

Minutes  
Poughkeepsie Branch of the AAUW, Inc.  
Board Meeting  
June 6, 2013

Present were Board members Marge Barton, Susie Blecker, Jeanette Cantwell, Mary Coiteux, Mary Lou Davis, Maria DeWald, Jacqueline Goffe-McNish, Peggy Hansen, Eileen Hayden, Barbara Hugo, Marcine Humphrey, Doris Kelly, Margaret Nijhuis, Shelby Outwater, Kris Puzza, Kay Saderholm, Amy Schwed, Joanne Scolaro, and Barbara Van Itallie.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Jacqueline Goffe-McNish.

Welcome

Jackie welcomed everyone to the joint Board meeting of new and continuing Board members. She asked everyone to share what they do now in relation to women's issues and what they have done in the past.

Approval of Minutes of May Board Meeting and Annual Meeting

Eileen Hayden made a motion, seconded by Barbara Hugo, to approve the May 2, 2013, Board minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Mary Coiteux moved, and Doris Kelly seconded, that we approve the minutes of the May Annual Meeting. The motion passed with two members abstaining.

Chair's Remarks

Jackie reviewed dates for 2013-2014: Board meetings are held the first Thursday in the month, and membership meetings the second Thursday. There will be a Board training meeting in the fall; Jackie will let us know the date.

Jackie reminded members that the Bylaws are our legal document that govern us, and they can be changed only by a vote of two-thirds of the general membership. The Working Rules are more informal and practical, helping us to function on a daily basis. Working Rules can be easily changed.

End-of-year reports are due by September 1 and will be attached to September minutes. The format should include Goals, Activities, and Outcomes. The report does not need to be in paragraph form; bulleted lists may be used.

Proposals from Standing Committees for new activities should, at minimum be brought to the Board for information and possibly approval.

Treasurer's Report

Barbara Van Itallie reviewed the Treasurer's Report, which shows total assets of \$57,400.17. This is an unusually large amount because dues have come in, but our payments of state and national dues have not yet been made. We will have a clearer picture at the end of June, when the fiscal year ends. Barbara asked members to let her know of any transactions from this fiscal year before the end of the month. Barbara pointed out that the "Donations to be allocated" line shows \$2,512.35, which does not include \$8,711.82 from the latest tea. These funds are to be spent over the next year on projects and scholarships.

### Planning Committee Proposal

Mary Coiteux reported that the United Unitarian Fellowship on Randolph Avenue in Poughkeepsie has offered us a contract to use their facilities for our membership meetings from November through March. The original fee cited was \$150; that has been reduced to \$100 per month, but requires a commitment to hold our meetings there during those months. The fee includes the use of their sound system.

Margaret Nijhuis proposed that we purchase an LCD projector, using funds from the Writers' Tea. Training on its use will be provided.

Jeanette Cantwell made a motion, seconded by Mary Lou Davis, that we contract with the United Unitarian Fellowship for use of their facilities for our memberships meetings each month November through March, 2013-2014, and further that we purchase an LCD projector, using funds from the tea. The motion passed unanimously.

### Treasurer's Ad Hoc Committee

A committee comprised of Peggy Hansen, Betty Harrel, Linda Roberts, and Barbara Van Itallie met to discuss how we might go about allocating money we've raised from the teas. Barbara Van Itallie reported that the committee proposed that in the future, we adopt a policy of spending "up to half" of the money raised on scholarships, with the rest going to local projects. It was recommended that we make sure that heads of initiatives and projects know about the availability of funds; it was suggested that Maria DeWald disseminate the information. Finally, the ad hoc committee proposes that we adopt a deadline of October 1 for heads of projects, initiatives, etc., to submit proposals. If there is money left over, we can still respond to requests that might come in later in the year, but a deadline would allow us to look at all the needs at one time, so that we can make decisions about our priorities. After discussion, Barbara moved, seconded by Peggy Hansen, that we allocate up to half of our tea profits to scholarships; and that we have a deadline of October 1 for requests for funding, with information about the deadline being disseminated well in advance. The motion passed unanimously.

### Membership Drive

Jeanette Cantwell announced that we have 288 member renewals so far; 97 members have not yet paid their dues. Eight members so far are not renewing, citing a variety of reasons such as moving or other commitments. Thirty members have joined our branch since March! Six of those members received the free national memberships that were earned by our branch in the 130<sup>th</sup> membership campaign. We anticipate having over 400 members.

Names were drawn for three free National memberships, earned by our branch from the "Shape the Future" campaign. Those members who paid their dues early had their names placed into the drawing. The winners were Ellie Charwat, Mildred Jones, and Barbara Markell.

### Announcements/Open Forum

- Marge Barton announced that the Woman of the Year luncheon will be held on October 26 at Villa Borghese. The Woman of the Year honoree is Patty Peck of Fishkill, a community activist and director of His Table Ministries, an organization that collects left-over food from grocery stores and redistributes it to local homeless shelters, food

pantries, and soup kitchens. The new chair for Woman of the Year for next year is Pat Luczai.

- Margaret Nijhuis reminded members that the District IV Annual Conference will be held in Poughkeepsie on October 19, and that we are responsible for it.
- Marcine Humphrey announced that Cecilia Dinio-Durkin is organizing a “Sweet 16 Celebration” on June 30 honoring girls who have accomplished great things. The theme is “Be the Change You Wish to See in the World.” Marcine encouraged members to attend. Susie Blecker moved, seconded by Mary Lou Davis, that we take out a quarter-page ad in the “Sweet 16 Celebration” program at a cost of \$100. The motion passed, with two opposed and two abstaining.
- Jeanette Cantwell circulated information about the Coalition on Elder Abuse in Dutchess County.
- Mary Lou Davis announced that the AAUW—NYS Summer Conference will be held July 19-21 in Cazenovia, NY.
- Barbara Van Itallie thanked Jackie Goffe-McNish for efforts this year and for doing such a wonderful job as our president; Board members added their appreciation with applause at Barbara’s statement.

Upon motion made by Kay Saderholm, seconded by Marge Barton, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peggy Hansen