AAUW WESTCHESTER BRANCH MINUTES NOVEMBER 9, 2022, 10:30 am GREENBURGH PUBLIC LIBRARY

The meeting was called to order by Marcia Keizs, Co-President. New and old members were welcomed, and told about our holiday luncheon, which will take place at the Crabtree Kittle House on Thursday, December 1. Teresa Neal introduced our guest speaker, Colonel Mary Lynch Westmoreland, Retired, who is a decorated combat veteran, with 31.5 years of military experience.

Colonel Westmoreland's journey in the 1970s, when the draft was abolished and the military recruited people who would add quality and value to the armed forces. They were actively seeking women who had college degrees. At the time, Col. Westmoreland, a wife and mother of two children, had a graduate degree in Systems Integration from Stony Brook.

First serving in the Coast Guard and then in the Army, Col. Westmoreland's career included many command and leadership positions, including combat service during Desert Storm. She spoke of the challenges of being a minority (woman) in the armed forces, as well those on couples and families. The best advice that she ever got was not to show anger unless it was staged, and to learn to outwit rather than outshout.

After her presentation, there were many questions, and much applause.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45.

Respectfully submitted, Susan Appel