

AAUW Board Meeting of June 21, 2017

Attendance: Carol McMillan, Sandra Flank, Pam Margand, Cynthia Plater, Jane Pendergast, Sue Lambert, Diona Koerner, Linda Swann, Stephanie Lemnios, Natasha Rose

Old Board: The meeting was called to order by Diona Koerner at 10:10 a.m.

1. Approval of minutes of May 3, 2017

The May Board minutes were approved as written unanimously.

The May Branch minutes were approved as written unanimously.

2. Treasurer's Report – Carol McMillan

Carol is working to finish the year end close of our account. She mentioned receiving a printing bill for a run of 80 Branch brochures and was told it was approved and she will see that it is paid. Carol also said that she received a promised contribution from Dede Emerson to cover the cost of the book awards and that she received a notification from National AAUW that Christine Soper has been a member for 50 years and is now a life member, so Carol will refund her dues. National has sent a certificate for Christine and we will invite her to the September Branch meeting and present it to her there.

In closing Carol asked that anyone with outstanding bills get them in before the close of the fiscal year on June 30. Carol also mentioned that we have not yet received a bill from the Greenburgh Library for room rental and was given approval to send them a \$300 donation check. Treasurer's report approved.

3. Committee Action group reports -

Membership – Pam Margand had no report. It was brought out that we have one new member, Terry Rosenbaum, who was a guest of Judy Walsh at the Spring Fling and has joined our Branch.

Spring Fling – it was a successful event and people who attended were happy that it started at 5:00 p.m.

Summer Programs – there are now three programs as Selena Barron has added a luncheon at X2O but has not yet set a date for it.

4. Policy Sheets and Bylaws: They have all been completed.

Diona Koerner mentioned that the vote on the "advocate" level of membership took place with 11% of membership voting. 66.3% of those voting were in favor of it, but it failed to meet the necessary threshold of 66.7% and so it failed by a margin of 33 votes. Our branch allows a "friend" membership when someone who does not otherwise qualify for membership (who does not hold a college degree) is sponsored by an active AAUW Westchester member. Those in the "friend" category are not members of national and only pay branch dues. A friend category member is NOT eligible to vote, NOT eligible to run for office and NOT eligible to be an action group leader.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

New Board:

The meeting was called to order by Linda Swann at 10:30 a.m.

1. Goals and Strategic Planning Group – Selena Barron and Marie McKellar have reviewed it and said that no changes are needed.
2. Vote on endorsing NYS single payer health bill: A motion to approve endorsing it was made by Sandra Flank, seconded by Jane Pendergast and passed by the Board.
3. Nominating Branch project – Phyllis Hirth and Jane Pendergast have agreed to serve on this committee.
4. Calendar for 2017-2018

The August 16 Board meeting will be at the home of Stephanie Lemnios. It will begin at 10:30 and will be followed by a barbeque.

The September 13 potluck dinner will take place at the First Unitarian Society of Westchester beginning at 5:00 p.m. The Greenburgh Library was unavailable on that date in the evening. The cost for the rental is \$200. We will need to set up the tables, hopefully beginning at 3:00 that afternoon with the Board meeting to follow the set up. Linda Swann will provide additional information on timing at the August Board meeting.

Pam Margand mentioned that it would be helpful to send out a list of all scheduled meetings early in the year so that people can add them to their individual calendars.

5. Programs Report – Sandra Flank

Sandra Flank reported on programs. Initial programs have been selected and Sandy and Colleen Fay are working on confirming all programs.

The September program will feature AAUW programs – the heads of various action groups and committees will explain their individual programs.

October will have a program on women's suffrage by Nat Levin, Past President of the LWV.

November will feature the author of "Orange is the Black", who has been sponsored by AAUW.

In December we will have the holiday luncheon with Rose Tan speaking on the Chinese New Year and January will have a program on the Tappan Zee Bridge.

February will feature a speaker from the Poughkeepsie AAUW Branch to speak about their court monitoring program and March will have a program on women's history.

April will be "Music and the Brain" with an emphasis on women and May will have author Lauren White as speaker on the wives of Presidents and how they have influenced the presidency.

June will once again have the Spring Fling.

6. CHIPs articles-

September – a message from the co-presidents.

October – Lorrin Johnson on WizGirls.

November – Mary Logan on updated AAUW funds explained.

December – the intern on WizGirls

January – the State Convention

February – Wilma Gitchel on EYO

March- Marilee Scheuneman on WCC Scholarship Luncheon and Equal Pay Day

April – Barbara Sarver and Diana Kent – High School Education Awards

May – the Branch intern on 15th annual EYO conference

June – Mary Logan on the 7th annual Running and Winning Workshop.

7. Yearbook updates

Marie McKellar sent an email asking if it was necessary to list the assistants to the Co-Presidents and it was decided to leave them in to acknowledge their contributions.

The Thursday bridge group, Chasing Culture and the Thursday Southern Westchester Book Group will no longer be listed but there will be two new groups as Phyllis Hirth is interested in starting a Shakespeare group and a debate group.

8. WizGirls – Diona Koerner

It will take place on November 4 at Ardsley Middle School. The insurance issue has been dealt with by Carol McMillan, Diona has signed up workshop leaders and Linda Swann is working on getting schools to attend. There is sufficient funding for this year but next year we will have to apply for grants.

9. Branch intern – Mary Logan has posted a listing for the position on the SUNY Purchase job website but so far has not received any expressions of interest. She will ask the Career Development Office for help in August.

10. Cazenovia report – Stephanie Lemnios said it will take place on July 21-23 and that anyone interested in attending needs to register by June 25. There will be a speaker from AAUW National, interactive workshops and the opportunity to network with other Branch leaders.

11. Holiday Luncheon – Selena Barron is investigating other venues but no decision has been made.

12. New Business:

Marie McKellar sent a note asking for the creation of the position of outreach director or outreach committee. It would include membership, publicity for our programs and forming coalitions with other like-minded organizations. We will discuss the issue further at the August Board meeting and talk to the general membership at the September Pot Luck to see if we can get volunteers to work on this. It was suggested that we get a table to publicize our Branch at various local summer festivals and sidewalk sales, at various local health clubs and that we have a bring a friend event. We also need a new “leave behind” brochure and should look at ones from other organizations as a guide.

Sue Lambert said that at the 60th anniversary dinner Sue Richards said she found information that we had been in existence longer than was thought. Sue Lambert will contact Sue Richards to find out the actual date of our formation and how close we are to our 90th anniversary.

Linda Swann said she wanted to find out more about the Metro Funds and it was discussed that Roli Wendorf would be the best source to better understand the details. Information on the Metro Funds was presented at the NYS Convention. Roli may have been asked to attend the August Board meeting to explain this issue.

Jane Pendergast spoke about the National Convention. The Branch members who attended lobbied their senators and representatives about two AAUW issues – Title IX and student debt. The keynote speaker was Sonia Sotomayor who gave an inspiring talk on education as the path for all.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Submitted by : Natasha Rose