Members present: Diane Jablonski, Marcine Humphrey, Mary Anne Hogarty, Susie Blecker, Kathy Friedman, Bonnie Auchincloss, Monique Jones, Barbara Hespenheide, Sheila Zweifler, Marticia Madory, Barbara Van Itallie, Linnea Masson, Margaret Nijhuis, Maria DeWald, Betty Harrel, Pat Luczai, and Ruth Sheets.

Guests: Mary Coiteux, Claudette Hennessy, Carol Menken, Mary Scalise-Annis, Janna Whearty, Cyd Averill

The meeting was called to order by President Diane Jablonski at 7:11 p.m.

Diane thanked us all for coming across the river to Ulster County and participating in this Joint Board Meeting. We all introduced ourselves giving our current and/or upcoming position in AAUW Poughkeepsie.

The Board Meeting minutes of May 2, 2019 were approved as corrected.

**Treasurer’s Report** - Pat Luczai reported as of June 5, 2019, current Total Assets are $76,721.10. For the current fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018, Revenue is $53,604.01 and Expenditures are $39,038.46.

Update on the Writers’ Tea as of June 5, 2019: Revenue was $14,236.19 and expenses were $5,302.93 generating a profit of $8,933.26.

Pat discussed her proposal to require more prompt reimbursement of expenses. **Maria DeWald moved that we change the Working Rules for requests for expense reimbursement must be made with 60 days of being expensed. Any exception must be approved by the branch president.** The motion passed.

**President’s Report**

**Working Rules** – A small working rules committee will convene on June 17, 2019 to work on updates. Diane asked that board members submit any requests for updates ASAP.

**Financial Aid Policy** - Diane received a request for financial aid for membership dues from an elderly member. Currently there is no established policy for this. One suggestion is to use the free memberships we are granted for this type of need. Diane stated that we need to determine a policy. After discussion, it was determined that we need to handle the current request though we should formulate a policy in the future. **Sheila Zweifler moved that for the member who asked for financial aid, the branch would pay for the national dues portion this year: the individual will pay local and state dues.** The motion passed.

**Liaison to Poughkeepsie Library** – Diane has designated Sandy Lash as the liaison to the Poughkeepsie Library for room reservations.

**Annual dinner** – Number of reservations is 66. There will be a photo booth.

**Cloud** – Bonnie Auchincloss has access to the Amazon cloud account. Barbara Hespenheide has been asked to determine the structure for storing the data. It is expected to be used mainly for documents relating to the president and treasurer positions. One person should do the updates. It should not be used for your historical back-up. We need to figure out the process over the summer.

**Scholarships** – Diane and Jackie Goffe-McNish recently presented our branch sponsored scholarships to recipients at a DCC ceremony.
Program – Monique Jones reported there will be a Program Planning Meeting on June 25, 6:30 pm in the Charwat Meeting Room, Adriance Library. Diane thanked Sandy and Monique for all the varied and interesting programs during the year.

Membership – Sheila Zweifler reported that Membership is working on renewals and will bring Square to the Annual Dinner in an attempt to get more renewals at that time. One suggestion at the Membership Committee meeting was to have a Membership person at every meeting available to give out organization information; also to have membership information available at the Live Your Dream Conference, Days for Girls, etc. When new members are present at the general membership meetings, they should be announced and introduced. Linnea Masson should ask the Interest Group leaders to encourage their members to submit names of prospective members. Directory photos will be taken of the new members this year.

Regarding the upcoming Open House, scheduled for Sept. 12, 6 pm, at Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church, the branch may have to use their own sound system. If so, Sheila will let Janna Whearty know. Sheila thanked Susie Blecker for her work and mentoring as Membership Chair, and Sheila hoped that she would be as good a mentor to Mary Scalise-Annis as Susie had been to her.

Membership Treasurer – Mary Anne Hogarty announced that we had a total of 232 renewals to date, and also 4 people who had let her know that they were not rejoining this year. There was still 100 people who have not yet responded to Mary Anne. Donations of a total of $930.50 have been received with dues renewals. Thank you notes have been sent by Ruth Sheets. Diane thanked Mary Anne for doing an outstanding job as Membership Treasurer.

Newsletter – Margaret Nijhuis reported that Cyd Averill will be doing the September Branch newsletter. The deadline is August 10. Please send your updates to both Cyd and Margaret for the September issue.

Development Committee – Barbara Van Itallie reported Lula Allen will be nominated as VP Development and will be taking over the as chair of the committee. The plan is that the “Tea” will be moved to the fall, beginning in 2020 and the Woman of the Year to the spring, beginning in the spring of 2021. Since there will be no “Tea” in the spring of 2020, a fund raising appeal letter was suggested to go out to the members around that time to help provide funding for the initiatives. Also, if any of the initiatives are in need of funds during this interim period, there is money in reserve that could be used. The Development Committee will probably meet again in the fall, under the leadership of Lula Allen, to follow up on these ideas and to continue to define the role of the committee.

It was noted that we will need a general meeting program for April 2020, but we won’t need one for October 2020. Carol Mencken reported on the survey results with Sunday lunch being the most popular time for the new fundraiser. A possible venue being considered is Le Chambord. Janna Whearty explained that they plan on getting sponsors.

International Relations – Marti Madory provided a written report on the May 16 Global Friends Sharing Circle. There will be a Global Friends committee meeting on July 27 which will be a picnic.

Announcements/Adjourn

Diane gave special thanks to those leaving their positions. Including Susie Blecker (Membership), Pat DeLeo (Public Policy Chair), Maria DeWald (Immediate Past President, Board Member), Sue Doyle (Asst. Secretary), Mary Anne Hogarty (Membership Treasurer), Gail Sisti (WOY), Barbara Van Itallie (Nominating Chair), Leona Miller (Daytime Literature), Barbara Hugo (Poetry and Play Readings), Donna Reichner (Bridge III), and Carol DeMicco (Photography). Diane thanked everyone for their support during her first year as President.

Linda Ronayne will be the new Asst. Secretary.

Working Rules Updates – Please get any changes to Betty Harrel ASAP
Annual Meeting – June 13th at the Poughkeepsie Grand
Cazenovia – July 19-21st, Registration is now open, cost is $120.
Next Board Meeting – September 5 – Location TBD.
Open House – September 12th, Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church
Woman of the Year - October 27 – Dutchess Manor
Live Your Dream Girls Conference – November 2 – Dutchess Community College

Diane wished us all a great summer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Sheets, Secretary