

American Association of University Women



Bulletin 133 of the Cedar Rapids AAUW Branch

“Celebrate Us”: The Annual Spring Luncheon was attended by 21 members and guests. It was held at 11:30 Saturday, May 4 at Granite City Restaurant, 4755 First Avenue SE, Cedar Rapids.

We welcomed new and prospective AAUW members before an inspirational reader’s theater program led by Carole Bernard, program director. . Carole read a narrative that she had composed to weave together the script which included eight “Wonder Women” who excelled in gaining women’s rights. The readers were expressive and passionate! Linda Armitage read Susan B. Anthony’s address to the suffragists, Eleanor Roosevelt was read convincingly by Trudy Sundermann, Sue Jorgensen read Mother Teresa’s address to the Nobel Prize Commission, Malala Yousafzai was portrayed by Renee Penalver, Theresa Moore was a passionate Gloria Steinem, Mae Jemison, First African American astronaut was read by Julie Mitchell, Carletta Knox-Seymour was a convincing Maya Angelou, and Helene Golden read Hilary Clinton’s address to the women at the Beijing Conference in 1995, stating that women’s rights are human rights! The closing of the program was a choral reading of “I Am Women” to the message by Helen Redy. Thank you, Carole, for another moving experience!

Business Meeting: Sarah Swayze, nominations committee chair, introduced the candidates for offices for 2019-2020. The nominees were: Dr. Renee Penalver for President, Carol Berg for Program, and Julie Mitchell for Membership. The votes were unanimous for each of them.

Closing: President, Carletta Knox-Seymour looked back at her personal achievements as well as the events and accomplishments of the Cedar Rapids AAUW Branch during the 2018-2019 year.

Please Pay AAUW Dues if you haven’t already. Send checks to: Treasurer Mary Lawrence, 3701 Hawk Ave SW, Cedar Rapids 52404

CR Branch Dues \$11, Iowa State Dues \$10, AAUW Association Dues \$59.00 Total = \$80
Honorary Life Members pay \$11. First year members can join for a total of \$50.50 through the Shape the Future Member Recruitment Campaign.

Check your records: All of you who have email and internet connection should get on the AAUW. Org website and look up your membership information to make sure that it is up to date. Call or contact me if you have questions. 319-393-0675

CR Board Minutes, May 6, 2019, 5:30-7:30 Cedar Rapids, Public Library

Attendance: Sarah Swayze, Carletta Knox-Seymour, Linda Topinka, Linda Armitage, Jennifer McNabb, Carol Hills, Gwen Mitchell, Carol Berg and Renee Penalver **Excused Absences:** Mary Lawrence, Sue Jorgensen, Sue Pearson and Carole Bernard

Secretary report: Sarah Swayze Minutes were accepted as distributed.

President's report: Carletta reported that she has been in communication with the Gazette about having three pictures placed in Milestones. The pictures will be of the new board and to celebrate the monumental moments that marks the election of the first African American and the newly elected First Mexican presidents of the Cedar Rapids' Branch. The price will be \$108.00. Carletta shared that the Milestone comes out every Sunday, but any submissions must be done on Fridays by 4:30p.m. The submission will come out 9 days later. Linda Armitage suggested that Carletta also investigate placing this in the business section of the Gazette. Carletta will be looking into this.

Budget Report: Yearbook, \$65.00, Bulletin, \$150.00, Programs, \$250.00, and Membership, \$100.00. Total Budget \$765.00 for 2019-2020.

Carletta shared that this is the last year, October 2019, that the branch has monies from the designated fund for the Open Minds, Open Doors event. The money has been used to provide the thank you celebration lunches for presenters and volunteers. The cost cannot exceed \$1218.73. Carletta suggested that efforts be made to collect more donations for AAUW's future involvement in Coe's Open Minds, Open Doors event. Carletta will be talking with Susie Green concerning several things about the event.

Finance Report: Mary Lawrence. Submitted by email

Checkbook balance: \$4077.72

Farmers State Bank balance \$4304.22

State dues return: \$10.00

Donations received: S. Pearson, \$10.00, J. McNabb, \$10.00 and S. Pearson, \$10.00

Reimbursement paid: S. Jorgensen \$83.77 and Trudy Sundermann \$50.00

Dues received from D. Reed, \$50.50, R. Penalver, 21.00, Carol Hedberg, \$50.50, Julie Mitchell, \$20.00,

Gisela Steffe \$80.00 and B. Debban \$80.00

Dues paid to AAUW National Dues: \$177.00

Dues paid to AAUW State dues: \$60.00

State registration paid to Pat Higby: Carletta Knox-Seymour \$50.00

Public Policy Report: Linda Topinka

National: Fairness paycheck legislation and The Violence Against Women Act passed the House, however, they has not pass the Senate.

National Board members election will end at 6 p.m. on May 14th.

Florida's congress has passed a poll tac for felons to vote.

State: Gov. Reynolds held a private meeting with Betsy DeVos and other prominent conservative lobbyists to discuss diverting monies from public school. Gov. Reynold's proposal to allow felons to vote was struck down. Forwarded messages went out requesting that local members contact their representative to vote on language added to legislation banning Female Genital Mutilation. Both chambers of the statehouse did not pass the Fetal homicide legislation. United Healthcare is leaving Iowa on July 1st. MCO's for the state will be Amerigroup and Total Care.

Membership Report: Linda Armitage Based on the complete report of all members who joined the Cedar Rapids Branch of AAUW during Carletta Knox-Seymour's, Linda Armitage's, Sue Jorgensen's, Linda Topinka's and Carole Bernard's team efforts, 33 new members joined AAUW. Four of these new members have dropped their membership.

Program Officer: Carole Bernard (No new report)

Newsletter Editor Officer: Sue Jorgensen (No report)

Website Officer/Manager/Marketing: Jennifer McNabb and Renee Penalver (No report)

Charitable Funds Appointed Chair: Sue Pearson: (No report)

Submitted by Sarah Swayze on 5/19/2019