

AAUW of Virginia
Board of Directors Meeting
Wytheville, Virginia
April 8, 2011

The board meeting was called to order by President Caroline Pickens at 2:00 pm.

Motion 1: It was moved that the January 31, 2011 minutes be approved. The motion was approved.

The reading committee for this board meeting will be Ann Sauberman, Chair, Athena Michael, and Nancy D. Joyner.

Finance Report: Mary K. Johnson announced that if anyone has invoices, they need to give them to her. She has made out \$100 checks to all the branches with members attending the annual state meeting in Wytheville. Anita Aymer needs to be reimbursed to cover her trips around the state to encourage attendance to the annual meeting.

Motion 2: Athena Michael moved to move \$200 to the program vice president's budget to cover her expenses. The motion was seconded and carried.

All unused funds will be carried over to the next year. There is a \$500 deposit that was paid to hold the hotel for the next annual meeting. It was suggested that the deposit could come out of the reserves although this has not occurred before. There are extra funds in some board members' budgets due to not using their allocation.

About 40% of the members are now paying online. It takes about 30 days for the state to get our share of the dues.

Caroline announced that there will be a Lilly Ledbetter plaque and that all states can have their names engraved on it with a donation of \$500 to the Lilly Ledbetter Giving Circle (LLGC). There was a board discussion on whether Virginia should donate or encourage individual members or individual branches. The board discussed how they should raise the money.

Motion 3: It was moved and seconded that the board authorize a volunteer collection for the Lilly Ledbetter Fund with a goal of at least \$500. The motion passed.

At the annual meeting a hat will be passed. In addition, contribution forms will be distributed so that members can take them home to their branches to raise more funds.

AAUW Funds: Mary Swain, chair, announced that the deadline for donations is December 15. Mary urged the board to encourage branches not to hold the money they collect more than 30 days. They also need to keep accurate records. This year the members honored by their branch will be listed in the booklet. The honorees will not get their certificate at the banquet, but collectively they will be asked to stand. The branch presidents will later give their members the certificates.

The 2011 Virginia State Meeting: Anita Aymer was pleased to announce that there will be 120 attendees. Twenty-three of the twenty-nine branches will be in attendance. The low prices for registration and food and the branch rebate helped encourage AAUW members to attend. Anita also did a great job of traveling around the state to market the annual meeting. She announced that there would be a shuttle bus from the main motel to the conference center. The attendees will be called to the buffet by table numbers. The AAUW Fund honorees will be named during the banquet. The dinner entertainment will be two performers of Appalachian music. Laura Wimmer donated the conference bags. The board thanked Anita for her hard work and dedication to the success of the annual meeting.

The 2012 State Meeting: DeAnn Lineberry announced that the 2012 Annual Meeting will be held on April 20-22, 2012 at the Marriott in Newport News. It is located one mile off I-64 and is a newly developed conference hotel. There is upscale shopping, boating, Newport News University, and great attractions. Most attendees will not have to

use the Bay tunnel. Enid Housty and Mary Swain also spoke highly of this area as a great site for the meeting. The board emphasized that there needs to be a line item in the new budget to be used to market the convention. It was suggested that there also be a marketing committee.

Bylaws: Enid Housty announced that there will need to be a bylaws amendment to Article XV, Section 3. This would establish a new quorum in preparation for the one member/one vote in Virginia in 2012. A quorum is the number of voters necessary to make a vote count. At the annual meeting in 2011, the quorum is the majority of those members in attendance. This is a change from the delegate system. A 2/3 vote is required this year to elect a candidate and to approve a bylaws change. A reasonable percentage for a quorum is thought to be 7% of all state members. Enid discussed the pros and cons of alternative percentages for the quorum.

One Member/One Vote: A report from the OMOV Task Force had been sent to the board members. Instituting one member/one vote will cost money because of postage and printing. It is been estimated to be \$2 - \$3 per member. It may be preferable if we piggy back on the National AAUW process since they would have one year of experience. An alternative is Vote-Now, which is a professional service that conducts votes for organizations. Because the state meeting is in April and the New Year does not start until July 1, the task force recommends a process by which business items would be published in the *Virginia Vision* before the state meeting, and then attendees could discuss and amend at the meeting. The final wording would go out for a vote immediately after the meeting. Voting will be either by mail or online as the member chooses.

