Members present: Mary Anne Hogarty, Kathy Friedman, Bonnie Auchincloss, Barbara Van Itallie, Marticia Madory, Sheila Zweifler, Sandy Lash, Monique Jones, Margaret Nijhuis, Diane Jablonski, Pat Luczai, Ruth Sheets.

Guests: Mary Lou Davis

The meeting was called to order by President Diane Jablonski at 7:05 p.m.

The Board Meeting minutes of Mar. 7, 2019 were approved as submitted.

President's Report

- **Strategy Update** – The board discussed the branch strategic plan which has been updated to incorporate the current national AAUW strategic plan focus areas. *Sheila Zweifler moved to approve the Strategic Plan as updated.* The motion passed.

- **Working Rules Updates** – The Working Rules need to be updated based on the updated strategic plan. Each board member is asked to review their section of the Working Rules and send Betty Harrel any suggestion for changes by May 15.

- **Convention** – Poughkeepsie Branch gets eight delegates, and they will be Barbara Van Itallie, Margaret Nijhuis, Maria DeWald, Bonnie Auchincloss, Pat Luczai, Kathy Freedman, Ruth Sheets, and Kay Saderholm.

- **Annual Meeting** - The speaker for the Annual Meeting on June 13 at the Poughkeepsie Grand will be Sabrina Jaar Marzouka, Commissioner of the Dept. of Community and Family Services. The two NCCWSL scholarship winners will also each give a 3 minute speech. Officers will be installed at the meeting. The price will be more than last year, because of the venue, but there will be a cash bar.

Treasurer's Report - Pat Luczai reported as of April 3, 2019, current Total Assets are $58,789.81. For the current fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018, Revenue is $24,028.09 and Expenditures are $27,214.61.

Pat presented the distributed Operating Budget for 2019 – 2020 as distributed. The Total Membership Activities amount was corrected to be $2400. Pat noted that the budget proposal was made with the assumption of 325 members which is a slight decrease. She explained the Cornerstone Award will not be awarded this year causing less money needed for it in 2020. The new member reception line item was increased $425 to reflect the cost at the Children’s Home.

Upon discussing the proposed budget, the Monthly Meetings line item was increased $1550 and Undesignated Contributions was increased to $800.

*Pat Luczai moved that we accept the Operating Budget 2019 -2020 as amended.* The motion passed.

Program – Sandy Lash reported they have secured the Children’s home for the New Member reception in October. It was suggested that the food should be finger food as opposed to a sit down dinner in order to promote more mingling. The Speaker will be Christy Van Horn who will speak on “Gender and Medicine”. 

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Membership - Sheila Zweifler reported that the Hellenic Center is not available for the September Open House. She will contact Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church to check on availability for the Open House. At the recent Membership Committee meeting, nine people attended, and the focus was on how to retain members. There were many suggestions but Sheila was most excited about having photographs of the new members instead of the officers in the next membership directory. The membership renewal letters will be out before the end of the month.

Membership Treasurer - Mary Anne Hogarty reported that our branch is now a member of the MPP program. Dues will be collected by the Branch and we keep our portion of the dues and any donations, and the state and national dues are passed on them respectively.

Honors and Awards – No report

Communications - Bonnie Aucincloss reported that Donna Augustine has sent publicity announcements to Hudson Valley One, Hudson Valley Magazine, Chronogram, and Burbio. She will be also be working with Renie Milliken who may be able to assist on some publicity items. Bonnie would like the board to keep documents that may be helpful to future board members on the Amazon Cloud and she will work on the necessary guidelines, structure for naming and filing the documents, and instructions to do utilize the Amazon Cloud account. Bonnie will send these instructions to Diane who will review these instructions before sending them out to the board members.

Diane commented that she had sent Equal Pay Day articles to numerous local news organizations, but they did not choose to publish anything.

Community Services - Kathy Friedman reported that the Initiatives are writing proposals for the budget.

Interest Groups - No report

International - Marti Madory had previously sent a report to board members. At the meeting she highlighted parts of the report. She suggested we take a look at the Mid-Hudson Calendar of International Activities on the AAUW Poughkeepsie website which is looking especially attractive this month. She encouraged the board to utilize the “referral logo” to add to your correspondence and flyers which will help others find and use this calendar of our website. Marti will provide the graphic to Margaret Nijhuis who will also pass it on to Mary Coiteux for Facebook.

A second Global Friends Sharing Circle will be held at Gloria Ghedini’s home on April 10. Marti is assembling a Global Friends “alumnae” list to use for recruiting AAUW new members, International hostesses, Writers’ Tea attendees, and Annual Dinner attendees with the goal of forming continuing bonds of cooperation and support. Marti asked that the board members suggest other international women who would like to attend future Global Friends Sharing Circles.

There will be a Committee Planning Session on Tuesday, May 7 at Marti’s residence which will discuss the upcoming panel presentation for the January membership meeting, the display for the September Open House, and the possibility of a future local showing of the Academy Award-winning documentary film “Period. End of Sentence” to promote Days for Girls.

Diane added that she attended the UN Commission on the Status of Women Conference in March. She was particularly impressed Kimberly Churches’ presentation.

Public Policy – No report.
Nominating – No Report.

Newsletter - Margaret Nijhuis announced that she would appreciate getting articles for the May branch early. This is the last year she is doing the newsletter but she will continue with the website work. She needs to know changes in people in charge of projects that are posted on the website.

State/National Liaison - Mary Lou Davis reported that the March 9th Jump Start at Gutteman Community College had only half the registrants actually attend, but they did have 5 walk-ins. Given the low turnout it was a very expensive undertaking. Activities addressed included practice interviews, resume writing, how to negotiate a better salary, and picture taking for headshots. The Jump Start event was well done but needs to find ways to significantly increase attendance in the future. Gloria Blackwell from National attended.

Mary Lou noted that at the meeting at the UN, namely, the Status of Women Conference, fellowship recipients spoke on why the AAUW fellowships from National were so important.

Historian – No report.

Old Business –
  o  Tea - We have 126 attendees registered, including about 16 men. Online registrations will close by April 6.

New Business – Diane asked that suggestions for board meeting venues be given to her.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Sheets, Secretary