

Minutes
Poughkeepsie Branch of the AAUW, Inc.
Board Meeting
Wednesday, October 5, 2011

Call to Order and Attendance

The meeting was called to order at 6:55 p.m. by Vice President Amy Schwed, due to President Desai being out of town. Present were Mary Coiteux, Mary Lou Davis, Cecilia Dinio-Durkin, Pat Dogil, Betty Harrel, Eileen Hayden, Marcine Humphrey, Cathy Kinn, Ginny Marcus, Margaret Nijhuis, Shelby Outwater, Joanne Scolaro, and Barbara Van Itallie.

Minutes of September Board Meeting

The minutes were approved as corrected.

Treasurer's Report-Barbara Van Itallie

Our assets are as follows: \$33,880.37, with 16,874.13 as restricted funds, and 17,006.13 as unrestricted funds. A donation of \$250 was sent to the Roxbury, NY Central School District Hurricane Victims Fund. This was approved at September's board meeting. We have \$400 as proceeds from the Ribfest held in August.

Membership Report-Amy Schwed

The Open House/Reunion was a huge success, with an overwhelming turnout. This was partially due to the amount of reminder phone calls that were made. As of today we have 38 new members, and our total is 378.

The New Member Reception will be held on November 9, with the Christ Episcopal Church in Poughkeepsie as a possible venue. The membership committee decided to invite all members who joined after Nov. 16, 2010. All Board members and Interest Group Coordinators are strongly urged to attend.

Girls' Conference-Marcine Humphrey

The registration brochure for the November 19 conference is ready and is being distributed to the local middle schools and public libraries. Every member is urged to call others who may have daughters, granddaughters who are in seventh grade and may be interested. A planning meeting is scheduled Oct. 13 at Marcine's home.

Marcine then submitted a proposal for funding for the conference, in the amount of \$1100. She used the proposal request form for Community Outreach Programs that was developed last year, and included a proposed budget for the conference.

A motion was made by Ginny Marcus, seconded by Linda Roberts, to designate \$1100 out of the Writers' Tea proceeds to help defray the cost of the Girls' Conference. Motion passed unanimously.

The Dutchess Girls' Collaborative, of which we are a cosponsor, is having a workshop on Sat., Oct. 22, titled "Beautiful Me-Girls and the Media".

Agenda Item: How the Board can provide leadership and support for upcoming events

- Woman of the Year-Mary Lou Davis: 125 invitations have been sent out. Help will be needed to call the non-responders. Marge Barton will take over next year as Chairwoman of this committee.
- Membership-Amy Schwed: from Oct. 9-12, phone calls will be made to remind members to come to the Leading to Reading Fundraiser at Barnes & Noble on Oct. 15, and the membership meeting on Oct. 19 featuring the Northern Dutchess Symphony Orchestra.
- Writers' Tea- Linda Roberts: the Auction Committee will be meeting on October 15, at Gloria Gibbs' home. The date for the Tea is April 1, 2012 at the Links Country Club in Unionvale. There will be a diverse tea menu. The guest authors are not definite yet, though two authors are committed to attend. Reservations will be made differently, with reserved tables still available, but all names/payments for these tables must be submitted together.

Agenda Item: Reevaluation of Assistant Treasurer's scope of work

Tabled until Nov. 2, 2011 meeting

Interest Group Coordinator-Cathy Kinn

A new interest group has been proposed, called "World Travelers". The intent of this group is to bring together women who travel the world, and those who would like to travel. There would be a monthly media travel presentation by members, with information and experiences being shared. A motion was made by Margaret Nijhuis, seconded by Amy Schwed, to approve the new group. Motion passed unanimously.

Information was requested about splitting an interest group. Each interest group can determine if they are becoming too large, and need to split. This has been done in the past.

New Business

Treasurer-Barbara Van Itallie: A group has asked for a donation to place an ad in their program, honoring one of our members. We cannot participate in giving a donation at this time. A policy will be formed at a later date on the issue of placing donated ads in others' programs. Marie Tarver's honor will be mentioned in the Branch.

Newsletter Editor-Margaret Nijhuis: Members who are running for public office in the county will be mentioned in the Branch, including Lydia Biskup. This is a special case, since she is not a member, but she has volunteered many hours, and presented, at the Girls' Conference.

A reminder was given that all articles for the Branch be submitted on or before the 10th of the month.

Community Outreach-Betty Harrel: A benefit concert is in the planning stages for the Irene Keyes Memorial Scholarship for the Arlington Foundation. Our branch has been asked to sponsor and organize the concert. Consensus was reached that we need more information before we can move forward with this.

Betty Harrel, Linda Roy: The Astor Preschool Program has asked us to sign a 2 year Community Partners Contract proposing that we are their supporters. A motion was made now by Barbara Van Itallie, seconded by Mary Lou Davis, that we sign the 2 year contract to continue to work as Community Partners on early childhood literacy with the Astor Preschool Program. Motion passed unanimously.

Nominating Committee-Marcine Humphey

Marcine asked for 2 members of the Board to volunteer on the committee for next year's slate of officers. Mary Lou Davis and Ginny Marcus volunteered to join the committee.

Diversity Initiative-Cecilia Dinio-Durkin

A "Fair Trade Fair" will be held Saturday, November 12 at the Oakwood School.

Meeting adjourned 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ginny Marcus
Secretary

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