

Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc.
Board Meeting Minutes
Saturday June 3, 2017
Home of Maria DeWald

Members present: Maria DeWald, Bonnie Auchincloss, Barbara Van Itallie, Eileen Hayden, Betty Harrel, Margaret Nijhuis, Betsy Kopstein, Cathy Kinn, Maria DeWald, Bonnie Auchincloss, Barbara Van Itallie, Mary Ann Hogarty, Sabashnee Govender, Linda Roberts, Janna Whearty. Guests: Monique Jones, Judy Linville, Lula Allen, Barbara Hesperheide, Sue Doyle, Joanne Long, Mary Coiteux.

Betty Harrel updated us on the Library book store book loan program/Leading to Reading. Working on the process and will update us as it progresses.

Meeting called to order: 11:30AM

Minutes: Motion to accept Betsy Kopstein, second Eileen Hayden, unanimously approved

President's Report:

Maria thanked the board members for their work and dedication. Monique is a new program VP, and Judy will run the annual meeting. Maria explained the DCC Convocation scholarship initiative. The students will be going on to local four year colleges.

Maria described with Linda Roberts how lovely it was to meet the scholarship winners and how nice it was to experience the Convocation where over \$440,000 in scholarships are given out each year. Scholarship recipients were Amanda Booth and Kristina Daniels.

Defensive Driving has 19 members with a minimum of 15.

The annual meeting is at 70 and may be as many as 85. Still responding. We will display a duplicate of the exhibit for annual meeting. Also, Mary will bring the purse for raffle. It has \$125-150 already. There will be a flyer for Diversity Cookbook. Others can bring items of interest to members to display. Margaret suggested that someone talk about the Woman of the Year luncheon at the Beekman Arms to publicize. Monique was asked to bring a sheet for suggestions for programs for next year.

Treasurer's Report:

Diane sent it out. Maria reported that we have allocated all requests in the upcoming budget and that the EOF is fully funded so we may decide to make our \$3,000 contribution to a different fund. We have a \$7,505 net income. We have just installed a new QuickBooks system and are working on getting it up and working.

Program Committee: June 15th meeting at Betsy's home. Ten members will attend to consider new and not-acted-upon ideas for programs. The Unitarian Fellowship will keep the \$100 fee the same. September open house may be at the Hellenic center.

Membership Committee:

Susie & Sheila were not here. Maria updated. Barbara Hespenheide will be an honorary member along with others. Branch open house will not be the 2nd Thursday in September, it will be Sept. 7th, the first Thursday. Oct. 12th will be the new member event. The rescheduled recycling program will be Oct. 12th.

Membership Treasurer:

Mary Ann said that 228 members have renewed, including the six new honorary members. 32 people have sent donations totaling \$766. In addition to dues. Two have said they won't renew. 2/3 of last year's new members have not replied. Notices will be sent to the non-renewals about the last date to renew in order to be in the member directory.

Communications:

Bonnie said rack card has been turned over to Barbara Hugo and Cyd Averill. Publicity-booster can be paid by the board member and then be reimbursed. Between newsletters Maria has and will continue to send out alerts about items of interest to and appropriate for our members. Bonnie Auchincloss agreed to accept this information and forward it to Joanne Scolaro. There was a suggestion to put messages in chronological order and in bullets. We can send a picture, caricature, etc. along as more people will read it.

Community liaison:

The Girls Conference initiative is meeting and getting ready for the push to get the word out to girls who might attend.

Development:

Margaret spoke about the DCC scholarship winners and wants Bonnie to put up photos of the winners and their story. We need ideas for encouraging members to sponsor more scholarships.

Newsletter/Website

The next newsletter is due out August 20th. The deadline for submitted articles is August 10. The Poughkeepsie Journal has given us the opportunity to be published in Community Voices and we hope to be published before the annual meeting. Margaret Nijhuis is willing to go over the web site and explain what is there and how to find it.

Initiatives:

**Leading to reading*

Betty Harrell spoke of stuffed animals for young children to asked that members be encouraged to bring them to the annual meeting.

**International*

Sabashnee spoke about Days for Girls whose mission is that all girls will have lasting access to feminine hygiene products and separate bathroom facilities. In refugee camps millions of girls stay at home during their monthly periods because of no access to feminine hygiene and this is a time that girls are more likely to be raped as they are left at home alone. Possibility for our

chapter to fund hygiene kits to help with this initiative. Also available is training and information for the girls who receive the kits. Costs of kits is \$10 + shipping to DC. She is looking for permission to get this group started as part of our International Initiative. Want to work with Pins & Needles. They will send out a note to the board and do a flyer for the annual meeting with a date and location.

Historian:

Eileen said they are looking into our history and planning for items to be published and a 650 word article for the Poughkeepsie Journal.

Special Committees:

**Woman of the Year*

The Woman of the Year Luncheon will be on Oct 29th at Beekman Arms

**Seneca Falls Trip*

The trip will be on September 15-16th or October 13-14th, leaving on Friday afternoon, and staying overnight. Two major sites will be visited on Saturday, returning home late Saturday. It will cost approximately \$300 per person, two in a room. Major sites include the Women's Rights National Historical Park. The home and church are free and with tour guide. National Women's Hall of Fame can be toured individually.

Writers Tea-Chairs thanked all who helped. Wrap up meeting this week at the links to review. Good feedback on the event. Many who couldn't come made donations. Jim Defelice will help get the next speaker/author. May change the name of the event. Over the years, we have raised over \$58,000. Auction items add significantly to the bottom line. They will put articles in the Branch issues coming up.

Announcements: Add April 15th tea. Leadership conf July 15-23rd, branch open house Sept 7, Dist 4 conf oct 28th at Wallace Center. Woman of the year Oct 29th, Girls conf Nov 4th.

Meeting adjourned at 1:06PM

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Doyle
Assistant Secretary