

## Minutes

### Poughkeepsie Branch of the AAUW, Inc. Board Meeting

Wednesday, Oct. 6, 2010

#### Call to Order and Attendance

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by President Geeta Desai. Present were Mary Coiteux, Pat Dogil, Geeta Desai, Dina Gleeson, Betty Harrel, Marcine Humphrey, Doris Kelly, Bergie Lebovitch, Ginny Marcus, Liz Moesel, Margaret Nijhuis, Sue Osterhoudt, Margaret Prescott, Linda Roberts, Linda Roy, Barbara Van Itallie, and Sherre Wesley.

#### Minutes of September Board Meeting

After several corrections the minutes were unanimously approved. There was a discussion about having the minutes posted on the website. Pending work done by Mary King, this will be done after each month's minutes have been approved by the Board.

#### Treasurer's Report-BarbaraVan Itallie

Total assets: \$34,030.73

Reserve: \$12,783.34

Total available: \$21,248.89

Barbara mentioned that since we go by the fiscal year, and AAUW State and National dues begin in May, we really have \$5,000 in dues collected.

Our treasurer, Barbara, is unavailable from Oct. 28 to Nov.6. If funds are need at that time, President Desai will have checks available.

#### President's Report-Geeta Desai

Due to time constraints, verbal reports from committee chairs are not necessary. Written reports, if any, will be handed to the secretary, or preferably sent to the secretary the Wednesday before the Bd. Meeting. Routine activities need not be reported.

#### Nominating Committee-Marcine Humphrey

"The committee will have its first meeting on October 18. Please send the names of women who are good candidates for leadership. It is my understanding that the board elects two representatives to the nominating committee. I would like that to take place asap. I have 4 women on the committee now and need more."

Marcine also reported on the Dutchess Girls' Collaborative, which concerns the need to bring girls together in our county. Its purpose will be: information sharing, networking, blogging, with more to come. The website, ([Dutchessgirlscollaborative.org](http://Dutchessgirlscollaborative.org)), will be launched on October 26. There will be a press conference held that day, with the Chamber of Commerce, at the Wallace Center at the FDR Library at 4 p.m. Marcine is the AAUW representative to the Core Council of the collaborative.

Live Your Dream Girls' Conference:

"We have distributed 3,000 registration brochures, visited 11 schools and contacted as many human services personnel as we could. It is important for board members to reach out, make a call, and remind social workers, school nurses, guidance councilors, child advocates, and church youth group leaders, about the conference. Our website has information and a copy of the registration brochure. If you have not already volunteered to work at the registration table and would like to be a 'back up', please let me know via e-mail."

The total donations from the Divas program are \$1900. Expenses so far have been \$1254, with projected need being an additional \$1000, based on 100 attendees.

Linda Roy moved that our branch should supply up to \$1000 as needed. Seconded by Sherre Wesley. Motion passed unanimously.

Membership Report-Bergie Lebovitch

54 new members have joined from the Sept.21 Open House, up to today, referred by 28 "longstanding members" and 2 newbies!

There are 16 nonrenewals and with Eli Skov's passing the total membership is 372.

**New Member Reception-Getting to Know You**

November 16, 2010 7-9 PM Christ Episcopal Church

South Hamilton Street, Poughkeepsie

e-vites going out to 98 new members from March 15 to currently

"Long standing members" will also be invited from the Board, the membership committee, and the referrers who have brought in several new members during the same period.

(The latter invitees will be asked to participate in round-table Q&A's with the newbies, and bring cheese and crackers.)

This is a sharing information session...what are the needs, interests of new members?

Leading to Reading-Betty Harrel

Leading to Reading will have a mini fundraiser at the Authors' Tea. There will be autographed children's books written by celebrity authors available as part of the raffle.

### Diversity Committee-Sherre Wesley

In the spring the Committee plans a presentation by Dr. Michael Fowlin, a psychologist and actor whose work focuses on bias awareness. The cost will be approximately \$2,000 and we will explore co-sponsorship with Dutchess Interfaith Council.

The film, "Water," will be screened at Vassar College, Rockefeller Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, 6:30 – 8:30 pm, October 28. Notification will appear in the November AAUW newsletter.

A new idea, "Fun at Five" will be pursued. It will involve small, participatory gatherings to learn more about other cultures in our area and to have fun and fellowship as we learn.

### Program Committee-Sue Osterhoudt

The schedule was sent to all Board members last month.

A hands-on session for learning to use the sound system was offered to those women who have offered to do additional monthly programs. Arrangements have been made with those who responded.

The October program is sponsored by 2 fairly new members and we ask that you try to thank them. This is a great way to encourage new member involvement.

The December program will be enhanced by a November Fair Trade talk given by member Cecilia Dinio-Durkin at the monthly meeting of the Women's Network Interest Group. There will also be a Fair Trade Bazaar December 1 at the Poughkeepsie Plaza.

### New Business

Branch Editor- Margaret Nijhuis is changing her e-mail at the end of October. As a test, e-mails will begin with the Board, and the new e-mail address will be used for the November Branch.

Interest Groups-Discussion was held about the size of interest groups, now that we have such an increase in membership. Consensus was reached about having each interest group handle the size issue in its own way.

President Desai will send a memo to Cathy Lane (current Interest Group Coordinator) about sending information to each group regarding this matter.

### Strategic Management

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ginny Marcus, Secretary