



Business and Professional Women of Aurora News!

ISSUE 4

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Business and Professional Women of Aurora

September 7, 2017

Mimi's Café

205 South Abilene Street

Aurora, CO

5:30 p.m., Networking

6:00 p.m. Dinner and Meeting, followed by Speaker



Scott Perry

Scott Perry's topic is "Fun Facts and history of the NFL, especially the Broncos." Scott looks forward to telling his story and he believes that we live in the best city for Home Town NFL fans.

RSVP: t_mceldowney@msn.com by September 1, 2017

Letter from Cheryl, your President

Dear Members:

I would like to share the following words of wisdom with you. Influential author Maya Angelou said, "I love to see a young girl go out and grab the world by the lapels." This quote about girl power reminds women to reach for the stars. The story of women's lib was spurred by self-belief. Civil rights activist Rosa Parks said, "No one can make you feel inferior without your consent." *The Color Purple* author Alice Walker warned, "The most common way people give up their power is by thinking they don't have any." These quotes by influential women encourage women to believe in their own abilities.

In July, BPW Aurora had its annual reunion picnic at Debbie Gilliard's home. It was a wonderful evening filled with conversation and reminiscing about the past, present and future of our organization. We welcomed Deb Fischer, BPW Colorado President and members of BPW Aurora (Past and Present), Boulder BPW, Cherry Creek BPW and Denver BPW and their guests. In attendance were: Marsha Berzins, Jessica Dewell, Deb Fischer, Barbara Ford, Mikyla Garrett, Debbie and Gary Gilliard, Chanel Heerman and Daughter, Mary Ellen Lewis, Teresa McEldowney, Karen McGee, Kay O'Connell, Nancy Rinker, Cheryl and Glen Rotkovich and Vickie and Aaron Rotkovich.



Please note: Candidate's Night replaces BPW Aurora's October business meeting and speaker. See page 4 for more information on Candidate's Night on Wednesday, October 4. See you in September. Go Broncos!

Cheryl

Business and Professional Women - Aurora
Minutes of the August 3, 2017 Planning Meeting

President Cheryl Rotkovich called the meeting of the Aurora Business Women Executive Team to order at 6:15 p.m. at Mimi's Café, Aurora. **Members Present:** Teresa McEldowney, Kay O'Connell, Mary Ellen Lewis, Debbie Gilliard and Cheryl Derman were present. Quorum established.

Minutes of the previous meeting were published in the April newsletter and approved as published. May was installation of officers; in June was State convention; the July meeting was a social held at Debbie Gilliard's home.

Treasurer's Report: Teresa presented the Financial Report as of today. Treasurer's Report will be filed for audit as approved. Debbie Gilliard will receive the financials today as she has agreed to do the audit. Teresa presented the budget for 2017-18. Question arose regarding Candidates night expenses. Four groups will be co-sponsoring that event so not as much is needed from our chapter. Kay moved we adopt the budget as presented; Mary Ellen seconded. Budget adopted.

Correspondence/Newsletter: The September newsletter will be distributed later in August. Send information to Mary Ellen by the 15th for the newsletter. Thank you's were received from the Boulder BPW and Deb Fischer for the July social at Debbie Gilliard's. CWF thanked our chapter for its \$50 donation.

Membership: Former member Marsha Berzins has joined BPW-Aurora. Welcome, Marsha!

Unfinished Business: State Strategy Team – Nothing to report. Cheryl R. will be planning the meetings and reporting back to us.

Candidates Night: Debbie Gilliard reported that there are lots of candidates this year: Ward 1 has 2; Ward 2 has 6; Ward 3 has 4 running; and 12 are running for At-Large positions (we vote for 2). Sponsors for Candidates Night this year, besides BPW-Aurora, include League of Women Voters, Aurora Chamber, Aurora Sentinel, and Aurora Election Commission. This will take place on October 4 from 6-10 pm at the Municipal Center. Debbie and Kay both have bunting for decorating the hall. This event will be held in lieu of our October meeting. Debbie will keep us informed of our responsibilities for this event.

State Meeting: Cheryl reported on the State Planning meeting held at President Deb Fischer's home. State financials and budget were discussed. Kay volunteered to publish the State Newsletter and will call Deb Fischer for information. At this meeting recommendations were made that chapters combine for some social events. On August 27 at the Alamo Theatre, the film "Equal Means Equal" will be shown for \$20 per person and that includes a glass of wine. All are invited. Teresa will propose an amendment to the bylaws to limit discretionary spending by any officers. BPW-Colorado now has 81 members.

