**Portland Branch Annual Business Meeting**

**March 7, 2015**

The meeting was called to order at 10:45 AM by Ilga Ross, co-president.

Ilga Ross then asked that Sue Trotter and Linda Wood approve this year’s minutes to avoid waiting one year to approve them.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Ann Copeland reported on the financial status of the Branch. See attached. She also reported that the fundraising events have raised more funds than last year and that the Board has decided to give 2 scholarships this year rather than one.

**Branch Strategic Plan**

Barbara Spencer outlined the plan, goals, and timelines for the Branch. There are five focus areas which will be evaluated in June.

1. Public Policy
2. STEM
3. Research
4. Fundraising
5. College/University Relationships especially working with PSU, PCC, and Marylhurst.

**Public Policy**

Trish Garner gave the State report for Public Policy reporting that there are four major focus areas:

1. Wage Transparency. This has passed the House and the status is yet unknown in the Senate.
2. Pay Equity. There is lots of momentum for this issue.
3. Childcare Financial Assistance for College students. There is a good start in this area either by offering a tax credit or a subsidy
4. Branch Research

**Membership**

Kathe Hart report that the Branch now has more than 100 members. There are 24 new members this year. Kathe then introduced the new members present.

**Nominating Committee**

The committee offered the follow slate:

1. Program VP, Diane Winn
2. Study Group VP, Donna Pregill
3. Treasurer, Ann Copeland
4. Membership VP, Ginny McQueen
5. Director-at-Large, Karn Hill

There were no nominations from the membership. The slate as presented was adopted by the membership.

**Vote for Convention Delegates**

The Branch is allowed 5 delegates, the president and 4 others. The following have been asked to serve:

1. Ilga Ross, President
2. Ann Copeland
3. Jane Lancaster
4. Maxine McComas
5. Linda Stern

The delegates as presented were approved by the membership.

**Other Announcements/Business**

* Rose Toufexis announced the April program will be April 13th at the National College of Natural Medicine at 1:45.
* Barbara Spencer and Diane Winn are setting up a committee to plan the 110th Anniversary event in October. Anyone interested in participating, please contact them.
* Ilga Ross announced that the STEM committee is looking for volunteers to help with the Let’s Read Math program at the Buckman Elementary School this April and May. It is on Wednesdays from 3:30-4:30. Also, the committee is also considering giving a $150 scholarship to Saturday Academy.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM

Sue Thomas

Recording Secretary