

## AAUW Board Meeting

October 7, 2021

### Zoom Meeting

**Members present: Board** –, Bonnie Auchincloss , Cyd Averill, Sue Doyle, Barbara Durniak, Betty Harrel, Barbara Hespenheide, Gwen Higgins, Monique Jones, Pat Luczaj, Margaret Nijhuis, and Sheila Zweifler.

President, **Monique Jones**, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Monique announced that **Amelia Roger** has resigned due to family obligations that do not give her time to complete this job. Monique asked the board's approval to appoint **Margaret Nijhuis** to finish out the term which ends in June. The appointment was approved by the board.

Secretary, **Margaret Nijhuis** requested that the approval of the September board minutes take place at the November board meeting to give time for review. Board members were reminded to sign and return the conflict of interest form

#### President

**Monique Jones** continued with her report and presented the bylaw revisions:

#### ARTICLE VIII. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

**Section 1.** There shall be a nominating committee of 5-7 members, including at least 2 members of the board and at least 2 members from the general membership. ~~...elected at a regularly scheduled branch meeting~~  
**The committee shall be elected at a regularly scheduled branch meeting.**

**Rationale: As previously written there was a question about exactly what committee members would be elected. This removes that ambiguity**

#### ARTICLE IX OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

##### Section 2

F. The treasurer shall be responsible for collecting, distributing, and accounting for the funds of the branch. The treasurer or membership treasurer shall collect dues and properly remit them to national and state by the specified deadline. The treasurer shall send moneys for the Educational Fund and the Legal Advocacy Fund by the specified deadlines and shall keep separate ledgers for each type of account.

**...AAUW Funds or other special Funds approved by the board by the specified deadlines and shall keep close accounting of all such actions.**

**Rationale: Educational Fund and Legal Advocacy Fund are both fully funded. This wording will allow funds to be designated where it is most needed.**

#### ARTICLE XIII. COMMITTEES

##### Section 1.

A. Committees of the corporation shall be Program, Membership, ~~Diversity and Inclusion~~, International Relations, and Public Policy.

**Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**

**Rationale:** This brings the bylaws in line with current name approved by the board on 2-04-2021.

There being no questions or concerns, it was moved and passed to approve the changes and send them to the membership for vote on November 11. The bylaw revisions will appear in the November "Branch" which will be published in time to satisfy the requirement in the bylaws that members be notified 2 weeks before the vote.

Monique also requested delegates for the special New York State election of a president-elect. She requested that those who served as delegates for the conference in June do so again. The board approved the ones that could attend (Diane Jablonski, Monique Jones, Mildred Jones, Pat Luczai, Marcine Humphrey) and authorized Monique to appoint the two remaining delegates.

An in-person annual meeting was discussed. The board approved the search for a site with the stipulation that a cancellation clause be in the contract and that all attendees be required to show proof of vaccination at the event.

#### **Treasurer**

**Pat Luczai**, gave the Financial Position of the branch as of October 5. Total Assets are \$70,559.25. For the current fiscal year starting July 1, 2021, Total Revenue is \$5,016.39 and Total Expenses are \$7,292.21.

Pat reported that the examination of the Poughkeepsie AAUW financial records by Roz Werner had been completed and the report is below.

#### **Program Vice Presidents**

Since both Program VPs could not attend, Monique reminded the board members of the October 14 meeting and encouraged them to attend.

#### **Membership Vice Presidents**

**Bonnie Auchincloss** reported for herself and **Mary Scalise-Annis**.

"First we would like to thank you all for your help in launching our Inaugural Virtual Open House. We think it was a wonderful presentation of who we are and a demonstration that we are poised to stay current with the changing world.

**Sue Doyle** will tell us how many members we have currently, but I do know that there are (11) new members, with some pending. We have immediately engaged them in activities and will continue to check in on them this year.

We have also contacted 27 Members at Large, that is, members who joined National but did not belong to our local Poughkeepsie Branch. We are getting some responses now.

The Membership Committee is continuing to meet to transfer and blend our Membership Booklet into the Website. It's a work in progress. The current Membership Booklet is on the website and will remain there for this year.

We have begun work on the Membership DIRECTORY as well. Booklets should be sent to the printer in November and mailed out soon after that."

#### **Membership Treasurer**

**Sue Doyle** reported that we now have 267 paid members. Of that number, 11 are new members. 39 former members have not rejoined but that number will decrease as renewals are still coming in.

#### **Development**

In the absence of **Mary Lou Davis**, Monique asked the board if we should leave the information on the website for the Writer's Tea. It was decided to leave it there since it has been a successful fundraiser for 10 years and we have nothing yet to replace it. It will be noted on the page that we are seeking leadership for the project.

### **Honors & Awards**

**Margaret Nijhuis** reported that the Honors and Awards committee has met. "Before we make our final decisions, we ask the board if they have any suggestions to let me know before October 14<sup>th</sup>. If we do not use your suggestions this year they will go on a list for consideration next year."

### **Communications Vice President**

**Barbara Durniak** also emphasized moving the information from the membership booklet to the website. She requested that the membership committee compare the content of the booklet to what can be found on the website and let the web editors know what needs to be added.

### **Community Service Initiatives Liaison**

**Sheila Zweifler** added to the Development discussion by noting that leadership was needed for both Girls' Conference and Mothers Project. This has been noted on the website and a similar phrase could be used for the Writers' Tea. On these two pages the request for donations had been removed – this will not be done on the funding page since those funds can go to many different projects. She will write a newsletter article requesting volunteers for these three events/initiatives.

Sheila also reported that the City of Poughkeepsie will allow vaccinated volunteers for Math Buddies to return to the school. **Betty Harrel** gave the breaking news that Barnes and Noble had again selected *Leading to Reading* as the recipient of their "Holiday Book Drive." Betty requested that Barnes and Noble include in their book display for this drive show multi-ethnic characters – they will do so.

### **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**

**Gwen Higgins** announced that DCC mentoring program is looking for people in specific fields for students to shadow. The "Sum of Us" discussion series was very successful and she will write an article for the newsletter to relate some of the reactions. She invited everyone to their meetings and emphasized that they also had discussions at the end of their meetings. DEI is looking at "Huddle: How Women Unlock their Collective Power" by Brooke Baldwin as their next book for discussion.

### **Nominating Committee Chair**

**Betty Harrel** will present the nominating committee at the November business meeting for election. The nominees from the board will be Pat Luczaj, Sheila Zweifler and Celia Serotsky and from the membership Ruth Sheets and Donna Fitzgibbons.

### **Newsletter Editor**

**Cyd Averill** reminded the board of the Oct 10<sup>th</sup> deadline for the November newsletter. She also requested short articles that keep the members informed of what is happening. The newsletter will be published so that members will receive it two weeks before the November 11 general meeting.

### **Historian**

**Barbara Hesperheide** had no report.

There being no Old Business, New Business nor Announcements, the meeting was adjourned at 7:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Margaret Nijhuis**, Secretary

Roz Werner  
Accountant  
ROZ WERNER  
308 MALONEY ROAD  
WAPPINGERS FALLS, NEW YORK 12590  
845-462-0630  
[roztax@optonline.net](mailto:roztax@optonline.net)

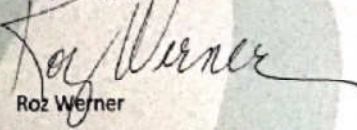
August 22, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

I have examined the income and expenses of AAUW Poughkeepsie, and I find that everything is as stated. The receipts for all the expenses are in the records, as well as the deposits.

Should there be any questions, please contact me.

Very truly yours,



Roz Werner