

Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc.
Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 6, 2017
Conference Call

Members Present: Sandy Goldberg, Betsy Kopstein-Stuts, Susie Blecker, Sheila Zweifler, Bonnie Auchincloss, Kathy Friedman, Diane Jablonski, Mary Anne Hogarty, Barbara Hugo, Eileen Hayden, Betty Harrel, Sabashnee Govender, Barbara Van Itallie, Margaret Nijhuis, Mary King. Guest: Mary Lou Davis.

The meeting was called to order by Betsy Kopstein-Stuts at 7:05. The minutes from March 2 were accepted as corrected.

President's Report

Vice President Betsy Kopstein-Stuts reported for President Maria DeWald.

***Bylaws**

Changes to our local bylaws will be published in the May newsletter and be put up for approval by the membership at the annual meeting on June 8.

Kathy Friedman moved that the board approve the following changes to our local bylaws:

The title of Secretary will be changed to Secretary/bylaws'

The title of Educational Opportunities Fund Vice President will be changed to Development Vice President.

The following article will be added to the end of the bylaws:

ARTICLE XIX. AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS NOT MANDATED BY AAUW

Provisions of the Affiliate's bylaws not mandated by AAUW may be amended by a two-thirds vote of members voting after a quorum is attained. Proposed bylaws amendments shall be sent to the entire membership at least 30 days prior to the applicable meeting.

The motion passed.

***Convention**

The following five people are designated as delegates: Bonnie Auchincloss, Maria DeWald, Barbara Van Itallie, Sheila Zweifler.

Janna Whearty has donated a purse for the LAF raffle.

We have submitted the Girls' Conference for our nomination for the Program Award.

***Marist Liberty Partnership**

We have signed the agreement with Marist Liberty Partnership with the intent to do four STEM workshops. This does not involve any liability or obligation on our part and we can amend the agreement at any time.

***Quickbooks**

Diane Jablonski wants to purchase Quickbooks, but is looking into a new estimate because the old one is no longer available.

Honors and Awards

Betty Harrel reported that we had two judges for the DCC Science fair, Kay Saderholm and Claudette Hennessey. We gave two \$50 certificates to two seventh and eighth grade students.

Treasurer's Report

Diane Jablonski reported that our receipts for the Tea so far are \$5885, but that will go higher when the numbers are completed. The auction did very well, but our attendance was down %25 percent, so the total will be somewhat less than last year. It is time for Barbara Hugo to let the initiatives know that they should start on their budget requests for next year.

Diane presented the proposed budget for next year, which is generally the same as last year, except that there is slightly less allocated for programs.

Diane Jablonski moved that the board approve the proposed budget for the 2017-2018 year. The motion passed.

Nominating Committee

Betsy reported on the slate of nominees to be presented at the June membership meeting.

For a two year term 2017-19:

Program Co-Vice Presidents– Monique Jones and Sandy Lash

Development Vice President – Jocelynn Banfield

Membership Co-Vice President – Susie Blecker

For a one year term 2017-18

Membership Co-Vice President – Sheila Zweifler

Betsy Kopstein-Stuts moved that we accept the above slate of officers. The motion passed.

Membership

Susie Blecker reported that we recently added five new members. Sheila will do an email blast for a spring update to the directory.

Renewal letters will be going out by April 24.

There was a discussion about changing the section of the bylaws that covers rotation of officers, as we are now planning to elect our two membership vice presidents on alternate years. The wording of the present bylaws has the election of the program and membership vice presidents occurring on odd years, while the president, secretary and communications VP are elected on even years. In the future we may want to elect the program VP's in alternate years also, thus keeping one experienced officer in the position at all times. The following wording for Article XIV, Section 3 was proposed:

“In the case of co-officers, the board may decide that one can be elected in the even year and one in the odd year.”

This proposal was tabled, to be revisited in the future when needed.

Programs

Sandy Goldberg reported that the defensive driving course is scheduled for May 6, but we need 15 people to sign up. Let Betsy know if you are interested.

On May 11 Judith Kalora will be portraying Lucy Stone.

Membership Treasurer

Mary Ann Hogarty reported that there is some discrepancy in our membership count. We have 355 members, but national is listing us as having 352 members. The discrepancy is caused by the timing of the incoming dues.

Development

Betty Harrel reported that we have selected a candidate for the NCWSSL scholarship who will be contacted and sent to the conference in June.

Communications

Bonnie Auchincloss reported that we are running out of Rack Cards. Margaret suggested that, before we have more printed, we should take a look at them to see if they need changes or corrections. Margaret will email the text to board members so we can check it and make suggestions.

Newsletter

Margaret Nijhuis reported that Bonnie's pictures from the Tea are now online.

The newsletter deadline for May is April 10 and the deadline for June and the summer is April 20.

Historian

*FDR update

Eileen Hayden is waiting to hear back from Paul Sparrow.

Special Committees/Liaisons

*State/National

Mary Lou Davis reported that National elections will start for paper ballots on April 3, and online voting on April 17.

*Woman of the year

Mary Lou reported that she is having trouble contacting the person who was selected as Woman of the Year. She hopes to have a name for us soon.

Old Business

Mary Lou has found our coffee pot and has taken it to the Fellowship. It was pointed out that fewer people are drinking coffee at our meetings. Only five cups were taken last time. Sandy will make coffee for the next meeting, but we will consider dropping it from our meetings next year, offering only cold drinks.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katherine Friedman
Secretary