Annual Virginia AAUW Meeting - April 23-25, 2010

Fair Lakes Hyatt, Fairfax, Virginia

Saturday Business Meeting – April 24

Opening Remarks:

President Dianne Blais called the 85th annual meeting to order at 9:20 am. Girls Scout Cadet group 1285 posted the colors.

Sharon Bulova, Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, welcomed the convention attendees to Fairfax County. She discussed Fairfax County as business friendly that just passed its budget and had to adopt priorities.

Secretary Ann Sauberman did the roll call of the current Virginia AAUW branches.

After the President introduced the board, the Branch Presidents and then the Past Presidents stood to be recognized.

Mary Swain, Neola Waller and Ann Sauberman were appointed to review the minutes.

Credentials Report:

Fran Sullinger from the McLean Area Branch announce that there were 56 delegates, 17 State Board members, 7 Past Presidents, and 45 non-voting members.

<u>Motion 1-</u> Fran Sullinger_moved the adoption of the first Credentials Report. The motion passed.

<u>Motion 2-</u> Ann Sauberman, Secretary.moved the adoption of the Convention Rules. The motion passed.

<u>Motion 3-</u> Kathy Braeman, Program Vice President, moved the adoption of the Business Agenda on page 7, with the addition of the Resolutions from the Floor during the Sunday Business meeting before the invitation to the next AAUW meeting, with the chair reserving the right to make further changes with the approval of the assembly. The motion passed.

Board Reports:

VP Finance- Mary K. Johnson referred to her report on page 7 and announced that she filed the financial report for audit. President Dianne thanked her for all her support.

VP Program- Kathy Braeman discussed creative programs that were available for branches in "Program in a Box "and referred to her report on Page 22.

VP Membership- Mary Kate Black announced the creation of the new Charlottesville Branch of 19 new members. They are connected to the University of Virginia and are in the process of reaching out to the former members of the branch. Mini-grants were given to four Branches for outstanding projects. The Bedford Branch mentored 10th and 11th grade students while the Norton -Wise Branch worked on the STEMS project with 8th grade students. The Winchester Branch held a Women's leadership Forum and the Norfolk ran a student group at Old Dominion University.

VP Public Policy- Lorena Bruner stated that the national AAUW has been concentrating on the new administration, health care, the first Latina on the Supreme Court and pay equity. The Federal Lobby Day will be held on May 13, 2010.

VP Communications and Public Information- Nancy Morgan noted the report on Pages 26 and 27. The articles for the Vision are due by the end of May.

Rules for Debate- The president announced that anyone who wants to speak must go to the microphone, state your name, role and branch. This was stated on page 3. To extend the debate, a majority vote is necessary. The green microphone is for those in favor of the motion and the red microphone is for those opposed.

Nominating Committee- (page 29) Ercell Binns announced the new slate of officers: President- Caroline Pickens, McLean Branch VP Program-Anita Aymer, Wytheville Branch VP Communications- Patsy Quick, Mt. Vernon Branch Co-VPs for Public Policy- Dianne Blais, Fairfax Branch and Laura Wimmer, Richmond Branch

The President asked for nominations from the floor. Since there were none She asked that the slate be approved. The slate was unanimously approved. The District Representatives would be elected at the District Meeting following the Sunday Breakfast Birds of a Feather.

AAUW Funds-The AAUW LAF Report was given by Mary Swain, (pages 36&37) McLean Branch contributed \$22,565 to educational programs and \$2,250 to LAF. Branchs contribute to the AAUW funds and then specified which fund. The Falls Church Branch should be congratulated for setting up their development grant.

Bylaws/Resolutions - (page 33). Jennie Sue Murdock announced that all bylaw changes would be discussed on the Sunday Morning business meeting.

District Representatives-

Kathy Kelley-Southeast (page 39) announced that she has enjoyed working with her district and the board.

Ercell Binns – Northern (page 38) Twelve branches contributed to the planning of the convention.

Toni Seidelmann-(page 39) announced that the 2011 Leadership meeting will be held in Wythville

Historian- Neola Waller announced that AAUW is studying its history from 1970-2010. She is going through boxes of history. They are ahead of schedule. She requested help from the branches for historical items.

Parliamentarian-She stressed the importance of history to AAUW We need to know the importance of this organization in the past.

International Relations- Athena Michael. She gave her report. (page 31)

Report from National AAUW-Kathy Braeman introduced Birdwhistle, chief of strategic advancement of AAUW. Jill discussed the new events on the national level. She discussed the one person /one vote and how it will affect the national convention. She also discussed the importance of communication and a program in a box.

The meeting ended at 10:30 and will resume on Sunday Morning.

Sunday Business Meeting- April 25

President Laura Wimmer called the meeting to order at 10:00a.m.

Credentials Report-

Fran Sullinger reported that there were 57 members, 17 Board members, 7 pastpresidents, 42 non-voting members and 1 guest. The total attendees were 124.

<u>Motion 4</u> Fran Sullinger moved the adoption of the Final Credentials Report. It was seconded and passed.

Bylaw Amendments- Caroline Pickens announced that each member can speak 2 minutes but must state name, branch and if pro or con. The mike with the green card is for those speaking in favor of the motion and those opposed will speak at the mike with the red card. All amendments must pass by a 2/3 vote.

<u>Motion 5</u>- Caroline Pickens, acting Bylaws chair, on behalf Committee, moved the following amendment:

Article XV. Meetings, Section1, State. strike current a. and insert a. "AAUW of Virginia shall hold an annual business meeting. In even-numbered years, it will be held during the state-wide meeting and in odd-numbered years during the leadership conference or similar meeting. The purpose of the annual business meeting shall be to conduct the business of the state, including but not limit to electing officers, amending bylaws, and receiving reports" The motion was adopted by a 2/3 vote.

