

Minutes of AAUW Westchester Joint Board Meeting

Wednesday, June 9, 2021 at 10:30 am

Present: Ellen Leuner, Lorrin Johnson, Marcia Keizs, Rene Parmar, Abby Hirsch, Marge Kingsley, Elaine Weiss, Sue Lambert, Susan Perko, Cynthia Plater, Marie McKellar, Judith Walsh, Susan Appel

Call to Order: Ellen Leuner called the meeting to order at 10:31 am.

Welcome: Rene Parmar welcomed members of both the outgoing and incoming boards, and thanked Lorrin Johnson and all members of the 2020-2021 board for their help and support during the past year.

Approval of the Minutes: The May 5th minutes were approved via email and are now posted on our website.

The June 2nd branch minutes were approved at this meeting, and will be posted on our website.

Treasurer's Report: Cynthia Plater & Susan Gardner

Dues Renewal Status: Cynthia reported that she has received 52 dues renewals. Sue Lambert will place a notice in the June Chips, stating that payment of dues is due by June 30, and will send an email to all members. Also, on July 1, "snail mail" notifications regarding dues payment will be sent to those who have not yet renewed their membership.

Social (Non-degree) AAUW Westchester Member dues: After a brief discussion, the board voted unanimously that all members of our branch should pay full membership dues.

Membership: Marjorie Kingsley and Judith Walsh. Marge stated that our branch currently has 166 members.

AAUW Scholarship winners: Student Affiliate dues are \$18.81/year for students who are still attending college. A notice will be sent to AAUW Scholarship winners for the past two years, who may still be students, encouraging them to renew for that fee after their 1-year free membership we give them with their scholarship. This should also be placed in our branch handbook.

Programs: Marie McKellar and Susan Perko. It was reported that we already have half of our speakers scheduled for next year.

Board Handbook: Ellen Leuner. Ellen thanked all who have made suggestions for the handbook, and asked the board members to please do a review of requirements for their position by June 19, and send changes to Rene.

New Business:

The incoming Board is to establish the goals for the coming 2021-2022 year, and incorporate them into a strategic plan.

- Establishing fundraisers to cover our operating expenses. Suggestions included:
 - A wine tasting event
 - A Garage-less Garage Sale
 - A Dine Out for Charity event

- Increasing membership.
 - Use the Shape our Future option
 - Hold a membership information coffee at a member's home
 - Judith will try to set up a welcoming drive at her home.
 - Publicity of our Branch Speakers via local newspapers
 - Make up flyers and with permission, post them at exercise places, Pilates, yoga studios, libraries, etc.

At the August Board meeting, the updated Strategic Plan will be voted on. It was suggested that we ask Selena Barron to develop the plan.

The Nominating Branch Project: Judith Walsh and Marcia Keizs graciously volunteered to be the two Board representatives to this group, which recruits next year's 2022-2023 Board of Directors. They were unanimously approved as the board members of the nominating committee. Three more members will be recruited, which can come from the general membership, as well as from the board membership.

Yearbook should be ready to go to the printer, including all dates, places names, Action Groups, Branch Projects, interest Groups & programs by August 1st.

Attached are the dates for next year's Board and Branch meetings.

CHIPS Susan Lambert

Feature article for each Month, September through June: Tentative schedule to be verbally confirmed by Co-Presidents with the writers: Ellen & Rene

- **September** - Message from Co-Presidents Ellen Leuner and Rene Parmar
- **October and November** - Fundraising and Elections -Mary Logan/Selena Barron - order to be decided
- **December** - Holiday gifts for children of women at Bedford Hills Facility - Raven Waterman?
- **January** - The New York State AAUW Convention - Jane Pendergast?
- **February** - Explore Your Opportunities (EYO) - Lorrin Johnson
- **March** - Westchester Community College Scholarship Luncheon - Mary Scheuneman
- **April** - A post EYO article. Lorrin will see if someone else on the committee might write it, so she doesn't have to do both the Feb.and April feature article.
- **May** - Running and Winning/Spring Fling – Mary Logan/Selena Barron
- **June** - Running and Winning/Spring Fling -wrap&/ or review of the past year by Co-Presidents.

In every issue:

- A friendship/support notification, asking members to please contact Abby Hirsch if they know members who are having a difficult time, so that we can send a message of support. Abby will provide the wording.
- A statement that board and branch minutes may be found on the web.
- A paragraph about each new member. Marcia volunteered to help write these blurbs.

Summer Activities:

- Cynthia has made arrangements for a picnic lunch at Kingsland State Park in Sleepy Hollow, for Thursday, July 8, from 12 - 2 pm. The gazebo has been rented for \$300.00. There is also a \$500

deposit. Members of the board have agreed to phone members who have joined our branch within the past three years, to invite them to attend.

The meeting was adjourned by Ellen at 11:54 am.

Submitted by

Susan Appel

Co-Recording Secretary