

AAUW Joint Board Meeting of Wednesday June 8th 2022, 10:30 AM

Present: Ellen Leuner, Rene Parmar, Susan Gardner, Abby Hirsch, Lorrin Johnson, Marcia Keizs, Marie McKellar, Judy Walsh.

Present (2022-2023 new members): Susan Damplo, Diana Lennon, Mary Schenck

Present (guests): Jane Pendergast, Marilee Scheunerman, Sue Lambert, Mary Logan

1. Rene Parmar called the meeting to order at 10: 30 AM

2. Old Business:

2a. Ellen noted that the minutes the May Board and Branch meeting were approved via email. They are posted on the website.

2b. Judy reported she will work to transition documents to the new leadership and noted that some of the ideas from the May meeting should be pursued. They include getting new membership feeling connected to the Chapter, one-year free membership will continue to be offered to speakers/ presenters (who are not already branch members) as a way to build membership. Judy also reported that of the nine speakers this year, three have renewed membership.

A discussion regarding membership was led by Judy Walsh who will pass the baton of this committee's leadership to and Mary Schenck and Thea Jacobs. A discussion regarding how to get new members feeling connected the Branch ensued. Many useful ideas were put forth including: asking the membership co-chairs to advance some ideas when they meet in the transition from existing to new leadership; forming a committee that will establish a small team of people who will be assigned as "greeters" at meetings to especially introduce the Branch activities ; identifying new membership(especially those who have not yet become "active") and intentionally reaching out via phone calls to welcome and engage them. Both Ellen and Rene as well as the co -chairs of membership will work to advance these ideas. It is also agreed that a one-year free membership will continue to be offered to guest speakers.

2c. Susan Gardner noted that there is a need for a template "thank you" email for the renewal of new memberships, that the national AAUW website is problematic, and that the e-renewal date should be kept as is (July 31st). As usual, renewal of membership checks should be addressed to the AAUW Westchester Branch, Cynthia Plater, 9 Cleveland Drive, Croton on Hudson, New York 10520. To date 14 renewals are confirmed. Payment can also be made through the website. Announcement will continue to be in CHIPS.

2d. Summer Programs will include a trip to the Bronx Zoo on Wed June 22. All interested should respond to Lorrin Johnson/ Diana Koerner. Lorrin and Angie Patterson will also arrange the Black Forrest walk. For the future, Lorrin/Jennie Libien are looking into the BRAIN workshop, and a lunch gathering is proposed at X20 by Selena Barron.

Teri Neal and Diana Lennon presented a roster of speakers for the upcoming program year as follows: Sept.14 - Shelley Mayer; Oct 12-Susan Barron; Nov 9- Mary Westmoreland; Jan 14- Stephen DeVillo; Feb 11-Joyce Sharrock Cole; March 11- Planned Parenthood; April 12- Deputy Commissioner Bridget Anderson from NYC Recycling and Reuse Program; May 10- TBA. They also noted that the need to recruit membership to assist with hospitality as we emerge from Covid-19 protocols and as we meet in person. There was also discussion regarding uncoupling the Branch and Board meetings in the future. It was noted that with Greenburgh Public Library there is access to posting flyers, monthly meeting announcements and program is available on public access channel, all good ways to potentially recruit new membership.

3. New Business:

3a. Susan Damplo and Rene Parmar noted that the Holiday Luncheon Date is proposed to be Dec 14th.

3b. Also noted is the fact that Marge Kingsley is the designated person to work with the membership committee to highlight new membership in each month of CHIPs.

3c. Dues: The AAUW–NYS Board of Directors has announced that the dues for 2022-2023 will be reduced by \$7 per member from \$13. The balance will be retained by the Branch.

AAUW Community Hub online guide is available at Community Hub Tools & Resources- AAUW: Empowering Women Since 1881.

AAUW Annual Meeting will be held Friday June 24 and Saturday June 25 registration for delegates is by Zoom. Our chapter will be represented.

The meeting adjourned at 11: 50 AM.

Respectfully Submitted

Marcia V. Keizs

Co- Recording Secretary