One Member/One Vote recommended timeline:

April 18, 2012: Membership cutoff for voting eligibility
April 20-22, 2012: State Convention
April 27, 2012: Provide ballot and voter guide to the printer
May 14, 2012: Online and paper ballots sent to members
June 15, 2013: Ballots tabulated and results announced
July 1, 2012: New membership year begins

At first ballots will be mailed, but by 2015 the goal will be to have e-mail ballots. It is important to compare the National AAUW and Vote-Now. Vote-Now would assign member numbers and do the mailing. If we choose to work directly with AAUW, there is more work because we would do the mailing, but we would save money. The cheapest method is by e-mail. At the July meeting, the board will determine which group we will use to accomplish the voting.

Membership: Mary Kate Black announced that membership dropped 8%, but the state has added two new branches. There are 968 members-at-large in Virginia. Maryland has one thriving online branch. It should be discussed in the future how Virginia could organize an online branch. At the July meeting there needs to be a discussion on how to keep current members and attract new members. Sandy Lawrence offered to compile a list of the suggestions if the board members send their ideas to her.

Communications: Patsy Quick discussed the WETA fundraising evening. Sandy Lawrence and Patsy participated in the organizing of the event. Patsy along with 24 volunteers manned the phones. It was an enjoyable evening and gave positive visibility for AAUW. Face Book is becoming an important tool for AAUW to use. VA Tech is compiling statistics on how many visits there are to their Face Book page. A committee should be formed to encourage people to use the Face Book site.

Patsy sent out a brochure and conference information to the branch presidents and newsletter editors.

Vision Editor: Nancy Morgan stated that there needs to be a discussion on whether the state should have three or four issues of the *Vision*. It is cheaper to print three issues than four, but in the issue on the annual meeting, it is difficult to print other information. The state members are losing valuable information. It was suggested that the Winter/Spring issue could be made larger. Also information could be sent out online. Sandy Lawrence recommended increasing that issue from 16 to 20 pages.

District Reports:

* **Northwest:** It was announced that the Winchester Branch is celebrating its 80th anniversary on April 16, 2011.

* **Southwest:** Toni Seidelmann, who served as chair of the nominating committee, announced the new slate of Officers. The candidates are Sally Sledge (Norfolk), membership vice president; Nancy Thompson (Reston-Herndon), finance vice president; Ann Johnson (Smith Mountain), secretary. Toni Introduced Nancy and Ann to the board.

Historian: Neola Waller announced that six new members have joined the Breaking Through Barriers campaign. The historical research has been done on the 1970s and most of the 1980s. She requested that board members send her names of those in Virginia who have served as national officers and committee members. She needs the names, positions; and dates. The board expressed their gratitude to Neola for all the work she has accomplished.

Public Policy: Laura Wimmer announced that they are working on a grant from AAUW to build capacity in the state for grass roots advocacy. The two-year grant would provide for funds to train members to get citizens to vote and be aware of the issues. The application for the grant is due on May 13, 2011. If the grant is accepted, ten members would have training on Friday, April 20, 2012, before the next annual meeting in Newport News. The board approved the grant by straw vote and asked Laura to poll the district meetings to insure there is enough interest among the members to support this.

International Affairs: Athena Michael announced details with regards to the CARE Conference. She discussed the benefits of a tour at an embassy in Washington. This would be a fall event. There will be more information on logistics at the summer board meeting.

Announcements:

1. The summer board meeting will be held on July 16 -17. Caroline is looking for a location in mid state. Suggested sites were Charlottesville or Fishersville.
2. The board members who have registered for the AAUW Convention are Anita Aymer, Enid Housty, Marcia Shelton, Laura Wimmer, and Mary Swain.
3. It was noted that students will have difficulty paying the registration and hotel. Caroline suggested that Lauren Germain be given a \$250 grant to cover her student registration. This action would enable her to obtain more information and resources on College University Partners and e-students. There was no board objection.
4. The deadline for the *Vision* is May 15, 2011.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10pm.

Ann Sauberman, Secretary

Attachments Filed with the Secretary

Finance Report
One Member/One Vote Task Force Report
By Laws Report

The List of Attendees:

Mary K. Johnson
Mary M. Swain
Toni Seidleman

Sandra Lawrence
Patsy Quick
Athena S. Michael
Marcia Shelton
Enid Housty
Nancy D. Joyner
Anita Aymer
DeAnn Lineberry
Laura Wimmer
Neola Waller
Nancy H. Morgan
Mary Kate Black
Caroline Pickens
Ann Sauberman

Guests

David Kirkwood, AAUW Board of Directors
Ann Johnson, incoming secretary
Nancy Thompson, incoming finance vice president