Equal Pay Day:** Ritchie wrote a FDNM community prospective column and also provided this information to Kris Capps although neither was printed in the News-Miner. April 12 was Equal Pay Day.

### **New Business:**

**Ellen Whitcher Award.** Vera moved that we establish a member recognition in honor of Ellen Whitcher for outstanding service by a member to the branch, Gael seconded. This award would be given during the scholarship luncheon and may or may not be awarded annually. **Motion passed.**

**Ellen Whitcher Estate Sale and Memorial.** Brenda Birdsall has set June 4, 2016 as the date for the estate sale, which AAUW is the recipient of the sales.

Members will be needed to help organize for the sale and the dates will be published in our newsletter. There will be a memorial for Ellen at Skiland on August 21. Discussion about flowers will be deferred until later.

**Tech Savvy Program.** A meeting with Terry Tirrell, Ritchie and Gretchen is scheduled for early May to discuss a Tech Savvy Program.

**Check signers and annual tax filing.** Carla moved that our new check signers as of June 1 would be Gael Murakami (treasurer), Gretchen Murphy (president) and Margaret Soden (president-elect), Rita seconded. **Motion passed.** This will be done as soon as minutes are available and a time can be mutually arranged. Ritchie questioned whether taxes were filed; Vera stated she submitted the postcard.

**Voter Registration Training.** Gretchen mentioned there is some member interest of participating in voter registration. The Election Office has a regular schedule for training and participants must be pre-registered. If there is enough interest the Election Office can set up group training for us.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:39pm.** Carla moved to adjourn, Vera seconded. **Motion passed.**

Next board meeting will be held **Tuesday May 24, 6 pm** at Jodi's home and will be chaired by incoming president Gretchen.

Submitted by

Rita Osborne  
Secretary