



AAUW – New Mexico
AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

AAUW New Mexico

AAUW-NM Focus Statement: **“Empowering women to take charge of their lives”**

Fall Leadership Team Meeting Minutes

Saturday, October 30,2021

Hybrid meeting held in person and via Zoom online

Meeting called to order at 9:45 am by Lynn Heffron, AAUW-NM President.

A Quorum was established

Meeting Dedications: Virginia Spruiell and Jill Farnsworth, Carlsbad

Attendees:

BRANCH	MEMBERS and Position (Z=attended via Zoom)
Albuquerque	Pat Maben – Branch President Shelley Rossbach – State Finance Officer, Branch Finance Officer Sylvia Fink – Immediate Pat State President/ Branch Projects Chair
Carlsbad	None
Gallup	Tracy Lassiter – Branch President
Las Cruces	Anne Chase – Branch Co-President Marsha Hokkanen – Branch Co-President Judy McGuire – State Secretary (Z)
Las Vegas	Mary Byers – Branch Co-President (Z) Barbara Perea-Casey – Branch Co-President (Z) Phyllis Ludi – State Governance Chair, State Parliamentarian
Los Alamos	Helena Whyte – State Awards Chair Carol Neal – Branch Co-President (Z) Judy Prono – Branch Co-President (Z)
NM Online	Cherie Burch, President Online Branch – Sandia Park
Santa Fe	Lynn Heffron, State President Meredith Machen, State Public Policy Chair (Z) Anne May – Branch Co-President Louise Yakey – State Co-VP, Program
Silver City	Karen Love – Branch President (Z)
Socorro	Rebecca Reiss – Branch President (Z)

Excused Absences: Laura Bemis, Mary Sandford, Kathie Davis and Cassie Marrs

The Minutes of the Summer 2021 Leadership Team Meeting were accepted as presented noting two typos to be corrected.

Announcements: None in addition to those noted on agenda sent prior to meeting.

Finance Report: Presented by Shelley Rossbach, noting that if number of paid members continues at 325 (as reported by National), annual income will only be \$5,850. Shelley also reminded LT that the dues estimate does not include Honorary or Lifetime members. Shelley reminded State Presidents that the IRS 990 report must be submitted by Nov. 15, 2021.

Membership Report: Lynn Heffron presented the report due to the absence of Laura Bemis noting that members not paying dues by November 30 will be dropped from the AAUW Membership Database. The number of members on the report submitted by Laura Bemis includes Honorary and Lifetime Members and is based on the number of members in the AAUW Membership Database. The report emphasized that 90 members from 2020-2021 Roster have not renewed membership this year.

Program Report: Presented by Louise Yakey noting the deadline to achieve 5 Stars has extended to June, 2022. Los Alamos Branch has earned 5 Stars. The focus for 2021-2022 is: diversity, inclusion and equity. Sylvia noted that there is a “Diversity Tool Kit” on the AAUW Website.

New Business:

Nominations: Kathie Davis and Lynn Heffron noted vacancies in officers and appointments: Co-VP, Programs, Historian, Diversity Chair, Media Relations and International Chair. Tracy Lassiter volunteered to assume International Chair. Lynn suggested LT members serve as ambassadors to the Branches seeking people to fill the vacancies.

(Fiscal Agent discussion delayed to after lunch due to time)

Ongoing Projects and Reports

Public Policy Chair Public Policy Report presented by Meredith Machen reminding the Leadership /team to not use the word “Lobby” as AAUW NM is a non-profit 501c4 organization, therefore the new name of the (old) Lobby Corps is Advocate Corps. Based on the delayed AAUW Public Policy statement, the AAUW NM Public Policy priorities will be Education and Training, Economic Security, Leadership and Advancement, and Civil Rights. It was noted that the AAUW updated Public Policy Statement was not available in time for the AAUW NM Public Policies to be presented at the 2021 Convention, therefore Public Policies will be updated by committee (Sonya Berg, Sylvia Fink, and Meredith Machen), sent to AAUW for approval and then presented to the LT prior to the Winter LTM for final approval.

