

Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc.
Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 1, 2018
Vassar Brothers Hospital

Members present: Jacqueline Goffe-McNish, Diane Jablonski, Monique Jones, Maria DeWald, Sandy Lash, Mary Anne Hogarty, Sabashnee Govender, Kathy Friedman. Guests: Mary Lou Davis, Linda Roberts.

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM. Since there was no quorum, the minutes could not be approved.

President

Maria DeWald announce that the National board is proposing three amendments to the national bylaws:

1. Staggering the terms of officers so on a tree year rotation.
2. Dropping the membership requirement for board members.
3. Dropping the degree requirement for AAUW members.

Reasons for these proposals are discussed in the AAUW website. The online comment period will start on March 22, and the voting will begin on April 25.

Maria also recommend two proposals for the branch's Working Rules:

1. Honorariums/Donations:

Motion: An honorarium **may** be given to speakers at program meetings if the speaker is not an AAUW member or otherwise prohibited from receiving an honorarium as a public employee. The maximum honorarium is \$50. If a speaker requests more, it becomes a speaker's fee and is approved by the program Vice President(s) as part of their budget. Program Vice Presidents should provide the Treasurer with a voucher request for the honorarium prior to the meeting. Donations to other charities in lieu of honorariums can only be done in compliance with Not-for-Profit and AAUW regulations and with the president's approval.

2. Mileage:

MOTION: Travel will be reimbursed per mile consistent with the AAUW NYS mileage rate. Travel must be approved by the President. Travel will **only** be reimbursed when formally representing the Poughkeepsie Branch outside Dutchess County as a requested speaker or program mentor, excluding Conventions/Conferences.

These motions will be voted on at the next meeting achieving a quorum.

Development

Linda Roberts reported on the progress of the Writers' Tea Committee. The committee members are enthusiastic and the donations are beginning to come in. Flyers will be handed

out at the next membership meeting. This year for the first time we will be able to use credit cards.

Marcine Humphrey and the committee are considering applications for the NCCWSL scholarship.

Treasurer

Diane Jablonski reported that we already have \$1730 income from the Tea, including \$500 from a generous donor. Betty Harrel applied for and received a \$2500 grant for Leading to Reading. It is hoped that we do not lose members because of the \$10 raise in National dues. We lose \$16 for every member that we lose. The budget will be presented at the Annual Meeting in June, and according to the bylaws it must be a balanced budget. Budget requests must be in by March 19.

Program

Monique and Sandy will have a program planning meeting on Tuesday, May 22 at 7 PM at Adriance Memorial Library.

Membership

Diane reported that we will only get tree free memberships next year and so will not be able to give as many out as before. Also, there have been changes to the student and graduate memberships.

Communications

The deadline for the April newsletter is March 10.

April Alerts should be given to Maria or Cathy Kinn by March 20

Please make sure all web pages are up to date.

Interest Groups

*Linnea Masson, a new member, will take over the leadership of our Movie Night Interest Group.

*A new Canasta Group is in the works with coordinator Barbara Cohen.

*Ediss has formed a second book group which will meet on the same night and read the same book. Ediss II will also be limited to 10 members.

*A thank you note was sent by PPLD for the donation that was given to the library after the Soleil trip. AAUW has a policy about donations to other organizations. Jackie suggested that the interest group coordinator meet with the interest group leaders to review policies and issues at the beginning of each year.

Board Committees

*Diversity and Inclusion. Jackie Goffe-Mc-Nish has two sessions planned. On April 19th will be a presentation, *Living in America as a Pakistani*. May 18th is the tentative date for the presentation, *Living in America as a Latina*.

*International Relations. Sabashnee Govender reported that the Days for Girls group is going very well. There were 20 volunteers working last Saturday. Vassar students are getting involved. Quaker Friends donated \$950 for a cutting machine which will really help with the

work. The April meeting will be at the Friends building on Hooker Avenue, Poughkeepsie. The March meeting will be at Boardman Road Library. Sabashnee also noted that there is a group travelling by train on March 15 to New York for the parallel events at the UN Commission on the Status of Women.

Additional Board Reports

*Mary Lou Davis reported that the NYS AAUW Convention will be on April 20-22 at Corning. We will have 10 members attending. Maria has submitted an application for the 21st Century Program Award for our Court Watch program.

*Our Annual Meeting will take place at the Children's Home of Poughkeepsie on June 14. Maria is working on finding a speaker, either an AAUW fellow or someone from the Children's Home.

Announcements

- * Women's Leadership Alliance/March 8 International Women's Day bus trip/New York City/Historical Society's Center for Women's History/we can access their calendar/we did receive a personal invite but it conflicts with our Program meeting.
- * Also on March 8, the Women's Professional Network will host an event at the Grand from 5:30-9:30
- * Commission on the Status of Women/March 15
- * Writer's Tea and Benefit Auction: Sunday, April 15, The Links
- * AAUW Convention: April 20-22, Corning
- * Annual Meeting; June 14, Children's Home of Poughkeepsie
- * Girl's Conference: Saturday, November 3, 2018, DCC/no answer yet from IBM

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katherine Friedman
Secretary