

Minutes of the AAUW Branch Installation Meeting, June 2, 2021 at 5:30 pm

Welcome: Ellen Leuner Co-President

Thank all members for their support, creativity and endurance this past 15 months. Your Board of Directors has done a wonderful job of inventing different ways to connect and to get our projects up and running, despite COVID.

Chairs of our Activities have used apps, free conference calling, zoom and our newsletter CHIPS, to keep us connected. We couldn't have done it without you.

June 11th & 12th will be our New York State virtual State Conference. Our 6 delegates that will vote on the proposed By-law changes and the new slate of NY State AAUW officers are: Marjorie Kingsley, Susan Gardner, Carolyn Lyall, Rene Palmar, Jane Pendergast and Lorrin Johnson. Jane Pendergast was part of the NY State team that wrote these By-Law Changes. Ellen encouraged us to attend the event.

All AAUW members are encouraged to register and attend these meetings. ---That's means YOU. If you need help finding the link for registration, please contact Ellen Leuner.

Fundraisers: Our Branch needs to raise additional funds to cover our yearly operating expenses. We need your ideas, time and effort to execute these fundraisers.

The Garage-less Garage Sale has been a success for our AAUW Branches. Being in lockdown the last 15 months or so, I'm sure you have noticed lots of stuff you no longer use, need or even like. How about selling those items while benefiting AAUW Westchester?

We have done a trial run of selling via the Next-Door Neighborhood app with success! We need you to join in and purge your stuff. We need an organizer to lead the way. Please contact Cynthia Plater and learn more of how you can make a difference.

Summer Activities:

We have 4 adventures in person planned for this summer.

On June 23 there will be a guided hike at the Black Rock Forest. Call Lorrin Johnson for more information

The following day, on June 24, the Art Interest group will travel to the Hudson River Museum. Contact Shelli Pines, if you are interested.

Potluck Picnic is in the planning stages. Tentatively it will be Thursday, July 8th. At the Tarrytown Park by the Lighthouse, called Kingsland Point Park. If all goes well, we will have the protective pavilion to shelter us rain or shine. We would really like to see you all in person. Contact Cynthia Plater for more information.

On July 27th. Marilee Scheuneman will give a guided tour of the Untermeyer Gardens. Please reach out to Marilee if interested.

Lorrin Johnson, introduced our NY State AAUW President Janice Brown.

NYState AAUW President Janice Brown, is a Sexual Assault Coordinator for the U.S. Army and works with women who had been abused. Ms. Brown presided over the Installation of Officers. She introduced our Board officers by reminding us that the installation is the passing of responsibility to the next generation.

Co-Presidents: Ellen Leuner and Rene Parmar accepted that responsibility.

Program Co-Vice Presidents: Marie McKellar and Susan Perko pledged to support our beliefs and advocate for economic justice.

Membership Co-Vice Presidents: Marjorie Kingsley and Judy Walsh are committed to link our values to the future.

Recording CO-Secretaries: Marcia Keizs & Elain Weiss will keep records of current action and preserve the action of our branch.

Co-Treasurers: Susan Gardner and Cynthia Plater are responsibility for accuracy and seeking wise decisions.

Corresponding Secretary: Abby Hirsch pledged to fill her position.

A tribute to Lorrin Johnson by Marilee Scheuneman, emphasized her role as a champion of science for girls. Lorrin plans to continue to finding ways to increase girls' exposure to STEM through EYO and WizGirls projects.

Marilee Scheuneman introduced the Westchester Community College Scholarship winners which were sponsored by AAUW Westchester. They are:

Hana Cornell, who graduated from WCC and is going to the University of New Haven to bring the female perspective into the male dominated development of video games.

Renata Galdino is a Brazilian-American who was the first member of her family to go to college. She is going to Lehman college to become an ESL teacher. She plans to try for a Fulbright Scholarship.

Stephanie Sawyer graduated WCC with a degree in Social Science at the age of 28. She is going to St. Francis College in Brooklyn to become an elementary school teacher.

Melissa Westfall worked at various jobs for 10 years. She found herself working in an animal sanctuary, which has inspired her to become a veterinarian. She will now go to Fordham University to major in Biological Sciences and later go on to Veterinarian School.

Barbara Sarver informed us that AAUW Westchester just gave Book Awards to seniors in 40 High Schools in Westchester.

Selena Barron spoke about the many accomplishments this AAUW Branch was able to achieve despite the pandemic.

Member, Annette Cohen, presented a wonderful virtual slide show highlighting many of these activities through pictures and commentary.

Respectively Submitted by

Elaine Weiss
Co-Recording Secretary

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40.

Respectfully
Elaine Weiss
Recording Secretary