<u>Motion 6-</u>Caroline Pickens, on behalf of the Bylaws Committee, moved the following amendment::

Article XV. Meetings, section 1. State. c . Strike "convention" and insert "business meeting". There was no discussion. The question was called and the amendment adopted.

<u>Motion 7</u>- Caroline Pickens, on behalf of the Bylaws Committee, moved the following amendment::

Article XV. Section 2. District

Strike a. and insert a. "Each district shall meet to elect a district representative to the board of directors." Marsha Shelton, Roanoke Branch stated that this would lead to more flexibility. The motion was adopted.

<u>Motion 8-</u> Caroline Pickens, on behalf of the Bylaws Committee, moved the following amendment:

Article XV Meetings, Section 2 District. Strike b. and insert b. "Each district shall meet at least once a year". There was no discussion. The motion was adopted.

<u>Motion 9-</u> Caroline Pickens, on behalf of the Bylaws Committee, moved the following amendment:

Article XV Meetings, Section 3. Representation

- a. Strike the current a. and insert "The voting body of the AAUW of Virginia shall be composed of any member in good standing and registered for and in attendance at the meeting."
- b. Strike the current b. Qualifications of Delegates.

The purpose of this motion was to allow all those in attendance of an annual meeting the ability to vote.

Motion 10. Jane Newell, delegate from the Bon Air Area Branch, presented a motion from the floor. "I move to amend the proposed AAUW of Virginia Bylaws changes by striking the works 'and registered for and in attendance at the meeting' from the proposed changes to Article XV, Section 3 a."

Discussion ensued.

Pro-The purpose of this amendment is to give all members, not just those who can attend the convention, the right to vote on the leaders and vote on important issues. We could piggyback on the National one member/one vote. If only attending members could vote, then we would have two classed of membership, voting and non-voting. It was stated that the cost of electronic and /or mail voting would be between one and five dollars per member, which is preferable to having to pay for attending the convention in order to vote.

Con-Some members expressed the idea that the state was not ready to have all members vote even if they were not in attendance. One member /one vote would cost too much money and would take time to implement. Would the ballots be on the internet or mailed?

Would there be provisions for discussion on issues? It would be ideal but there are many questions like would we set up chat rooms and how would the ballots be counted. Dues would have to be raised and that might result in a loss of members.

<u>Motion 11-</u> Mary Swain, Portsmouth Branch moved to amend the current proposed amendment to mandate that by the 2012 Annual Meeting , we move to one person /one vote. Motion seconded.

Pro- The Virginia AAUW needs to be a leader. We need to confirm to national AAUW.

Con- The state cannot count on the national AAUW for support in implementing this.

Point of Order- Theresa Merkle, Winchester Branch, asked if we pass this motion and wait until 2012, what will our IRS status be? The answer was that there would not be any difficulty.

Point of Information- Denise Decker, Arlington Branch, stated that the original amendment is one step toward one member/one vote. The state should take its time.

<u>Motion 12-</u> Michele Milden, Arlington Branch, moved to extend the debate for 10 minutes. The motion was seconded and passed.

The question was called on Motion 11, which would require the state to have all members voting by 2012. This took a majority vote, which was 42 in favor and 32 opposed.. The motion carried.

There was more discussion on the amended motion.

Motion 13- Kathy Batkin, Portsmouth, moved to extend debate by 2 minutes. It was seconded and passed.

The motion to have one member one vote by 2012 was passed by 51 for, 6 opposed and 2 abstaining.

It was agreed that the board would determine the details. There was a question of what would determine a quorum. This will be determined as part of working out the details.

<u>Motion 14-</u>Caroline Pickens, on behalf of the Bylaws Committee, moved the following amendment:

Articl3 XV, Meetings, Section 3, c. Voting: Strike (1), (2), and (3). Retain (4) Quorum. Section 31 will then read, "A quorum shall be the majority of the voting body registered as attending, provided that a majority of the branches are represented." The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

<u>Motion 15- Courtesey Resolution-</u> Jennie Sue Murdock, Resolutions Chair, moved the following resolution:

"Whereas the 2010 State convention of AAUW of Virginia was planned so as to inspire, inform and bring to the community AAUW member from across the Commonwealth of Virginia, and;

Whereas the AAUW of Virginia members have attended, participated in, been enlightened by, and enjoyed this convention, then be it resolved

1) That the attendees of this convention express their gratitude to the many organizers of the 2010 Virginia Convention from the Northern Virginia Branches and;

2) That the attendees express gratitude to the AAUW State Board of Virginia, the speakers, and the workshop presenters for the well planned convention program and;3) That the attendees express thanks to the staff of the Hyatt Fair Lakes for their friendliness, courtesy and helpfulness and;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the AAUW of Virginia be commended for conducting the 85th Annual State Convention with a strong focus and support of the Mission and challenging the participants to New Horizons.

There were no resolutions presented from the floor.

The two co-presidents presented roses to the outgoing members of the state board as a thank you for their hard work.

Representatives from the Wytheville Branch invited the state to the next AAUW State Meeting on April 8-10, 2011.

Announcements:

- 1. Michelle Milden recognized Bea Malone and Ercell Binns for a wonderful job organizing this Convention
- 2. The Attendees were asked to hand in their nametags and evaluation sheets.
- The new District Representatives are : Northern District- Nancy Joiner and Sandra Lawrence Southeast -Dean Linerry Northwest- Suzanne Herchowitz

The Business Meeting was adjourned at 11:55.

Submitted by Ann Sauberman, Recording Secretary