

**AAUW Westchester Board Meeting
November 4, 2015**

Attendance: Marie McKellar, Marilee Scheuneman, Mary Logan, Jane Pendergast, Roli Wendorf, Diona Koerner, Carol McMillan, Adelaide DiGiorgi, Sue Lambert, Natasha Rose

The meeting was called to order by Co-President Roli Wendorf at 12:05 p.m.

1. Approval of October Board Minutes – A motion to approve of the Board minutes as written was made by Carol McMillan and seconded by Jane Pendergast. The motion passed by unanimous consent.
2. Approval of October Branch Minutes – A motion to approve of the Branch minutes as written was made by Diona Koerner and seconded by Adelaide DiGiorgi. The motion passed by unanimous consent.
3. Treasurer's Report – Carol McMillan

We have received \$11,500.00 for WizGirls. There was a \$10,000.00 donation from Mastercard, a \$1,000.00 donation from ICS and a \$500.00 grant from New York State. So far we have received bills for legal expenses and for creation of the website. We have also received \$3,100.00 in registration fees, with \$2,400.00 of the money coming from the Paypal program.

The bills for the newsletter and the yearbook have been paid, with an outstanding bill for \$185.00 for liability insurance yet to be paid.

At the August Board meeting it was suggested to have someone review our financial records and Roseanne Klein has agreed to do that.

4. Branch action items

Membership – Adelaide DiGiorgi.

We currently have 185 members. We had a successful new members coffee at the home of Marie McKellar at which we signed up three new members. Diona Koerner stated that we need to put information about our new members into CHIPS and Marilee Scheuneman offered to do that. She will ask Janet Demb to help her with the project.

Programs – Roli Wendorf

Information about the upcoming holiday luncheon is in the current issues of CHIPS and will be in the December CHIPS bulletin. Stephanie Lemnios is planning an interactive activity to take place during the luncheon. Adie Shore will be collecting Toys for Tots contributions and bringing them to the Bedford Hills Correctional Facility.

Common Core Event – Jane Pendergast

The Common Core event on October 28 was very successful. It was a thought provoking meeting with approximately 15 educators and advocates for Common Core. The consensus of the meeting was that the common core program is progressing, students are learning and it is a program worth continuing. The problems with the program include the issues that standardized testing does not always reflect what the students are learning and that parents are not brought into the program and thus do not know how to work with their children on it.

Diamond Jubilee- Marie McKellar

We had a planning meeting at which lots of ideas were discussed, such as a goody bag with M&M's in AAUW colors, putting together a video based on our historical documents and many other ideas. We talked about inviting our scholarship recipients along with representatives from State and National. Roli Wendorf reported that Edwina Martin from New York State AAUW has already committed to attend.

Marilee Scheuneman reported on the archives. She has met with Colleen Fay and they have gone through five cartons of material and condensed them into two and a half bins. Barbara Sarver has agreed to put the current yearbooks on a thumb drive and Sue Lambert said she will put the CHIPS issues that she has prepared on a thumb drive as well so that the documents will be easily accessible and will not take up much room. She will prepare the materials for the Diamond Jubilee.

New Programs Brainstorming Session – Roli Wendorf

Roli reported that the brainstorming meeting came up with many ideas for programs which we could institute with funds from the sale of the New York City Branch house. They include expansion of EYO, WizGirls and StartSmart along with some new ideas such as a Women's Film Festival. These are good ideas but need members to be willing to work on them to get the programs started.

WizGirls – Diona Koerner

Diona reiterated that we have already received the \$500 from New York State and \$10,000.00 from Mastercard but she said that we are still waiting for the \$5000.00 from Cognizant.

We have 228 girls registered and many volunteers from SWE at Manhattan College, from Cognizant and from Ardsley High School. It promises to be an exciting event.

WCFWC – Roli Wendorf

Roli reported that Colleen Fay has agreed to be our representative to WCFWC but has asked what the Board policy is on reimbursement for attending their events. There are four WCFWC events each year and the Board decided to agree upon a reimbursement for two of them. If our representative wants to attend more than two events they will have to pay for them personally. A motion to provide reimbursement for two WCFWC events each year was made by Carol McMillan and seconded by Natasha Rose. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

Nominating Committee – Marie McKellar

The nominating committee has asked Linda Swan to become Co-President with Diona Koerner who is continuing in the position and she has agreed to do so. Sandie Flank has agreed to be Co-Vice President in Charge of Programs along with Stephanie Lemnios who is continuing in that role. The Committee is still working on the rest of the slate of officers.

5. Review of Changes to Branch Documents

Review of Policy Sheet – in September the Board agreed to waive Branch dues for undergraduate and full time graduate students and the policy sheet has been changed to reflect that.

By laws review – these are boiler plate changes that have been suggested by National and State. One major clarification is that we may now have absentee electronic voting for members who are unable to attend our annual meeting.

Diona Koerner brought up an issue with Article VII where the lawyers suggested that we not have co-positions but the position of the Branch is that, since it is not illegal to do so, we want to continue having co-leaders in various posts. Therefore in Article VI(1)(a) it should state that we can have one or more presidents, treasurers or vice-presidents for programming. A vote was held to adopt that change. The motion was made by Natasha Rose and seconded by Jane Pendergast. It passed by unanimous consent.

Conflict of interest policy – The policy submitted is in legalese and Natasha Rose will review it and try to put it into understandable language.

6. AAUW Funds Status – Mary Logan

Mary Logan reported that the status of the funding was on track and that she received seven checks at the meeting today.

7. AAUW NYS Board – Roli Wendorf

Roli and Diona had a telephone conversation with Edwina Martin, who is the State Board member in charge of keeping in touch with our Branch during which they told her of the many Branch activities we have going on and they reported that she seemed quite impressed with us.

The Branch communication guidelines from Cyd Averill were distributed and discussed by Sue Lambert because unlike past years, we did not receive the Newsletter Award at the State Convention. The only item missing from the checklist was a form to apply for membership, so Sue had added one in. Adelaide DiGiorgi said that she will revise the membership form in CHIPS.

8. Library conference room payment issue – Roli Wendorf

Roli said that we still do not have a definite answer concerning pro-rating the fee for use of the conference room, but that the Library has said it cannot make exceptions and must be fair to all users. It was the consent of the members present that we should pay the \$50.00 fee and continue to use the Library.

9. Upcoming CHIPS messages

For the December bulletin Mary will do a short update on the funds and Jane will write the front page article on the Common Core event. It was decided that June is too late for the article on the Diamond Jubilee to be featured and we will move that to May and have the EYO report in June.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Submitted by Natasha Rose