

AAUW Westchester Board Meeting

August 16, 2017

10:45 a.m.

Home of Stephanie Lemnios

Attendance: Stephanie Lemnios, Linda Swann, Diona Koerner, Jane Pendergast, Marilee Scheuneman, Marie McKellar, Cynthia Plater, Sandy Flank, Lorrin Johnson, Barbara Sarver, Roli Wendorf, Susan Appel

The meeting was called to order by Linda Swann, Co-President, at 10:45.

1. The minutes for the June Board Meeting were accepted as submitted.
2. Jane Pendergast presented the treasurer's report, which had been submitted by Carol McMillan as of 6/30/17. EYO has a slight surplus, and the budget has a slight deficit of \$648.00. There is \$24,705.83 in our bank account in addition to a CD of \$5,241.12. Of these funds, \$10,146.00 is earmarked for WizGirls and \$650.00 is for Start Smart. We do not have to apply for a grant for WizGirls this year.
3. Committee/Action Group reports were discussed
 - a. According to Cynthia Plater, Membership Co-Vice President, dues for 2017-18 have been received from 166 members, and dues from one member should be received shortly. Although there were 187 members at the end of last year, we had started with 167 at the beginning. Calls are being made to members who did not renew yet. Linda suggested that we reach out to members who have joined during the past two years, to encourage them to get involved in our activities and action groups. Barbara Sarver stated that the new branch yearbooks have been printed. Phyllis Hirth will pick them up, and they will be ready for distribution at the September branch meeting.
 - b. Sandy Flank spoke about programs for the year.
 - i. September – Pot luck dinner
 - ii. October – Andy O'Rourke will speak about the new Tappan Zee Bridge
 - iii. November – Nate Levin will speak about Women's Suffrage
 - iv. December – Rose Tan Ph.D. will discuss Chinese culture at our holiday party
 - v. January – Dr. Bill Flank will present a program on the future of Indian Point
 - vi. February – The Poughkeepsie branch of AAUW will present a discussion of their Court Watch Program
 - vii. March – The two co-founders of Daughter's of American Liberty will talk about Shadow Patriots: Female Spies
 - viii. April – Medical Ailments of Various Composers presented by Steven Moshman, M.D.
 - ix. May – Lauren Wright, Ph.D. will talk about Presidents' Wives

- c. Cynthia Plater and Marilee Scheuneman reported on our three summer branch programs. The first was a visit to Cabbage Hill Farm in Mount Kisco; the second was a trip to the Westchester Collaborative Theater in Ossining where eight writers presented monologues; the third was lunch at X20. At the luncheon, \$170 was raised for scholarships. All events were excellent.
 - d. The Wiz Girls report was presented by Diona Koerner. Planning for the event, which will be held on November 4 at Ardsley Middle School, is moving along. Insurance has been approved. There will be two meetings of the planning committee in September, and two in October. There will be a sign-up sheet for volunteers at the September branch meeting.
 - e. The group discussed adding a new position of Outreach Director to try to add members as well as involve more of our current members, especially those who have joined during the past two years. Suggestions included enlarging the membership committee to include outreach activities such as calling new members and offering to take them to meetings, putting notices in local papers and the *Journal News*, and posting fliers at public libraries. We have also made progress on our Facebook page, with Jane, Roli and Cynthia acting as administrators. Cynthia has agreed to organize this committee, which will be part of the membership committee.
4. The September Pot Luck branch dinner and meeting will be held at 5:00 p.m. on September 13, at the First Unitarian Society of Westchester, 25 Old Jackson Avenue, Hastings-on-Hudson. Marilee and Adelaide will set up. The art work of several of our branch members will be displayed. The meeting will be held after dinner. After a discussion about the nominating committee, and an announcement of the District V conference in October, Colleen Fay will speak about our action and interest groups, and members will be given the opportunity to rotate among representatives of these groups. Colleen and Sandy will make signs to put on tables. The following will be represented:
- a. Equity in Education, Pay Equity, Start Smart, Running and Winning
 - b. EYO, Wiz Girls, STEM
 - c. AAUW Leadership Opportunities
 - d. Current Issues, Educational Issues
 - e. Sign-ups for interest groups, including new debate and Shakespeare groups
5. We have not yet obtained a Branch Intern.
- Roli, Lorrin, and Stephanie attended the NYS AAUW meeting at Cazenovia, and really enjoyed it, especially the presentation on how (not) to run a meeting. In October, there will be a District V conference, which will include members from New York City, Staten Island, Westchester, Rockland, and the Virtual Branch. It will be held either at the Intrepid on 10/21, from 10:30 – 1:30 or at the Greenburgh Public Library on 10/28, from 10:00 – 1:00. The program will be a panel discussion, *Who's Wearing the Hat: Women in Non-Traditional*
6. This year's December holiday luncheon will be held at Tesoro d'Italia in Pleasantville on December 3 at 12:00. Rose Tan will be our speaker.

7. We need a member to serve as hospitality chair, which includes set up refreshments before meetings and cleaning up afterwards. Since this is a difficult position to fill, it was suggested that people sign up for a one-month stint. A sign-up sheet will be available at the September meeting.
8. Roli spoke about the legal document regarding AAUW Metro Funds in New York State. There are three pertinent points, which describe
 - a. The eleven counties in New York State where these funds can be used.
 - b. The type of programs for which these restricted funds may be used.
 - c. The method of filing reports. For ten years, National shall file an annual report with the Attorney General of New York State, Charities Bureau.
9. New Business
 - a. Liz Brady is the recipient of “Give a Grad a Gift,” which is a one-year free AAUW Westchester membership given to a recent college graduate. She may help with updating our Facebook page.
 - b. Kerryann Donahue, a professor at Manhattan College, has a grant “Connecting Middle, High School, and College Students to their Estuary: Pairing Smart Devices to Recorded Estuary Parameters.” Previously, high school girls from two local high schools monitored conditions of a site in Peekskill. For the next segment, she would like middle school students to measure parameters in Tibbets Brook in Yonkers in October, and would like our assistance in helping to find approximately 20 students. No decision was reached.
 - c. The next board meeting will be held before the September branch meeting on September 13th, at 3:30 p.m. at the First Unitarian Society in Hastings.
10. The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Appel