

Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc.  
Board Meeting  
March 7, 2012

Attendance: Jeanette Cantwell, Sharon Clarke, Mary Coiteux, , Mary Lou Davis, Geeta Desai, Cecilia Dinio-Durkin, Pat Dogil, Betty Harrel, Eileen Hayden, Marcine Humphrey, Cathy Kinn, Shelby Outwater, Linda Roberts, Joanne Scolaro, Barbara VanItallie.

The meeting was called to order by president Geeta Desai at 7:05. She thanked the board for all the good work completed while she was gone. The minutes were approved as presented.

Barbara VanItallie presented the treasurer's report. We have a total of \$31,205.20 in all of our accounts, which is down slightly from this time last year. Of that amount, \$15,297.14 is in dedicated funds. There were several items which were spent over budget, including membership recruitment activities, the sunshine fund, and a \$250 donation to hurricane victims. A discussion was held on the possibility of raising dues, asking for voluntary contributions, or seeking alternative revenue sources such as selling items supporting women in developing countries. A subcommittee will be formed to look at the long-range financial picture and make a recommendation to the board. The budget will be presented next month, and all chairs were asked to submit funding needs to Barbara.

Jeanette Cantwell was welcomed to the board. She will be completing the term of Assistant Treasurer and has agreed to serve in the office for one additional year.

The March monthly meeting will be on The Invisible Children. Shelby Outwater reported that it will be held at Oakwood School and will feature a 45 minute film as well as speakers on the status of women and the Peace Corps. An effort should be made to reach out to newer members and work to increase attendance at our monthly meetings.

Marcine Humphrey reported on the Nominating Committee. The slate includes Peggy Hanson as Secretary, Barbara VanItallie as Treasurer, and Jeanette Cantwell as Assistant Treasurer. Members were asked to brainstorm a list of potential candidates for president and a discussion was held on ways to provide additional support for the position. The working rules and job descriptions will be completed and should be helpful.

The strategic plan is in place and should be reviewed every few months. Members were asked to notify Geeta Desai if they had concerns about the completion process.

The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Awards deadline is March 27<sup>th</sup>. Shelby will submit information on 2 programs and Doris Kelly will present information on our public policy program. Mary Lou Davis will check to see if there is a technology award.

Linda Roberts spoke about the Writers' Tea. Members have been very generous in donating numerous items for the auction, and she requested that they be in by March 24<sup>th</sup>. Mary Coiteux outlined the extensive publicity and asked members to contact her if they did not see the flyers in places they visit.

The Executive Committee nominated our Emerging Leader, Cecilia Dinio-Durkin, and the motion was approved. She will be honored at the NYS AAUW Convention in April.

Geeta Desai asked who would be attending the convention. They include Marcine Humphrey, Peggy Kelland, Geeta Desai, Mary Lou Davis, Betty Harrel, Margaret Nijhuis, Doris Kelly and Bergie Lebovitch.

A letter was received from Jodi Miller, Executive Director of the Mediation Center. An Anti Bullying Walkathon will be held on March 31<sup>st</sup>. Information will be put in The Branch, since Jodi is an AAUW member. Marcine Humphrey will be walking in the event.

An additional judge is needed for the Dutchess Community College Science Fair. Mary Louise VanWinkle will continue. Depending on the date, Eileen Hayden may be able to serve.

Mary Lou Davis reported that the LAF event at the convention will be a purse raffle. Joan Monk has offered to donate a purse if we need it. Sharon Clarke will check with the NYS LAF Director, Roli Wendorf.

Since the IRS status of not-for-profits has changed, the Association had to make bylaws changes and all states and branches must come into compliance. An Ad Hoc committee on bylaws was formed consisting of Eileen Hayden, Sharon Clarke, Geeta Desai and Betty Harrel.

Marcine Humphrey presented the application and press release for NCCWSL (National Conference of College Women Student Leaders). Our branch will pay the registration fees for one student and she will be responsible for transportation and any pre-conference activities. Once the form is approved, it will be sent to all area colleges.

The new interest groups are going well. Jeanette Cantwell said that the travel group was a "smashing success" and has planned their next meeting for April 12<sup>th</sup>. Cathy Kinn reported that the small book group has 5 members and is working extremely well.

Pat Dogil reported that the hospitality program is very successful with the interest groups volunteering, and one has already volunteered for June.

Mary Coiteux asked for 2-3 pictures from each interest group and initiative to put together a poster display for the state convention.

The LAF chair, Sharon Clarke, said that most of her job is making members aware of current lawsuits since the completion of the RibFest last summer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Harrel  
For Ginny Marcus, Secretary