

AAUW Westchester Board Meeting of November 1, 2017

Attendance: Stephanie Lemnios, Linda Swann, Natasha Rose, Cynthia Plater, Phyllis Hirth, Susan Appel, Sandra Flank, Jane Pendergast

The meeting was called to order by Co-President Stephanie Lemnios at 12:10 p.m.

1. Approval of October 2017 minutes

A motion was made by Natasha Rose to accept the Board minutes as written. It was seconded by Linda Swann and passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Linda Swann to accept the Branch minutes as written. It was seconded by Natasha Rose and passed unanimously.

Cynthia Plater requested a determination as to how we should refer to "old" members as opposed to "new" members and it was decided that henceforth they would be referred to as established members.

2. Treasurer's Report – Jane Pendergast

Jane reported that the finances were in positive territory although she has still not received all of the outstanding bills for WizGirls. Stephanie said that there are sufficient funds from previously received grants to cover the WizGirls expenses for this year, but that grant will not cover future years.

Jane also noted that we are approximately \$500 short of last year at this date. Since we now have 20 fewer members and each member contributed \$23 to the Branch treasury, this accounts for the difference.

3. Membership – Phyllis Hirth

We now have 171 members as one new member joined this morning. There are two potential National members who we hope will join the Branch.

There are 45 yearbooks which still need to be distributed. We will try and give those out at the holiday lunch and mail out the ones remaining after that.

Cynthia asked if we should use name tags at the holiday lunch and was told that was a good idea.

4. Branch projects

WizGirls – Linda Swann

There has been a wonderful response to the program and there are 40 girls on the waiting list.

Start Smart – Jane Pendergast

In addition to the three workshops mentioned at the Branch meeting Jane is also doing one at Syracuse University on November 11. There is a potential for several more workshops but there is a need for more people to join the team.

Outreach – Phyllis Hirth

We had a good meeting to start the project. We need to get our new members involved and to find out what interest groups they are interested in joining. We also need to go out into the community and to other organizations to collaborate with them and get their members interested in our work. Stephanie Lemnios mentioned a phone call she had with a member of the Adirondack branch who is giving a talk on how to recruit, engage and retain members.

AAUW Funds Campaign

Mary Logan is currently running the campaign.

5. Holiday Lunch

Seven members gave checks in today. We have a guarantee of 35 and need to get a head count from Selena. Information about appropriate toys to bring for donation will be in the December newsletter.

6. Nominating Committee – Jane Pendergast

The nominating committee is making excellent progress in selecting officers for next year.

7. District V Convention – Jane Pendergast

Jane attended the session on Women in Non-Traditional Jobs and said it was an excellent program with approximately 35-40 people attending.

8. Branch meeting structure – Stephanie Lemnios

We had a discussion as to whether to hold the business meeting first or have the speaker present first. It was decided that when there are programs which will generate a lot of discussion we should hold the business meeting first to allow sufficient time for questions and for people to be able to talk with the speaker and other times to have the speaker first. However we will always look to introduce new members at the beginning of the program. At the outreach committee meeting Marie McKellar said that in previous years members of the Board alternated presiding over the business meeting, but it was decided to continue to have the Co-Presidents preside but have them introduce Board members at the Branch meeting.

9. Branch files sharing- This will be discussed at the January meeting.

10. Westchester Women's Agenda – Jane Pendergast

Jane urged the Board to approve the Branch joining the Westchester Women's Agenda, an umbrella group made up of organizations that support women's issues. Jane went to their last meeting and suggested that they might be interested in presenting a start smart workshop and they quickly agreed to sponsor a meeting which will be held on November 18. The cost of joining the organization is \$100 per year. Natasha Rose made a motion that our Branch join the Westchester Women's Agenda which was seconded by Jane Pendergast and passed unanimously.

11. Upcoming Board messages in CHIPS

November – AAUW Funds – Mary Logan

December- WizGirls - Mary Logan or new intern

January – New York State Convention – Stephanie Lemnios

12. The next Board meeting will be January 3 at 12:00 p.m. at the Greenburgh Library.

13. Misc. Old/New Business –

Sandy Flank said that this will be her last Board meeting before she moves to Maryland. She was told by all in attendance that she will be greatly missed.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Submitted by Natasha Rose