

ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

Submitted by Celia Serotsky, Chair

Members: Barbara Hespenheide, Jackie Goff-McNish, Barbara Van Itallie, Margaret Nijhuis, Monique Kismuk, Kay Saderholm

The Planning Committee for the Annual Meeting met four times beginning on March 8, 2023 via Zoom. The event took place on June 8, 2023, at the Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel.

Barbara VanItallie arranged the accommodations with the Poughkeepsie Grand with a cash bar beginning at 6:00 PM and dinner at 6:30. Barbara made other arrangements with the hotel as to equipment needs, extra tables, and completed the contract. The agreement was based on a minimum attendance of 40: Meal cost \$53.62 (includes 22% Service Charge), Bar \$75. The committee decided to charge \$56/person for the event. Extra costs including the printing of the program, flowers, will come from the AAUW budget. There were 46 reservations registered, but due to injuries and illnesses, there were approximately 41 in attendance.

Guest Speaker was Melaine Rottkamp, CEO and President of Dutchess County tourism who did a fantastic job in sharing with us how tourism provides Dutchess County with strong economic benefits.. Other invited guests were Carol Griffith, President AAUW NY and Suzanne Young-Mercer, President Elect of AAUW NY.

Long-time members and those who are deceased were honored by Membership VPs Mary Scalise-Annis and Bonnie Auchincloss.

AAUW Funds and named honorees and the Cornerstone Award were given by Barbara Hespenheide and Cyd Averill, as Chair of this Committee, Margaret Nijhuis, could not be present due to an injury. Pat Luczai was honored this year as the recipient of the Cornerstone Award in recognition of her unflagging support and dedication to the Poughkeepsie Branch.

Other tasks of the committee:

Program: Margaret Nijhuis

Publicity flyer: Kay Saderholm and Jackie Goff-McNish

Reservations: Monique Jones Kusmuk

Decorations: Celia Serotsky

Respectfully submitted,
Celia Serotsky