

AAUW GREENSBORO BOARD MINUTES

Date: Tuesday, June 9, 2015 at 5:30 PM

Location: 2707 Turner Grove Dr. S – Home of President Wheaton

Members Present: Cheryl Wheaton, President – Mary Fran Schickedantz, Treasurer - Linda Jensen, Programs – Everlena Diggs, Membership – Sue Mengert, C/U Liaison – Mary Woodrow, Book Browsers/Hospitality – Charlotte Divitci, New Members - Ellie Dolata, Fund Raising – Elaine Morehead, Spring Luncheon – Stephanie Ghotbi-Taheri, Treasurer Elect - Libby Haile, President Elect – Dot Mason, C/U Liaison - Jane Terwillegar, Secretary

<i>TOPIC</i>	<i>DISCUSSION/DECISIONS</i>
Welcome/Introductions	Meeting called to order at 6:14 PM by President Cheryl Wheaton.
Minutes for 4/22/15	No corrections were noted. Ellie Dolata made the motion to file as printed (2nd Mary Woodrow). The motion passed by voice vote.
Financial Report	<p>Treasurer Schickedantz presented a printed report (see attached) prepared jointly with incoming Treasurer Taheri. The bank balance as of 5/31/15 was \$13,492.67. The Treasurer noted that while the membership roster currently shows 109 members, it will likely be reduced with the loss of 8-10 non-renewing members. In estimating 100 members, the Branch will have \$1300 for operational expenses in 2015-2016 (100 x \$13.00 dues per member). Most of the current bank balance is reserves for special programs, such as \$5324 for <i>It Is for Girls</i>.</p> <p>The Spring Luncheon raised \$1230.36 for the 2016 NCCWSL scholarships. Funds raised at luncheon raffles have normally been earmarked for local projects and the raffle at November’s luncheon raised \$289.00, Other luncheon income was \$15.41 and \$51.67, providing \$356.08 for local projects in the coming year. After the silent auction at the November luncheon, the Branch sent \$700 as a contribution to AAUW National, divided among several funds. As funds are contributed to AAUW National by members, those dollars are also credited to the Branch by AAUW.</p>
Spring Luncheon Awards	<p>There was a discussion about awards given at the Spring Luncheon and how those dollars are paid to AAUW. The Branch may designate AAUW fund awards for every \$500 of donations credited to the Branch, so the awards given at the Spring Luncheon do not require a new donation. Instead the awards represent the total annual contribution from the Branch and individual members. This year three members were honored at the Spring Luncheon with special recognition awards: Sue Mengert – The Willa Lawrence Award, Laura Tew – the Mary Floyd Award and Deepshikha Shukla – the Shirley Hall Award. (See attached for the complete list of 2015 awards.)</p> <p>Treasurer Schickedantz reported the Branch spent \$700 more than was raised in 2014-2015, so any funds being held for Branch programs are depleted. In planning for the new fiscal year, President Wheaton noted, “the Branch expanded to many local programs and the issue is to see how we can afford them in the coming year.” She requested that all committee chairs prepare a budget for proposed 2015-2016 expenses for the August Board meeting. Using the \$356.08 raised by this year’s luncheons for ongoing local programs comes as a recommendation from the Finance Committee, so earmarking those dollars can be done in the new budget.</p>

Fundraising

Chair Ellie Dolata reported that planning for a "Suffrage Jubilee" fundraiser is not moving forward, since the committee was unable to see how the Historical Museum venue was going to provide the fundraising capability that is desired. The Museum rental charges, plus the restriction that no money be exchanged during the event, limits the ability to raise funds. In addition, Beth Walker had to withdraw as co-chair. Ellie canceled the August 22 date at the Museum and may plan a different fundraising event around the same theme later. There will be an immediate effort to look at raising funds for local programs by other means, such as writing grants. Chair Dolata offered to look into identifying some local grant writing workshops. Some alternative events suggested were a "Suffrage Jubilee" at Donna Hodgman's home or an activity related to the forthcoming Meryl Streep movie about Suffragettes.

The need for 501C3 status for the Branch was again mentioned. President Wheaton noted that she, Treasurer Schickedantz, and Millie Hoffler-Foushee are attending AAUW's National Convention in June and they plan to discuss possible options for Branch 501C3 status with AAUW staff during that time.

Membership

Chair Everlina Diggs reported that although the AAUW roster currently lists 109 names, 56 members were not yet renewed for 2015-2016. With so many new members, five free memberships were earned from AAUW. The Branch has already given out two of those to luncheon speakers Dr. Linda Brady and Dr. Rosalind Fuse-Hall. Several names were suggested as other recipients, but no action was taken.

C/U Liaison

Dorothy Mason, representing the ad hoc committee, was present to provide a report to the Board with recommendations for improving the process for future NCCWSL awards (see attached). The committee met to review this year's initial scholarship outcomes for the NCCWSL scholarships and prepared recommendations for changes in 2016. There are two major concerns: 1. The evaluation process itself, and, 2. The intention of the committee to spread these awards to college women representing several C/U partners, not one institution.

1. Recommendation to establish a separate sub-committee of 3 or 4 members from the Branch to evaluate entries for the NCCWSL awards. (This year the C/U representatives at the colleges recruited, assisted and then evaluated the entries.)
2. Recommendation to increase the number of scholarships from two to three in 2016, and
3. Recommendation to set aside one scholarship for a woman from a Historically Black College/University (HBCU).

