



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
January 9, 2020
Telephone Conference

CALL TO ORDER

The State Board meeting, which was held as a telephone conference, was called to order on Thursday, January 9, 2020, at 7:01 PM by Co-President Leslie Tourigny. Recording Secretary Deborah Dodd took roll of all participants on the call. A list of board members in attendance was distributed via email. **(Enclosure 1)**

CO-PRESIDENTS' REPORT

The Co-Presidents' Report was distributed to the board via email. **(Enclosure 2)** Patsy Quick and Sandy Lawrence volunteered for the reading committee. They will review and modify the minutes, as needed.

The status of the Greater Richmond Branch was revisited. At the November 9-10, 2019 board meeting, a motion was made, seconded, and approved that the Greater Richmond Branch, which has been in the Southeast District, despite the fact that it is not near any of the other branches in that district, be moved to the Northwest District. Carol Stephens, a member of the Greater Richmond Branch, asked the branch board for their opinion. The board was unanimous in their approval. At their general meeting on Saturday, January 11, it will be voted on by the membership.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The minutes of the November 9-10, 2019 board meeting were distributed electronically by Deborah. **(Enclosure 3)** Leslie asked if there were any corrections to the November 9-10, 2019 minutes. Hearing no corrections or objections, the minutes were approved as distributed.

The resignation of Nancy Warren as College/University Chair necessitated the appointment of a replacement. Co-Presidents Leslie Tourigny and Carol Stephens requested that Deborah send an email to the Executive Board asking them to vote to approve the appointment of Barbara Woodlee to serve as the College/University Chair effective July 1, 2020. Deborah reported that the votes were received via email and the appointment was unanimously approved.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE UPDATE

Nominating Committee Chair Barbara Woodlee sent a report to the board via email that updated the completed slate of officers that will be voted on in April and May. **(Enclosure 4)**

The complete slate of officers is as follows:

- Co-Presidents - Leslie Tourigny and Suzanne Rothwell
- Co Vice Presidents for Public Policy - Susan Burk and Denise Murden

- Vice President for Communications - Patsy Quick
- Vice President for Programs - Nadine James

VOTING and ELECTION PROCESS for 2020

A Voting and Election Process for 2020 report was distributed to the board via email by Sandy Lawrence, Voting and Elections Chair. **(Enclosure 5)**

The following items will be on the ballot:

- AAUW of Virginia State Board Officers
- One Bylaws amendment
- Public Policy Priorities for 2020-2022

Sandy asked if each of the public policy priorities must be voted on individually or as a package. There was a difference of opinion about whether each public policy priority would be voted on individually, as they are in National elections, or as a package. Leslie said that her recollection, as former Voting and Elections Chair on the State Board, was that they would be discussed and amended at the business meeting at the conference individually, but they would be voted on as a package on our state ballots. Leslie agreed to research this and report back to the board.

FINANCE REPORT

Treasurer Marsha Melkonian distributed the finance report to the board electronically. **(Enclosure 6)** She will change one of the confusing headings on the Budget FY2020 – Year to Date finance report. The summer leadership expenses have been recoded because one large payment from the summer leadership meeting had been overlooked. There is a discrepancy between the actual dues received and the membership report which says that almost everyone has renewed. Budget levels are lower than would be expected based on that statement. Marsha will investigate and verify the information. Carol confirmed that the NCCWSL donation should be sent now.

PROGRAM REPORT

Vice President for Program Sandy Lawrence sent the Program Report to the board electronically. **(Enclosure 7)**

2020 STATE CONFERENCE

Accolades were given to the Conference Committee for the work that they have done in planning the April 2020 AAUW of VA State Conference. Arlene Shapiro and Joanne Clark, Local Arrangements Committee Co-Chairs sent a report via email. **(Enclosure 8)**

Conference Logo/Theme

Information on possibly changing the theme of the conference from *Celebrating Visionary Women 1920-2020* to *Celebrating Visionary Women 1920 1965 2020* was distributed to the board via email. **(Enclosure 9)** There was concern that, although the 19th Amendment was ratified in 1920, it did not guarantee voting rights for all women. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was instrumental in guaranteeing voting rights to more women. The addition of 1965 in the theme would perhaps be more inclusive. After a

discussion about whether the change should be made, it was decided not to change the theme. It will remain *Celebrating Visionary Women 1920-2020*.

Patsy Quick has been designing sample logos. The logos were pictured in Enclosure 9. The board reviewed the two logos. After a discussion, logo Number 4 was chosen. There were several suggestions for slight adjustments to the colors in the logo. Patsy agreed to make those adjustments.

Conference Program

Sandy Lawrence, Conference Program Chair, sent out the program schedule via email. **(Enclosure 10)** She reported that some of the invited speakers have been confirmed; the committee is waiting for others to be confirmed. Both Woman of Achievement honorees will be attending. Not all the workshops will be geared toward the 19th Amendment theme. Some will deal with other topics of interest to branches such as parliamentary procedure and how finance and membership officers work together. Neola Waller will advise Sandy if there will be a Legacy Circle social. It was decided that the time for dinner on Saturday night should be moved from 7:30 PM to 7:00 PM. Sandy will rework the schedule for the opening of the conference on Saturday morning. Cheryl Spohnholtz, Vice President for Membership, will organize a New Members Reception. Cyndi Shanahan, Diversity and Inclusion Chair, requested that the titles of the branch diversity and inclusion representatives be changed from “chair” to “contact.”

Conference Budget

Tammie Mullins-Rice, Conference Treasurer, distributed the Event Budget for the 2020 AAUW of Virginia State Conference to the board via email. **(Enclosure 11)**

Conference Registration

Tammie Mullins-Rice, Conference Registrar, sent the proposed registration form via email. **(Enclosure 12)** Tammie was not in attendance on the call, but Leslie said that if there were any concerns or questions about the form they should be emailed to Tammie or Leslie.

