

Minutes
Poughkeepsie Branch of the AAUW, Inc.
Board Meeting
Wednesday, April 4, 2012

Call to Order and Attendance

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Geeta Desai. Present were Jeanette Cantwell, Cecelia Dinio-Durkin, Pat Dogil, Betty Harrel, Eileen Hayden, Barbara Hugo, Marcine Humphrey, Doris Kelly, Ginny Marcus, Margaret Nijhuis, Shelby Outwater, Linda Roberts, Joanne Scolaro, and Barbara Van Itallie.

Minutes of the March Board Meeting

There were no corrections, and the minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report-Barbara Van Itallie

As of the present we have \$31,037.43 on hand. Two CD's came due in March and we now have a 1 year CD, due to the very low interest rates. The remainder is now in checking and savings accounts. Generally we have half of our monies in a CD, and the other half is liquid.

Proposed Budget 2012-2013-Barbara Van Itallie

The budget was presented to the Board as a working budget, with no special projects and initiatives included. A question and answer period followed. Marcine Humphrey moved, and Doris Kelly seconded, that the budget be approved as presented. Motion passed unanimously. The proposed budget will be published in the May edition of the Branch.

Review of By-Laws

Eileen Hayden is chairing the committee to review the by-laws. Members of the committee are Sharon Clarke, Geeta Desai, and Betty Harrel. A report must be presented to NYS AAUW with confirmative changes by May 15.

Writer's Tea

The majority of the feedback has been positive, with agreement that the venue and the food/drink were wonderful. Our treasurer, Barbara, needs expenses to be reported for the Tea before she can definitively give us a profit outcome. Linda Roberts, Auction Committee Chair, reported a rough figure of \$4,754.00 from the auction proceeds as of this meeting.

Nominating Committee-Marcine Humphrey

The slate of officers has been announced:

President-Jacqueline Goffe-McNish
Treasurer-Barbara Van Itallie
Secretary-Peggy Hansen

Jeanette Cantwell has agreed to fill in as Assistant Treasurer to complete the last year of the current term. Kay Saderholm will be CO-VP Membership for the remainder of the present term. The other officers will continue to serve the second year of their term. Trish Prunty has asked to be relieved as co-chair of EOF, for the remainder of this term. A vote will be held at the May 8, 2012 Annual Meeting, with the new officers being installed afterward. Work is continuing to fill the appointed Board positions.

Our President-elect has a commitment on Wednesdays, and cannot be present at the monthly Board meetings. Discussion was held about changing the meeting to another day in the first week of the month. Consensus was reached that Thursdays are best for the majority of Board members, so the meetings will be held on the first Thursday of each month for the new slate of officers.

President's Report-Geeta Desai

Ideas were presented by Geeta, along with Jeanette Cantwell, about the possibility of creating another Board position, such as Executive Vice President, to serve the needs of the President. This would require a change in the by-laws, and would be a possible goal for next year.

Annual Meeting-Barbara Hugo and Shelby Outwater

Plans are underway for the Annual Meeting, Tuesday, May 8 at Christo's. The program will consist of a series of "interviews" with select female figures who have made an impact on gender equality.

There will be a "Save the Date" notice coming out shortly via email. Discussions was then held about making the evening go as smoothly as possible, with details such as who will record the attendees and collect the dinner costs, and who will be at the sign-in table, etc.

Science Fair-Ginny Marcus and Eileen Hayden

The Dutchess Co. Science Fair was held Sat., March 31. Ginny and Eileen judged the seventh and eighth grade girls' projects. The winners each received a science award, and a \$50 gift certificate to Barnes & Noble. An article reporting about the winners will appear in the May Branch.

My Sister's Keeper-Cecilia Dinio-Durkin

There is a way to include the ideals of My Sister's Keeper in our branch. Cecilia presented the idea of purchasing a box of Ugandan made jewelry and handicrafts, called "Pandora's Box Kit." The purchase price of the box is \$1200. The box would then be available as a fundraiser at events, with the total price of the purchases going half toward our branch, and the other half going toward the Project Have Hope Foundation, which helps Ugandan women with literacy programs, vocational training, or starting businesses. Discussion and questions were raised. Cecilia will write up an explanation and email it to the Board, with a possible vote being conducted at our next meeting.

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NYS AAUW Convention

Purses will be auctioned off at the convention this year. Discussion was held as to how many purses we need as a fundraiser. We have two, and need no more.

Irene Keyes Memorial Fund-Marcine Humphrey

We are funding the cost of registration, (\$475), of one attendee at the National Women Student Leaders Conference in Washington, D.C. The applications went out to local colleges. One application has been received thus far, with the deadline of April 9 approaching.

Newsletter Editor-Margaret Nijhuis

Margaret reported that our Membership V.P., Amy Schwed, asked about the possibility that a questionnaire be sent out with the dues notice for next year. In an executive decision, the Board decided that there is not enough turn around time for the questionnaire to be compiled and then sent out.

There will be an announcement in the May Branch about the Anna Bucholz Citizen of the Year Award. The recipients are two AAUW members, Barbara Mindel and Ann Pinna. Congratulations!

Leading to Reading-Betty Harrel

Leading to Reading has received a grant from the Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union in the amount of \$250. Again, congratulations!

Meeting adjourned 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ginny Marcus
Secretary