Motion made by Sylvia Fink and Seconded by Anne May to hold next (hybrid) LTM in Santa Fe on Sunday, January 23, 2022. Motion passed. Meredith requested members to review and comment on the documents provided prior to the LT meeting including a revised job description, 2021-2023 AAUW Public Policies, AAUW NM Advocacy at the Federal and State Level, Advocacy form, and proposed AAUW Public Policy brochure. Meredith also presented a written “Guide to New Mexico’s Legislature’s Website”

Tech Trek NM Tech Trek report presented by Helena Whyte highlighting her written report noting that the postponed 2020 Tech Trek and the 2021 Tech Trek were both held virtually via Zoom. A video report on Tech Trek will be

available on the AAUW NM Website soon.

(Business meeting adjourned for Presentation by Dr. Tracy Lassiter, AAUW Gallup President, "Two Profs from Ohio", My collaborative Blog Project and my Scholarship Trip to Venice, Italy.

Business meeting resumed following lunch break at 1:00 pm

Start Smart/Work Smart Lynn led discussion regarding both AAUW programs: Start Smart (focused on college students) and Work Smart (focused on workforce). A 3-year *license to present* from AAUW costs \$1,500 and is only available to a college or university. Lynn also announced the possible availability of a Spanish version of both programs for purchase from a Branch in Arizona. She also noted that AAUW will not permit presenting Start Smart to HS seniors. Discussion followed regarding the Possibility of AAUW NM purchasing the license which includes all materials and training for a presenter. Lynn will contact AAUW for clarification. Meredith will approach Santa Fe Community College Adult Education Dept to possibly purchase a license.

Fiscal Agent Agreement signed with New Mexico Foundation (NMF)– Lynn Heffron had signed the agreement with NMF on September 15 based on discussion and an acceptance at the Summer LTM. The purpose of the 501c3 Fiscal Agent sponsorship was to attract donations for future AAUW NM projects, since donations made to AAUW NM, a 501c4 organization are not tax-deductible. Shelley questioned the need for a Fiscal Agent and more outside donations since AAUW NM has adequate funds for a start-up project. Meredith discussed the process when using NMF as a Fiscal Agent, however NMF will assume 10% of all donations and handle all business such as tax forms. She cited the example of raising money for scholarships. Carol Neal noted that the Los Alamos UNM Foundation serves as the Fiscal Agent for the Los Alamos Branch allowing members to donate to the Branch via the Foundation. She also noted that there is no percentage "take" by the Foundation. Judy Prono stated that the NMF arrangement may be premature without a full study of need and benefit to AAUW NM. Phyllis Ludi noted that any unspent money cannot be donated back to AAUW NM, a 501c4 organization. Members present briefly discussed the possibility of AAUW NM becoming a 501c3 organization, such as AAUW did a few years back. After further discussion, *motion made by Anne May and seconded by Anne Chase to rescind the current agreement with the New Mexico Foundation pending further consideration.* Motion passed with 7 nay votes and 14 yea votes.

Officers' Reports – Highlights

Academic Report: The written report submitted by Mary Sandford was approved as presented in Mary's absence.

College/University – Becky Reiss reported that the Santa Fe Community College has joined AAUW as a C/U Member

Roadrunner Editor – Judy McGuire reminded LT that the Winter Roadrunner reports are due by November 15, 2021. Snail Mail members will be removed from the Constant contact database.

AAUW NM Awards – Helena reported that no nominations have been received for AAUW NM Awards.

Branch Reports

Written/submitted Branch reports highlighted by members present. Cheri Burch suggested potential of approaching parents of Tech Trek alumnae for membership in AAUW. Becky Reiss stated the Annual Convention is slated for Socorro and the usual Spring date must be pushed to June due to availability of housing at NM Tech. *Motion made by Pat Maben and seconded by Marsha Hokkanen to hold the AAUW NM Annual Convention in Socorro on the campus of NMTech June 3,4,5. Motion passed.*

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Submitted by Judy McGuire