Caroline Pickens spoke for Mary Anne Graham, who was not in attendance. Mary Anne, who is responsible for the program book, sent out information outlining what will be included in the program book. There were questions about the price of ads in the program book. Branches will be reminded that they can purchase ads. Caroline Pickens said that any questions should be emailed to Mary Anne.

BOARD REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP

Vice President for Membership Cheryl Spohnholtz sent the Membership Report to the board electronically. **(Enclosure 13)** Renewal rate drop off is still a concern. To reach out to the newest members of AAUW they will be invited to the New Members Reception at the Conference. There are at least 100 new members.

Cheryl followed up on the 5 Star Recognition Program. It has been extended for another year. Sandy said that, as President of the Woodbridge Branch, she has entered goals from the 5 Star Program list that their branch has achieved but has received no response from AAUW National. During a discussion about submissions to the 5 Star Program, Cheryl indicated that it appears only branches can make submissions; it seems that there is no way for the State to make submissions. At the November 9-10, 2019 Board meeting it was suggested that Carol draft a letter to AAUW addressing the feedback that has been received concerning the 5 Star Recognition Program. Carol reported that after she drafted the letter, she shared it with Leslie. Subsequently, they thought that it would be better to address our concerns with Kendra Davis, AAUW Senior Vice President, at the State Conference. There was a suggestion that the liaison reports that will be done in the spring include a question about whether the branch is participating in the 5 Star Recognition Program.

COMMUNICATIONS

Vice President for Communications Patsy Quick sent the Communications Report to the board electronically. **(Enclosure 14)**

BYLAWS AND RESOLUTIONS

Bylaws and Resolutions Chair Suzanne Rothwell sent the Bylaws and Resolutions Report to the board electronically. **(Enclosure 15)** Suzanne reported that all the branches have submitted their 990 tax forms. The amendment that deals with half price dues will be on the ballot in April. It will be discussed at the conference in April.

AAUW FUNDS

AAUW Funds Chair Caroline Pickens sent the AAUW Funds Report to the board electronically. **(Enclosure 16)**

Caroline said that she would not do an AAUW Funds article for the *Vision* because the total that was contributed to AAUW Funds by branches will not be reported until later in January. AAUW National more than met its goal in the matching funds fundraiser. AAUW National sent out an email announcing their success to the entire membership. Caroline encouraged all board members to contribute individually during the year.

HISTORIAN

Historian Neola Waller sent the Historian Report via email. **(Enclosure 17)** Sandy suggested that a copy of the *History of the American Association of University Women of Virginia 1925-2010* be given to the conference speaker Janice Ruth, the curator from the Library of Congress, who will be speaking about the 100th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage.

Neola followed up on the request made at the November 9-10, 2019 meeting for more information on the upcoming celebrations of the passage of the 19th Amendment. She sent the information to the board via email. **(Enclosure 18)** She requested that information about the William and Mary Homecoming Parade on Friday, October 16,

2020 that will include a float and marchers honoring women's suffrage, be shared with branches to see if there is interest in participation.

PUBLIC POLICY

Co-Vice President for Public Policy Sylvia Rogers sent the Public Policy Report to the board electronically. **(Enclosure 19)**

Co-Vice President for Public Policy Susan Burk announced that on January 9, 2020, the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) was approved on a vote of 10 – 5 in committee. It will come to the floor for approval in the Senate on January 15, 2020, AAUW of VA State Lobby Day. She also announced that Senator Jennifer Boysko has proposed a pay equity bill.

Sylvia sent the Proposed 2020-2022 AAUW of Virginia Public Policies to the board via email. **(Enclosure 20)** She and Susan had earlier sent out a revised draft of the proposed public policies so that members could have the opportunity to consider them and make comments. They received only positive comments. They called for further discussion before a motion was made to approve them. There was none. **Sylvia made a motion that the Proposed 2020-2022 AAUW of Virginia Public Policies be approved as proposed in the recent draft with the understanding that the protocol would then be to publish them in the *Vision* prior to discussion and revision at the conference in April by the members. Members would then vote for or against the revised policies in the voting period in April and May.** The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Susan gave an update on Lobby Day preparations. Thirty-eight people have signed up to attend. A 9:00 AM meeting is scheduled with Governor Northam. The Governor will be asked to make an Equal Pay Day Proclamation for Equal Pay Day on March 31. Carol has coordinated the reception for women legislators that will be held on the evening of January 14, the night before Lobby Day. 10 representatives and 2 legislative aides have indicated that they will attend. Carol suggested that, in the future, rather than emails, paper invitations be sent to representatives. She feels that perhaps there would be a better response because of the large number of emails that the representatives receive.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION REPORT

Cyndi Shanahan, Diversity and Inclusion Chair, distributed the Diversity and Inclusion Report via email. **(Enclosure 21)** Cyndi has identified all the College/University partner points of contact. Leslie has sent the list to AAUW National. The *Vision* will be sent to the C/U partners.

DISTRICT REPORTS

District Reports were distributed electronically by each of the District Representatives:

Northern District **(Enclosure 22)**

Southeast District **(Enclosure 23)**

Northwest District (**Enclosure 24**)

Southwest District - There was no Southwest District report. It will be sent later.

WINTER/SPRING VISION ARTICLES

All submissions for the winter/spring 2020 issue of the *Vision* are due by **January 15, 2020**.

ACTION ITEMS

Carol read the Action Items.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 PM by Leslie.

Deborah Dodd
Recording Secretary
AAUW of Virginia