

Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc.
General Membership Business Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 14, 2016
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Hall, Poughkeepsie, NY

The meeting was called to order by Barbara Van Itallie at 7:05.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Diane Jablonski reported that we have \$41,000 in assets at this time. \$16,500 is in special accounts for our initiatives. She reminded the membership that participation in the upcoming Writers' Tea and Auction is what funds these initiatives.

Organization Update

Barbara talked about upcoming events:

- The Writers' Tea and Auction in May. Please think about donations for the Auction.
- The Girls Conference is reestablished and will take place in November at Dutchess community college, our co-sponsor.
- Our Woman of the Year Luncheon will take place in October. Forms are available for suggesting nominees.
- We are trying to reestablish our STEM initiatives. Please let Barbara know if you are interested in working on STEM.

By-Laws Change

Kathy Friedman put forth the changes in our bylaws that are up for approval by the membership:

- Article VI, section 1C (formerly Article VII, section 3)
Previous wording states "The appointed directors shall be appointed by the president and the board and shall be the following as needed to fulfill the functions of the Organization: editor, coordinators of women's issues, honors and awards, international relations, public policy, community, education, cultural, publicity, bylaws, interest groups, hospitality, and Legal Advocacy Fund."
The new wording states "The appointed directors shall be appointed by the president and the board as needed to fulfill the functions of the Organization."
- Article VI, Section 1 – add the following sentences:
 - H. If a position is filled by co-chairs, each individual shall have one vote.
 - I. The immediate past president may serve on the board as an advisor for one year at the completion of her term of office. She shall be entitled to one vote.

The motion was approved by the membership.

Announcements

UN trip

Shabashnee Govender announced that the bus trip to the the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) at the UN will be March 16. Let Shabashnee know if you are interested.

Shabashee also reported that we will participate in the International Women's Day celebration at the Walkway over the Hudson on March 5.

Upcoming Programs

Betsy Kopstein-Stuts announced the upcoming monthly programs

- February - Dr. David Crenshaw and Courtney Albert will present the program, "Hiding in Plain Sight: Sex Trafficking."
- March – Photographs of the women in Iran.
- April – Local mental health issues and the suicide rate.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:17.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katherine Friedman
Secretary