**AAUW MINNESOTA 89th STATE CONVENTION April 27-28, 2018 South Central College** – Faribault, Minnesota

Training of branch officers with state board counterparts took place starting at 8:00 AM.

The Flag Ceremony was conducted by members of the American Heritage Girl Scouts.

The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Speakers:

* Cyndy Harrison, Faribault AAUW co-president and convention co-chair, welcomed convention attendees and shared the story behind the convention slogan, “Come Grow in Faribault.”
* Kym Anderson, long-time Faribault chamber executive and Faribault’s first woman city council member, welcomed attendees and shared an overview of the city of Faribault.
* Dr. Mitzi Kennedy, South Central College’s Chief Diversity Officer, also spoke, sharing her gender equity work and thanking AAUW for their support.
* Jan Bensen, Minnesota AAUW President, introduced the AAUW national speaker.
* Kendra Davies, Senior Vice President for Partnerships, who oversees the organization’s membership. She shared national’s revamped strategic plan, goals, and focus areas.

**BUSINESS MEETING**

The convention business session convened at 11:00 AM, April 28, 2018. *(Agenda on page 13.)*

President Jan Bensen introduced herself, and on behalf of the Board of Directors, welcomed attendees to the 2018 State Convention. Additionally, Jan

* thanked the Faribault Branch and Convention Co-Hosts Cyndy Harrison and Pauline Schreiber for making the convention a success.
* recognized Past State Presidents. She noted that the State Board of Directors wished to acknowledge the leadership of this outstanding group of women by making a special $400.00 contribution to AAUW Funds honoring Minnesota Past Presidents.
* acknowledged Honorary Life Members who have at least 50 years of membership.
* made members aware of the opportunity for questions or suggestions for the State Board via an easel and sticky notes on tables outside the main meeting room.
* noted this year’s parliamentarian is Barb Wonson-Liukkonen.

**Voting Cards** - Delegates’ voting cards were distributed during registration, and motion forms were placed on the tables. Members were reminded to write out motions from the floor before speaking to them and to give the form to a page who will deliver copies to the secretary and to Jan.

**Roll Call** - Secretary Trudy Severson called the roll of College/University representatives and branches eligible to vote at this convention.

A quorum for conducting business is two-fifths of branches.

Twelve branches are currently required; 25 of 29 possible branches answered the roll call, so a quorum was present to conduct business.

**Credentials Report - Mary Harlander-Locke, Chair**

Present were ten state board members, two college/university representatives, 90 seated branch delegates, eight past state presidents, one member at large, and 55 non-voting members/visitors for a total of 166 registered attendees. Motion was made by Mary Harlander-Locke, on behalf of the Credentials Committee, to adopt the Credentials Committee Report. A committee motion requires no second; the motion was unanimously approved.

**Standing Rules Committee Report - Sheila Lind, Chair**

Noted the standing rules are on pages 19 -20 of the convention booklet. On behalf of the Convention moved to adopt the Convention Standing Rules. A committee motion requires no second; motion was unanimously approved.

Jan Bensen read items on the page 13 Consent Agenda which include the Convention Business Agenda, appointments for convention process (pages, tellers, timekeeper), and the 2017 condensed convention minutes on page 20-24. Motion by Pat Sween and seconded by Mary Ann Lucas-Houx to accept the Consent Agenda. The motion was unanimously approved.

**STATE OFFICER REPORTS**

Treasurer’s Report *(page 25)* - State Treasurer Beth Nienow presented the treasurer’s report for fiscal year July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017. The end of year checking account balance was $68,982.33. Mary Jo Dickinson moved to accept the treasurer’s report. Bonnie Hill seconded; report will be placed on file.

AAUW Funds Veronica Johnson, AAUW Funds Vice President, presented the AAUW Funds Report, noting that it had inadvertently been left out of the convention booklet. She will email report to all branches. Total giving for 2017 was $92,164.47 distributed in the following ways: AAUW Funds - $40,447.31; Legal Advocacy - $13,704.38; Educational Opportunities - $33,172.77; Public Policy Fund - $195.00; Eleanor Roosevelt Fund - $2,335.00; and Leadership Programs Funds - $215.00. Veronica Johnson moved to accept the 2017 AAUW Funds Report. A committee motion requires no second; motion was approved.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Financial Records Review Committee**: David Kirkwood, Committee Chair, stated that after review, the committee found the financial records to be in good order. He moved the adoption

of the 2016-2017 Financial Records Review Committee’s Report. A committee motion requires no second; motion was unanimously approved.

