

Westchester AAUW Board Meeting Minutes of May 4, 2016

Attendance: Roli Wendorf, Diona Koerner, Jane Pendergast, Stephanie Lemnios, Selena Barron, Linda Swann, Sandra Flank, Marie McKellar, Adelaide DiGiorgi, Natasha Rose, Mary Logan, Marilee Scheuneman

The meeting was called to order by Diona Koerner at 4:35 p.m.

1. Approval of the minutes of the Board meeting of April 6, 2016. A motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Sandra Flank and seconded by Adelaide DiGiorgi. The minutes were then approved by unanimous consent.

Approval of the Branch meeting minutes of April 6, 2016. The following addition was made: in the list of officers for the next year the names of the Co-Vice Presidents for Membership, Pam Margand and Phyllis Hirth should be added. In addition, the name of our new member should read Angela Blake Fields. After those corrections were made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected was made by Adelaide DiGiorgi and seconded by Roli Wendorf. The corrected minutes were unanimously approved.

2. Treasurer's Report – Jane Pendergast. Jane reported that we have a significant positive cash flow position due to grants which the Branch has received and that we have items that were budgeted for but have not had to spend any money. However our insurance payments are now higher and we have had to spend more money on printing for those newsletters which are still being mailed. We have a current net balance of \$15,289. We received a gift from Dede Emerson which will cover the cost of the educational awards books and we have raised nearly \$800 for the senior book awards. Since we received a grant of \$10,000 for EYO we will not need to use the \$500 we had budgeted for it, and will be able to use those funds to help pay for the Diamond Jubilee. We still have to pay the Greenburgh Library \$300 for the use of the building for our Board meetings.
3. Committee Reports:

Membership- Adelaide DiGiorgi – We currently have 189 members. The New Membership Coffee is scheduled for May 14 at the home of Selena Barron and anyone who knows of a prospective member should invite them to attend.

Spring Fling – Selena Barron. Planning is going well, we have the menu set and it is in CHIPS. The Club has agreed to give us a celebratory drink and also has agreed to sponsor two of the scholarship recipients.

Programs – Stephanie Lemnios- There will be a program planning meeting for select next year's programs on May 10 at 1:30 p.m. at the Greenburgh Library.

EYO- Sandy Flank – the program went very smoothly. The attendance was approximately 260, which is the most we have had. Stephanie Lemnios added that some of the workshop assistants did not show up, but that those who did attend were excellent.

Running and Winning – Mary Logan – This was the fifth year of the program and the conference was held on April 14. There were 37 girls attending and 17 female legislators. The girls who attended were all very impressed with the conference.

Start Smart – Roli Wendorf – On April 22 our Branch along with the Empire State Virtual Branch presented a Start Smart workshop at the New York Institute of Technology as part of a leadership day program spearheaded by the Empire State Branch. Roli, along with two others, presented the new Start Smart workshop to the 15-20 attendees.

Scholarship Luncheon – Roli Wendorf – The luncheon was held on April 26. Approximately 40 members attended and all who were there enjoyed the food and the company.

WizGirls – Diona Koerner. There will be a meeting to plan next year's event some time in mid-May. The date for the conference is not yet set but, hopefully, will be October 29. We need to have more representation from AAUW at the next program.

4. AAUW State Convention – Roli Wendorf. Roli was elected as State AAUW President at the convention. Two other Branch members are state-wide officers: Jane Pendergast is a college and university director and Jean Havens is a communication and visibility director. Our Branch received many awards including those for membership, for our newsletter, a Platinum Branch for WizGirls, a top ten award for fund raising and public policy awards in many areas. In addition, Natasha Rose received the Emerging Leader Award, Jane Pendergast received a Special Leadership Award in Public Policy and Sheila received a special accomplishment in Education for WizGirls.
5. SLC Cazenovia – Roli Wendorf – There will be a summer leadership conference on July 22-24 at Cazenovia College (near Syracuse). The cost is \$105 for the weekend with accommodations provided in the college dorms. On Friday night there will be a training session on building leadership skills. On Saturday there will be a workshop on the new Work Smart/Start Smart workshop as well as a session on event programming.
6. NCCWSL scholarship – Mary Logan. We have \$500 budgeted to send a student to NCCWSL. In the past we have sent our intern to the NCCWSL conference which is in Washington, D.C. but this year's intern is unable to attend so Mary asked Purchase College to suggest another student who might benefit from attending the conference. Mary chose Caitlyn Blunnie, a new media major who has participated in many feminist activities while at Purchase. A motion to approve sending Caitlyn was made by Natasha Rose and seconded by Linda Swann. It was approved by unanimous consent.
7. Sponsoring Child and Forced Marriage- Jane Pendergast. State Legislator Amy Paulin has introduced legislation against Child and Forced Marriage and she is holding an event on May 25 at the Scarsdale Library to garner support for her bill. She would like AAUW to be a co-sponsor of the event. Jane made a motion to have AAUW act as a sponsor of the event which was seconded by Natasha Rose. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.
8. Voter Registration – BOCES – Jane Pendergast. There is an opportunity to participate in a voter registration event at BOCES on May 22 from 9-2. Selena Barron said she would check her calendar to see if she was available to participate.
9. Beverly Jordon Trust Bequest – Roli Wendorf. Former member Beverly Jordan left a bequest in her will of approximately \$30,000 to be invested and the interest used each year to fund a scholarship for a high school senior who is going to college and studying in the STEM fields. Jeremy Havens, the AAUW attorney, has said that accepting the bequest would not interfere with our 501(c)3 status, but that if we accept the bequest we must do the selection of the student who

receives the award. Stephanie Lemnios suggested that we could select one of the EYO workshop assistants. Selena Barron suggested that we could adopt a school in an underserved area and ask the principal to select several worthy students and we would choose one of them. Roli said that we must be transparent in our selection. Jane Pendergast said that the Buffalo chapter has a long history of awarding scholarships and we could check with them as to how they do it. She also suggested checking with the Westchester Community Trust to see if they could invest this money along with other trust funds in order to give us a higher return. There was considerable discussion as to whether we wanted to accept this donation or whether we felt it would be too difficult to administer. Stephanie Lemnios and Jane Pendergast will investigate the possibilities and report back to the June Board meeting about their findings.

10. Miscellaneous – Roli Wendorf graciously handed out gifts to all the Board members to thank them for their service.
11. The next Board meeting will be June 15 at 10:00 at the Greenburgh Library.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Submitted by: Natasha Rose