



Newsletter of the Fargo-Moorhead Branch
November 2014

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Susan Rae Helgeland

On Monday, November 10, 2014 at 5:30 pm at the Fry'n Pan our next F-M AAUW Branch meeting will host Leann K. Bertsch to talk to us about the topic of *Women in our ND Prison System – Census Data, Identification of Policy Issues and Possible Solutions*.

Leann K. Bertsch was appointed Director of the North Dakota Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation on July 1, 2005 by Governor John Hoeven. Prior to serving as Director, Bertsch served as the Commissioner of the North Dakota Department of Labor from September 2004 through June 2005.

Prior to entering state government, Bertsch served as an Assistant State's Attorney for Burleigh County from August 1996 through August 2004. From 1992 through 1996 Bertsch worked as an attorney for Legal Assistance of North Dakota. Bertsch also served 21 years in the North Dakota National Guard, retiring as a Major in the Judge Advocate General's Corp in 2007.

As Corrections Director, Bertsch has worked to implement evidence-based practices throughout the North Dakota Corrections system focusing resources on long-term offender behavior change as opposed to monitoring and compliance. Bertsch has been active on various Commissions including the Commission for the Study of Racial and Ethnic Bias in the Courts; the Commission on Alternatives to Incarceration; the Governor's Task Force on Violent and Sexual Offenders; the Interagency Council on Homelessness; and the Stop Violence Against Women Advisory Committee. Bertsch also serves as an officer of the Association of State Correctional Administrators.

Bertsch earned a Juris Doctor from the University of North Dakota School of Law and Bachelor of Science degree from North Dakota State University.

I have heard Ms Bertsch give testimony at the state legislature and also make presentations in other venues. She is an excellent speaker. I hope to see all of you next Monday and please bring others who are interested in this very important topic. Heather Brandt will also accompany Ms Bertsch as she has worked directly with women offenders and will discuss the challenge and barriers women face as they transition out of prison.

F-M AAUW BRANCH MINUTES
Monday October 13, 2014

President Helgeland called the meeting to order.

The agenda was approved by consensus.

The President requested that at least two members attend the state board meeting in Jamestown on October 18, 2014. Jan Jackson and Sandy Sidler said they would attend. Maureen Kelley Jonason may also be able to attend.

The September minutes were approved.

The Financial report was given and will be filed for audit.

Under Old Business, the Annual Program recommendations were approved by consensus. A report of the Annual Book Sale was given with a request for volunteers.

Under New Business the editor of the F-M AAUW Newsletter, Beth Anderson, asked for articles to be submitted as features.

Under New Business, Sandy Sidler gave a public policy report.

Announcements were as follows: November Board meeting will be on Saturday November 1, 2104 at Atomic Coffee, Fargo at 10 am. The President reminded the members that all are invited to attend. An announcement of the November branch meeting was made, and it will include Leann K. Bertsch, ND Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Director. The topic is *Women in Our Prisons*.

The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Jan Jackson and Susan Helgeland

The program was presented by Jeanne Hettich, Admissions Counselor at MSUM. The topic was "Campus Sexual Assault: Current Prevention Efforts."

REPORT FROM MN AAUW
Submitted by Maureen Kelly Jonason

I received a call from Mary Jo Dickinson, MN state finance officer. The MN state board members were asked to make contact with each branch to explain some of what they have to offer. They called me as membership chair because Susan was out of town.

1. MN AAUW offers a \$500 to branches who want to sponsor a Moorhead college woman to attend NCWSL. It costs about \$850 to attend, so this offer makes it affordable to sponsor a local woman. See the AAUW MN website for details. www.aauwmn.net
2. MN AAUW offers branch awards for special projects. Ie. Sponsoring a STEM speaker for girls. Application is on the website. It's competitive.
3. MN state newsletter is issued 4 times a year. They have 2000 members and 300 still require snail mail. They asked for a branch member they can email it to who will print it off and mail to Moorhead branch members who don't use email. I volunteered.
4. MN AAUW accepts nominations for their Young Women for Equity Award women no older than 25. The deadline for nominations is Feb. 1, 2015. The application is on the website. Moorhead nominations are encouraged.
5. She asked if we might be interested in borrowing the films *Mis-Representation* and *The Invisible War*. If enough branches are interested, the Board will buy them and loan them out. I told her yes. She suggested we set up a viewing at one of the colleges.
6. She asked if Moorhead would be able to host the state annual meeting some time. I asked if people would really come that far. She said Thief River Falls has made an offer to host. I told her that would be great nut for the foreseeable future; Moorhead cannot host. But hosting it at some point in the future might be a way to get college women involved.

TREASURER'S REPORT
1/1/2014 through 10/31/14
Submitted by Ruth Stefanowicz

Date	Account	Num	Category	Tag	Memo	Cir	Amount
INCOME							1,114.22
	Dues						261.00
	Opening Balance						853.22
EXPENSES							-263.44
	AAUW MN						-9.00
	AAUW National						-147.00
	AAUW ND						-65.00
	Sir Speedy						-32.64
	Sunmart						-9.80
OVERALL TOTAL							850.78

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

“Life’s most urgent question is: What are you doing for others?” — Martin Luther King, Jr.

ON THE ROAD TO EQUALITY By Beth Anderson

In October 2014, the Women’s Foundation of Minnesota along with the Center on Women & Public Policy of the Humphrey School of Public Affairs, released its annual report on Minnesota’s women and girls, *On the Road to Equality*. The report focused on four areas: economics, safety, health, and leadership.

It reflects information collected from 12 Minnesota communities, including Moorhead. There were 12 focus groups invited also to provide insight on these topics. They comprised African American and Asian-American women and girls; senior women; and adolescent girls.

The report presents key findings along with policy recommendations in the four areas. The whole report gives excellent background for our chapter’s work on strategic planning and annual goals. To access the whole 17-page report, use Google to search its title. I wasn’t able to attach the link to this article.