Since these were committee recommendations, no motion was needed to approve them. However, the Board agreed to amend these as follows: **for #2, it was agreed to wait and see if additional funds can be raised for NCCWSL, since the current \$1,239.36 is not sufficient to support a third scholarship. Recommendation #3 drew more discussion and the consensus was to change the wording to "only one applicant per school" will receive a NCCWSL award.**

Chair Mengert reported the meeting with Dean Goldie Byrd at NC A&T was successful and that A&T is our newest C/U partner. Two C/U representatives for A&T will be appointed soon. **Chair Mengert also asked the Board to support a request to AAUW NC for a mini-grant of \$500 to help fund a \$tart \$mart workshop for this newest C/U partner in 2015-2016. This was agreed by voice vote.**

	<p>Chair Mengert also noted the possibility of another new C/U partner, since two Branch members are on the faculty at Elon University. In looking at plans for workshops and programs with C/U partners for 2015-2016, Chair Mengert noted that the fee structure for <i>\$tart \$mart</i> will be \$350 for each of these institutions in FY 2016: Guilford, UNCG and Bennett. A&T will cost \$650 for their initial <i>\$tart \$mart</i> workshop. High Point University expects the grant to be renewed that funded their programs this past year. At a preliminary cost of \$1700 to the Branch for <i>\$tart \$mart</i> workshops at all C/U partners, it was noted that we should find a way to persuade the colleges to fund their own contracts with AAUW for the cost of <i>\$tart \$mart</i>.</p>
<p>Spring Luncheon</p>	<p>Chair Elaine Morehead thanked everyone for their help with the Spring Luncheon. She made the recommendation that luncheon chairs be appointed a year in advance and that a budget be provided for expenses, such as decorations, printing and other costs.</p> <p>President Wheaton announced that Mary Fran Schickedantz will chair the Fall Luncheon and Mary Ellen Schiflett will chair the Spring 2016 luncheon. No venue has been selected yet for the fall event and Starmount Country Club is reserved for Saturday, April 23, 2016. Dr. Goldie Byrd at A&T and Dr. Franklin Gilliam the new Chancellor at UNCG, were both recommended as possible speakers for next year's events.</p>
<p>Public Policy/Communication</p>	<p>In the absence of Chair Laura Tew, President Wheaton brought up a continuing question that is often asked of this committee. Other organizations frequently approach them to email announcements to our Branch members. So the question is: "Should we use our membership list to promote issues and/or events sponsored by other local organizations." It was noted that if we expect to work with others to support our interests, then it becomes essential to form coalitions with other organizations that share the same interests. The Board discussed this issue and offered some initial criteria for establishing communication coalitions: 1) Non-profit, 2) Non-partisan, and 3) Concerned with issues related to the AAUW mission. These local organizations also need to agree to a reciprocal arrangement – if we send out your information to our members, then you send out our Branch promotions to your members. Local non-profits suggested for such coalitions are: the League of Women Voters of the Piedmont Triad, Guilford Education Alliance, Greensboro Commission on the Status of Women, YWCA Greensboro, NC Women United, and BPW of the Triad.</p>
<p>Membership Directory</p>	<p>Treasurer Mary Fran Schickedantz reported the Directory cost \$214 to print last year and the question is can it be done for less this year, or even simply published online. Meanwhile there will be a concerted effort to personally contact all current members who have not yet renewed for FY16. Incoming Treasurer Stephanie Taheri expects to offer "one on one" IT help for those members who are insecure with using the Branch website, opening emails (especially those with attachments) and other IT skills required for adequate communications available with their AAUW membership.</p>
<p>Announcements</p>	<p>President Wheaton announced that she, Mary Fran Schickedantz, Everlina Diggs and Millie Hoffer-Foushee will all be attending the AAUW national convention in San Diego in June. She asked for suggestions and issues to investigate while there. Issues brought up included how to expand local AAUW programming without local funding resources, how to use the AAUW "Programs in a Box", new program ideas for Branch meetings, what the national theme will be for 2015-2016 and what are the innovative fund raising ideas being utilized by other branches throughout the nation.</p>

<p>Book Browsers</p> <p>Dates for 2015-2016</p> <p>Adjournment</p> <p>Next Meeting</p>	<p>Chair Mary Woodrow reported that requests for the coming year's book list were made to the Greensboro Public Library. The September 14 book will be "A Walk in the Woods" by Bill Bryson, this year's <i>One City, One Book</i> selection and will be led by a library staff member.</p> <p>Member Meetings – most are 6 PM, on the second Tuesday of the month, at the Congregational United Church of Christ (CUCC) in Greensboro</p> <p>September 8 – Annual salad supper at CUCC</p> <p>October 13 - at CUCC</p> <p>November – Fall Luncheon – Date and location TBA</p> <p>December – no meeting</p> <p>January 9 - Saturday Soup Luncheon at CUCC – noon</p> <p>February – no meeting</p> <p>March 8 – Annual Meeting at CUCC</p> <p>April 23 – Spring Luncheon at Starmount CC - Saturday</p> <p>Board Meeting schedule:</p> <p>July 14 – Mary Fran's home – Light supper by Mary Fran and Sue Mengert</p> <p>August 11 – Light supper by Charlotte Divitci and Stephanie Taheri</p> <p>September 29 - Not 2nd Tuesday since President Wheaton is traveling</p> <p>October 20 – 3rd Tuesday</p> <p>November 10 – Before Fall Luncheon</p> <p>December – no board meeting</p> <p>The remainder of the schedule after January 1 will be determined later.</p> <p>Libby Haile made the motion to adjourn (2nd Mary Fran Schickedantz) The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 PM.</p> <p>The next Board meeting is scheduled for 5:30 PM, Tuesday, July 14th, at the home of Mary Fran Schickedantz. Mary Fran and Sue Mengert will provide a light supper.</p>
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