



Faribault Branch Communiqué

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

September 2020



“Pauline’s Presidential Pen

Our program for September will be our online candidate forums conducted through Google Meet by Cyndy Harrison. Google Meet is similar to a Zoom conference. Up to 250 can be connect to watch the forums.

The forums, as scheduled by Cyndy and myself, will be: school board, Tuesday, Sept. 29, 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.; Rice County Commissioners, Wednesday, Sept. 30, 6 to 7 p.m.; city council, Wednesday, Sept. 30, 7:15 to 8:15 p.m.; and State Rep. District 24B, Thursday, Oct. 1, 6 to 6:45 p.m. and State Senate, Thursday, Oct. 1, 7 to 7:45 p.m. This is a tight timeline for the forum committee, but hopefully it will work out.

A short 30 minute AAUW meeting is planned for 7 p.m. Monday, September 28, so that members can practice using Google Meet. Cyndy will conduct this meeting.

Cyndy plans to record the candidate forums and put them on YouTube. We will need to publicize that fact so people can watch them throughout October, and before the election.

It was great to see the 19 members who attended the August picnic. It was a fun afternoon. It could be the only time we meet in person. Time will tell. Keeping connected through Google Meet sessions will be the way we go this fall.

Stay safe, but connected. Call or email your fellow Faribault AAUW members.

Secretary's Report

AAUW Faribault Branch Meeting August 31, 2020



President Pauline Schreiber called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. The meeting held at Alexander Park was attended by 19 people. This special meeting was called to approve annual business items necessary to conduct our goals and mission for 2020-2021 during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Membership Report: Kathy Larson reported that most members renewed their membership. Our numbers are similar to last year. (48 members are currently listed on the AAUW membership roster for the Faribault branch.)

New Business:

- **Election of Officers:** Pauline listed the candidates for vacancies in the two-year term chairs: AAUW Funds – Pat Rice, Diversity – Diane Hagan, Public Policy – JoEllen Schulz and one-year extension for membership co-chairs – Kathy Larson and Kathryn Speulda. Motion by Julie Olson, second by Mary Lillquist to accept the candidates as listed. The motion carried.
- **AAUW Faribault High School Sportswoman of the Year:** Mary Osborne reported that this year, the Bruce Smith Sportsman of the Year Award included a monetary award of \$250. Since the AAUW Sportswoman of the Year is to be the equivalent award for a female athlete, a motion was made by Pat Rice and seconded by Kathy Larson that the AAUW Award match the monetary award for the Bruce Smith Award in the future. The motion carried.
- **Annual Budget:** Treasurer Julie Olson presented the proposed 2020-2021 budget. Motion by Pat Rice, second by Barb Dubbels to approve the budget as proposed. The motion carried.
- **Candidates' Forums:** The committee is meeting to develop a format for virtual forums for the local candidate races with the help of Cyndy Harrison. Questions for the candidates should be submitted immediately to Liz Hartman.
- **Program:** Due to the uncertainty of meeting during current recommendations, the program committee is exploring virtual options for the year.

Announcements:

- **Named Honorees for the Educational Foundation Endowment Fund:** Pat Rice announced that this year's honorees were the editors of our Faribault Branch newsletter, *The Faribault Branch Communique*, Liz Hartman and Emily Nesvold.
- **2019-2020 Non-Convention Awards:** Pat Rice also announced that our Faribault branch received top ten awards in money donated to AAUW Funds in both total gifts and gifts per capita.
- **Book Club:** Judy Graham is hosting the AAUW book Club at her house on Sept. 15, 2020 at 2:30 p.m. Her address is 505 W. Riverview Dr., Waterville. The book we are discussing is *Olive, Again* by Elizabeth Strout.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth Hildebrandt, secretary pro tem

Treasurer's Report



So we begin our new year with uncertainty. What else is new? Aha! I know. Our friend Ardo Ibrahim has a new son. She welcomed Salim Mustaf Muhammad on September 3. All is well with mom and baby.

On to dollars and members. We still have cash, of course: \$354.58 checking, \$6360.91 savings. The budget, approved on August 31, assumes that we will not have an October breakfast but will do the book sale in the spring. That Covid-19 menace will have to be controlled by then.... And members. According to my most recent numbers, we have 42 paid and fully processed members, two more in transit (no one in the national office since March to deal with unusual situations), and a couple more possibilities and promises. The actual count will be taken September 30 this year, according to info from Washington. This is down a few from last year, but loyal members continue to support our branch. Thank you!

Submitted by Julie O

Book Club



The AAUW Book Club met on a lovely Tuesday morning at Diane Hagen's home. We gathered (socially distancing) with our lawn chairs and masks in her backyard, where we each shared what books we have been reading during the pandemic since we had last been together. We've missed book club so much that we planned on another outside gathering and chose *Olive Again* by Elizabeth Strout for our next read. Judy Graham invited us to her home in Waterville for an afternoon gathering planning on good weather! We meet on Tuesday, September 15 at 2:30 pm in Waterville.

Submitted by Barb Dubbels

Membership Message



Welcome Back to all our A.A.U.W. Sisters of our Faribault Branch for the 2020-2021 Year!!

Even through the Covid-19 Virus has changed our world in many ways, we still need to remember to support our goal as the nation's leading voice in promoting equity and education for women and girls!! We can do so much more for breaking through barriers for women and girls together as a strong group of people.

Please consider asking someone to join our active A.A.U.W. organization.

If you have not paid your membership dues for this year, you may send a check to:
Julie Olson
2815 Village Drive
Faribault, MN 55021-2259

Annual Membership Dues = \$78.

THANK YOU,

Submitted by Kathy Larson & Kathryn Speulda

Pictures from the August 31 Picnic at Alexander North Park





Submitted by Karen Rasmussen



Vote early by mail
Vote early in person
Vote in person on election day
But whatever you do, VOTE!

<https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/other-ways-to-vote/vote-early-by-mail/>

will provide more information, including how to track your vote, where to vote, view your sample ballot.

Submitted by Sue Willcutt

Calendar

September 28, 7:00 pm; Google Meet Tutorial
September 29, 6:30 – 8:00 pm; School Board Forum
September 30, 6:00 – 7:00 pm; Rice County Commissioners Forum
September 30, 7:15 - 8:15 pm; Faribault City Council Forum
October 1, 6:00 - 6:45 pm; State Representative, District 24B
October 1, 7:00 – 7:45 pm, State Senator Forum
November 3 or before, vote

You will receive an email invitation from Cyndy for your Google Meet sessions.

The Faribault AAUW Branch Newsletter is published from September to May during our program year. The Editors are Emily Nesvold and Liz Hartman. Because of different operating systems and formats, articles other than Google Docs, should be submitted within the text of an email, not as an attachment. Items should be sent by the 10th of the month to either Emily enesvold@gmail.com or Liz ethartmanariz@gmail.com on alternating months. A reminder email will always be sent out.