

Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc.
General Membership Business Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 9, 2016
Annual Meeting, Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel

President Barbara Van Itallie brought the business meeting to order at 7:05. Barbara thanked the membership for their confidence in her tenure as president and for their participation in so many of the AAUW activities. She summarized the activities of the branch, praising the 22 interest groups, the wonderful programs and initiatives, the outstanding communications and scholarship committees. She reminded the membership of the upcoming activities in the fall, the Open House and the Woman of the Year Dinner.

Secretary Kathy Friedman reported that the minutes from the General membership meetings of January 14, 2016 and June 11, 2015 have been approved by the board of directors and are available online.

Treasurer Diane Jablonski reported that our finances are in excellent shape, with many renewals and contributions already submitted. She directed members to view the 2016-17 budget which is published in the June edition of *The Branch*.

Eileen Hayden, chair of the Nominating Committee presented the following slate of officers for the 2016-2018 term:

President	Maria DeWald
Communications Vice President	Bonnie Auchincloss
Secretary	Katherine Friedman
Treasurer	Diane Jablonski
Membership Treasurer	Mary Anne Hogarty

The secretary cast one ballot for the slate and the slate was elected by voice vote.

The meeting was then suspended as dinner was served and was resumed at 8:00 pm.

President-elect Maria DeWald thanked Barbara for her leadership for the past two years and expressed her hopes and ideas for the years ahead.

Sheila Zweifler, membership assistant, listed the awards for length of membership:

20 years – Linda Roberts, Cynthia Fisher, Jennifer Hafner, Eleanor Swartz.

25 years – Cynthia Smith,

30 years – Cathy Kinn, Gloria Ghedini

35 years – Christina Houghtaling

40 years – Stephanie King, Beverly Nathan

50 years – Betty Harrel, Pamela Sadlier

55 years – Catherine Albanese

63 years – Lila Mitchell

73 years – Phyllis Teasdale

Susie Blecker, membership vice-president, reported that we have many membership renewals already and we have worked hard to retain our new members. She and Sheila Sweifler are collecting names of prospective members for invitations to the Open House.

Mary Anne Hogarty, membership vice president, conducted the free membership drawing. The winners were Shirley Granda, Amy Thrasher, Susan Davis, and Mary Bagley.

Barbara Van Itallie introduced Honors and Awards chair, Barbara Hugo, and Educational Opportunities Fund vice president Linda Roberts. The EOF Honorees were Eleanor Burch, Mary-Jo Cottrell, Karen Haynes, Ann Carmen Pinna, Linda Roberts, and Linda Roy.

Barbara Van Itallie presented the Emerging Leader Award to Katherine Friedman
Dave and Mary King presented the Cornerstone award to Margaret Nijhuis.

Judge Joan Posner introduced the guest speaker Lisa Gharty, Assistant Commissioner, Child Welfare and Community Services of New York State. Ms. Gharty's talk, "Every Child Deserves a Champion," was about the ways in which we can improve educational outcomes for our vulnerable foster children.

Barbara Van Itallie adjourned the meeting at 8:56 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katherine Friedman
Secretary