

AAUW of Virginia
State Board Meeting
April 20,2012
Newport News, VA

CALL TO ORDER

The State Board Meeting convened at approximately 2:20pm on April 20, 2012 in Newport News, VA. Caroline Pickens, President, presided. Names of board members attending is listed at **Enclosure 1**. Suzan Herskowitz, Northwest District Representative was not in attendance. There were six guests present: Julie Kause, incoming Southwest District Representative; Kay Gravatt, incoming Bylaws Co-Chair; Peggy Stotz, incoming AAUW Funds Chair; Sherry Warren, incoming Southeast District Representative and Conference Co-Chair; Angela Booker and Susan Eisenberg, incoming Co-Vice Presidents for Public Policy, and Kathy Batkin, Conference Co-Chair. A copy of the agenda is at **Enclosure 2**.

RECORDING SECRETARY /MINUTES

Motion 1: Ann Johnson, recording secretary, moved the minutes of the January State Board Meeting via Conference Call be approved. (**Enclosure 3**) The motion was seconded. The reading committee for the board meeting will be Ann Johnson, chair, Toni Seidelmann, Southwest District Representative, and Sally Sledge, VP for Membership.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Nancy Thompson, VP for Finance, distributed copies via email of the Current Year Budget (7/1/2011-6/30/2012), Itemized Categories (12/30/11 through 4/17/2012) and Net Worth as of 04/17/2012. (**Enclosure 4**). Thompson reminded the board that the budget reported in the Conference Booklet to be handed out at the AAUW Conference tomorrow would not be the same data as she was reporting today because the Conference booklet data was based on mid-March information. She also recommended the board re-think the amount of funding in the budget for the President's travel expenses. They are well over the projections because President Pickens has been invited to travel across the state to various events representing the board.

CONFERENCE REPORT

Sherry Warren, Conference Co-chair, reported there were 97 registrants for the conference with 125 attendees for the banquet Saturday Evening. Twenty (20) branches were expected to be represented at the conference and nine (9) branches would not be attending. They are Ashburn/Leesburg, Bedford,

Blacksburg/VA Tech, Charlottesville/UVA, Falls Church, Harrisonburg, Lynchburg, Norton-Wise, and Suffolk. [Falls Church was subsequently represented at the conference.]

DUES INCREASE STRATEGY

President Pickens reminded the board we needed a united front for the discussion on Sunday morning at the conference on the dues increase. The board decided it was best when Nancy Thompson, VP for Finance, was providing the introduction of “why the increase” that she state it was \$7 additional to the current dues of \$8 for a total of \$15 rather than first say the total is \$15. The board then decided it would be best for members to have a handout provided to them before the discussion, which would provided a snap shot picture of what the dues increase actually buys. President Pickens asked Lauren Germaine, College/University Chair, to take the lead on preparing the handout after the board meeting. **(Enclosure 5)**

MEMBERSHIP

Sally Sledge, VP for Membership provided the membership report via email. **(Enclosure 6)** Sledge then reported that the McLean Area Branch had requested a half-price state dues during the “Shape the Future Campaign” and “Give a Grad a Gift”. Discussion followed. It was agreed there was not enough information provided on the impact of this issue for the board to make a decision.

Motion 2

Sandy Lawrence, Northern District Representative, made the following motion: I move we table the McLean request about half-price dues during the Shape the Future Campaign, and discuss it at the August Board meeting. It was seconded and adopted. **(Enclosure 7)**

PROGRAMS

Anita Aymer, VP for Programs, stated there was no written report for this meeting because her primary focus for the past several months had been getting the program ready for the State Conference.

President Pickens then presented the board with a potential board project called “Turning Point Memorial.” Pickens then proceeded to explain to the board the Turning Point Memorial.

In 1917, more than 70 suffragists were imprisoned in the Occoquan Workhouse, later part of the Lorton Prison complex, in retaliation for picketing the Woodrow Wilson White House for the right to vote. The reports of inhumane conditions, beatings and force-feeding at the workhouse electrified the country and became the “turning point” in the struggle for the 19th Amendment.

The Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Committee is working with the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (NVRPA) to raise funds to erect a suffragist memorial to commemorate the struggle of these women and educate future generations.

Pickens then asked the board if they were interested in making this a statewide project. There was much discussion.

