

## **AAUW Board Meeting of Tuesday March 1, 2022, 4:00 PM**

**Present:** Ellen Leuner, Rene Parmar, Susan Gardner, Abby Hirsch, Lorrin Johnson, Marcia Keizs, Marie McKellar, Susan Perko, Cynthia Plater, Judy Walsh, Elaine Weiss.

Rene Parmar called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM

**Old Business:** Ellen Leuner noted that the minutes of the February Board and Branch meeting were approved via email. They are posted on the website.

Judith Walsh reported that our membership stands at 155.

Cynthia Plater reported that there are not changes in expenses and income since our last report. She notes as well that the website is being updated by Barbara Sarver with a specific designated Donate button, giving people the opportunity to donate easily. Individuals have the choice for segmented giving. They can choose to donate to AAUW's High School Awards, our 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Certificates or the unrestricted General Fund.

Marie McKellar noted the upcoming speakers: Dr. Susan Burns, President of The College of Mount St Michael (April); Ms. Debbie Vincent, Gilda's Club of Westchester (May); and our scholarship recipients (June).

Rene led a brief discussion of the interest group activity. There is consensus that this item would benefit from a broader discussion. It will be raised at the Branch meeting on Wednesday. There is need to solicit feedback as to how these interest groups are faring: whether there is need to revive or remove inactive groups; add new groups e.g. Film or Special Topics as offered by the Greenburgh Library .

Lorrin Johnson reported on the Girls I For Stem program is scheduled for April 17<sup>th</sup> at 10. AM, Workshops (8) for the girls are in place as are session for parents. The flier will be coming out soon and she is greatly aided in this planning by Brookie Chandler, who would make a great speaker at our monthly program next year. All are invited to participate in the next planning session to be held on Saturday March 12<sup>th</sup>. Contact Lorrin, if interested.

Ellen noted that the January Branch meeting was not recorded. February's recording is being edited by the library and the library will post that when editing is completed. She noted as well that the upcoming meeting on Wednesday will have its challenges as this will be the first time we are using the hybrid model that will, for the most part, be handled by the Greenburgh

Library Technician. We will need to coordinate our actions with Ellen acknowledging questions from people in the live audience, and Rene monitoring the chat for those who are attending by Zoom.

Ellen reported that unfortunately our journalist intern, Raul Perez did not work out. She also reminded the Board that voting is taking place now and will continue to the end of the April meeting. As Sue Lambert is away, she will not be working on CHIPs until after March 14. The information in the March CHIPs should be repeated. That includes especially the voting instructions, the budget, and the statement regarding the increase in dues.

Rene raised the matter of the naming of a Diversity Officer. Marcia, who did some small research on the matter, shared the AAUW values statement, retrieved from the web site. The discussion that followed suggests we should shape a values statement that will be considered first by the Board and then by the general membership. Thereafter, we will take an intentional approach to programming and recruiting, reflective of those values and amplifying what already is our mission. These actions could be reflected for instance in an intentional broadening of our speakers or interest groups. At this time, the consensus is that we will not go in the direction of naming a designated officer.

Rene and Ellen will share the responsibilities of securing the Spring Fling venue, likely St Andrews where Ellen resides. Rene also noted that there is a call for leadership at the presidential level for the AAUW – NYS, due April 15. Self-nominations are accepted.

The meeting adjourned at 4: 55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted  
Marcia V. Keizs  
Co- Recording Secretary