New Business – Planning for 2017-18 year. Teresa recommended that each member donate \$10 to cover meals for speakers for 2017-18. All agreed to this.

September –

October – Candidates Night

November – Mary Ellen Lewis has arranged speaker

December – Holiday Event at Mary Ellen Lewis's home

January –

February –

March – Celebration of Women (or may be held in April)

April – Voting for officers

May – Installation of Officers

Speakers: Kay and Debbie presented information about their summer travels. Kay visited Juneau, Alaska. Debbie and her husband Gary visited Portugal, Spain and Monaco. Both brought pictures. After reciting the Collect, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Kay O'Connell, Recording Secretary

Candidate's Night

Debbie Gilliard

(Please note: Candidate's Night replaces BPW Aurora's October business meeting and speaker.)

Wednesday, October 4

NOTE: BPW Aurora Members

BPW Aurora is responsible for decorations, providing moderators and time keepers for 3 sessions, and is helping with snacks.

Based on the current list of potential candidates, the tentative schedule for the Candidate Forums on October 4 is:

6:00—6:50 p.m. At-Large Candidates—Group 1*

7:00—7:50 p.m. At-Large Candidates—Group 2*

8:00—8:50 p.m. Ward III Candidates

9:00—9:50 p.m. Ward II Candidates

10:00—10:30 p.m. Ward I Candidates

NOTE TO CANDIDATES:

Candidates should plan to arrive at the Aurora City Council Chambers at least 15 minutes prior to the start time of their specific forum. These Forums will be recorded and played back throughout the month of October on Aurora Channel 8 on cable and on the web at www.AuoraTV.org

*Note: At-Large Candidates will be placed into Group 1 or 2 based on the final number of At-large candidates. If you are running At-Large, or now please reserve the full two hours, from 6—8 p.m., the evening of October 4. We will be sending out the final schedule in early September and you will know exactly which group you are in.

SAVE THE DATE:

What: 2017 Aurora City Council Candidate Forum

When: Wednesday, October 4, from 6—10:30 p.m.

Where: Aurora Municipal Center—Council Chambers

BPW MEMBERS HAVE YOU SIGNED UP TO HELP WITH DECORATIONS, OR BEING A MODERATOR, OR BEING A TIMEKEEPER?

A Bit of History from Mary Ellen:

I'm excited to share something with you. First, I will give you information on my Grandparents, on my Father's side, gleaned from a book "House of Hanna." written in 1906, by Sarah A. Hanna:

Robert Hanna (born in 1744, in Virginia) was married to Mary Parks. Robert Hanna was a boyhood friend and college classmate of Thomas Jefferson. It is impossible to find out where he fits in my family tree because in some cases there are no dates listed and almost every family has a Robert. He was a General in the Revolutionary War. He could be a distant Grandfather or distant Uncle.

Great Great Grandparents: David G. Hanna and Mary McKinney

Great Grandparents: Catherine L. Hanna to John Cruikshank

Grandparents: Bertha M. Cruickshank to Charles Lewis

Now, let's go to 1820:

Robert Hanna went to his bureau and taking therefrom a letter with a wax seal on it, he returned to his arm chair, saying, as he slowly unfolded the paper, "I have received another letter from my old friend, Thomas Jefferson. I wrote him some time ago, asking that the widows of Revolutionary soldiers might be pensioned." and then he read the letter:

"Monticello, January 16, 1820

General Robert Hanna

"A letter from you, dear Sir, comes to me like one from the tombs of the dead. So long is it since I have had an evidence that you were still in the land of the living. So few are now so who were fellow laborers in the struggle for the liberation of our country. I rejoice to find that advancing years are the only assailants on your health mentioned in your letter. Times, well as ill health, bears heavily on me. Immediately on the receipt of your letter, I forwarded it to the President with the expression of interest I feel for your petition, and he will not be slow in giving his attention to Revolutionary mothers. I tender you my best wishes for the continuance of your life and health as long as you shall yourself wish them to continue." Th. Jefferson



After the letter was read, Robert Hanna has this to say: "We old soldiers considered the matter seriously that if our wives should linger longer here than we, they should have some recompense for their years of toil and privation endured in our terrible struggle for liberty and self-government, and as a result I forwarded their petition and I now feel assured that Jefferson will do everything possible to put the measure through."

Fac Simile Letter from Thomas Jefferson is in the book.. "House of Hanna." I checked the signature. According to the book, Thomas Jefferson was a boyhood friend of the Hannas and a classmate of Robert at Williams and Mary College. I also doubled checked the website and the above letter is on the website.