Proposed State Budget: David next presented the proposed 2018-2019 budget, which was approved by the board of directors on January 19, 2018. He explained that AAUW MN has over $68,000. Since only one year’s spending (approximately $25,000) needs to be kept on hand, AAUW plans to spend off some by increasing grants available to branches. By the direction of the Finance Committee and the State Board of Directors, David moved to adopt the proposed 2018-2019 AAUW MN State Budget as presented in the convention booklet. A committee motion requires no second; the motion was unanimously approved and the budget adopted.

Public Policy Report: Jan Carey, AAUW MN Public Policy Vice President, shared her use of social networking including podcasts and videos. She also hopes to initiate an AAUW Day at the state capitol and to survey branch public policy chairs via Survey Monkey. Jan moved to accept the Public Policy Report as listed on page 30 – 31. A committee report requires no second; motion was passed.

**Resolutions Committee:**

Jan Carey read aloud the Courtesy Resolution; no discussion was needed.

Five other resolutions were printed in the convention booklet.

Since resolution #2 duplicated resolution #1 concerning the Dream Act, Terry Terch, Duluth AAUW Policy Chair, moved to have the convention body consider only resolution #2.

Pat Sween brought up a point of order, stating that no plan of implementation was included with the resolution. Duluth then rescinded both resolutions #1 and #2 to revise and add implementation for next year.

Veronica Johnson, Minneapolis Branch Public Policy Committee Chair, also withdrew Resolutions #3 and #5, both concerning removing the deadline for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment since they too did not include implementation steps. She urged members to encourage legislators to support the Equal Rights Amendment.

Resolution #4, dealing with the United States supporting ratification of the UN CEDAW Treaty, was submitted by Red Wing and Northfield Branches. Kay Humphrey seconded; motion passed.

Resolutions from Floor: President Bensen reviewed rules for discussion of floor resolutions including time limits and order; she then called for resolutions from the floor. Linda Thielbar, co-president AAUW Red Wing Branch, asked to have her resolution heard. A hand vote indicated two third members willing to hear resolution. Linda made a motion that AAUW MN voting members in attendance vote to support the three proposed national bylaw amendments and encourage their branch members to also support passage. Sheila Lind seconded. Discussion both pro and con ensued. A three fourth majority is required for passage. Voting resulted in 34 yes votes, but 83 were needed for passage, so the resolution failed.

**Recognition of Outgoing State Board Members:**

Lisa West recognized retiring president Jan Bensen and thanked her for her service during the past two years.

**Jan Bensen introduced the 2018-2019 State Board Members:**

* Lisa West – President
* Mariah Ring – Administrative Assistant
* Mary Ann Lucas-Houx – Vice President Program
* Peg Lonnquist – Vice President Membership
* Jan Carey – Vice President Public Policy
* Veronica Johnson – Vice President AAUW Funds
* Beth Nienow – Treasurer
* Trudy Severson – Secretary/Historian
* David Kirkwood – Finance Chair
* Anne Johnson – College/University Representative
* Cyndy Harrison – Pine Newsletter & Website

**2019 State Convention:**

Deanna Ensley, Grand Rapids co-president, issued an invitation to attend the 90th AAUW Minnesota State Convention in Grand Rapids April 26 – 27, 2019.

**Closing Comments:**

* In the interest of time, David Kirkwood’s presentation, “Keeping Us Legal” will be technologically sent to all branches.
* Attendees adjourned to lunch with Legal Advocacy Fund speakers Sharon Van Duck and Donald Chance Mark, Jr. These noted MN trial lawyers are working on the case Portz vs. St Cloud State University over Title IX issues; they also successfully represented Shannon Miller in her discrimination suit against the University of Minnesota Duluth.
* The speakers will be followed by a variety of breakout sessions and the silent auction.
* No second business session was convened.

**Adjournment:**

The 89th AAUW MN State Convention Business Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Trudy Severson Secretary May 14, 2018