Motion 3 – Athena Michael, International Relations Chair, moved the state support the Turning Point project as a statewide project and encourage branches to take part. It was seconded and adopted. **(Enclosure 8)**

Anita Aymer, VP for Programs, agreed to look into possible programs to facilitate the work with the Turning Point Memorial. One suggestion was to buy the movie “Iron Jawed Angels” for all the branches to view.

Motion 4 – Toni Seidelmann moved the state board would look into purchasing the movie “Iron Jawed Angels” for branches to view. It was seconded and adopted. **(Enclosure 9)**

COMMUNICATIONS

Patsy Quick, VP for Communications, provided her report via email **(Enclosure 10)**.

AAUW FUNDS

Mary Swain provided her report via email. **(Enclosure 11)**.

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY REPORT

Lauren Germaine reported there are now 75 student affiliate members in Virginia. She said she would like to see a C/U liaison in each branch in the near future. She also stated that this would be her last board meeting because she and her family were moving to New York.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS REPORT

Athena Michael provided her report verbally, and then she broached the subject about whether her position should continue to be a “board position”, or could she still be effective and provide the state with the same support without being a board position. After much discussion, it was decided by the board, that the International Affairs Chair would no longer be a board position.

BYLAWS AND RESOLUTIONS REPORT

Enid Housty, Bylaws Co-Chair, stated there were no resolutions submitted by the membership in time for discussion at the Conference. She stated the Bylaws amendments would be discussed on Sunday during the general session.

HISTORIAN UPDATE

Neola Waller provided an update on the status of her research through the archives. She stated she had completed the 70s, 80s, and 90s and would be stating the twenty-first century soon.

DISTRICT UPDATES

Sandy Lawrence, Toni Seidelmann and DeeAnn Lineberry provided verbal updates of their districts events. Prior to the meeting, Lawrence had provided all the district representatives with a copy of the list of potential Northern District Branch speakers, as something they could possibly use as a template for their district. Seidelmann and Lineberry will be leaving the board on 1 July 2012 and introduced their replacements – Julie Kause and Sherry Warren. Suzan Herskowitz, who was not at the meeting, will also be leaving the board in July, but so far no one has stepped up to take her place as the district representative. There was brief discussion about combining the Northwest branches with both the Northern district and Southwest district, but no decision was made.

PUBLIC POLICY

Laura Wimmer and Dianne Blais, Co-Public Policy Vice Presidents, provided an update on the Get Out the Vote Training that had taken place that morning given by AAUW National. There were nearly 30 members who participated in the training.

Wimmer and Blais then discussed the strategy for the Public Policy Priorities for Saturday's general session. Both believed there should not be any controversy with any of the priorities presented.

AAUW MEMBER SURVEY/BRANCH LIAISON RESULTS

Pickens provided a handout (**Enclosure 12**) AAUW Leadership Survey Summary Results (October 2011). There was discussion about the handout. Pickens also asked the board to review the Branch Liaison Report (**Enclosure 13**). A review of the liaison reports indicates that the two main challenges faced by branches are getting members to take leadership positions and recruiting/keeping members. She then asked the board if we should invite the branches to send members to the board meeting in August. It was agreed an invitation would be sent by Pickens to invite branches to send one or two members to the board meeting in August for a brainstorming session on how the state board can help the branches with these two challenges.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pickens announced the one-day meeting in April 2013 would be in Richmond, and the next conference would be in 2014 at Smith Mountain Lake on April 25-27 2014.

The meeting adjourned 6:20pm.

Ann Johnson
Recording Secretary
AAUW Virginia

Attendees at State Board Meeting
April 20, 2012
Newport News, VA

Caroline Pickens, President
Anita Aymer, VP for Program
Sally Sledge, VP for Membership
Nancy Thompson, VP for Finance
Dianne Blais, Co-VP for Public Policy
Laura Wimmer, Co -VP for Public Policy
Patsy Quick, VP for Communications
Ann Johnson, Recording Secretary
Mary Swain, AAUW Funds Chair
Lauren Germain, College/University Chair
Sandra Lawrence, Northern District Rep
Antoinette (Toni) Seidelmann, Southwest District Rep
Enid Housty, By-Laws Chair
Neola Waller, Historian
DeAnn Lineberry, Southeast District Rep
Athena Michaels, International Relations Chair

Enclosure 1