

AAUW DELAWARE TRANSITION BOARD MEETING
OUTGOING AND INCOMING OFFICERS AND CHAIRS
MINUTES OF JUNE 14, 2008

“Education as the Gateway to Women’s Economic Security”

I. Call to Order

The State Board Meeting was called to order at 1000 a.m. by President Maisha D. Britt, Ph.D. The meeting was held at the Dover Century Club on the Green in Dover, DE.

II. Introductions

President Maisha Britt welcomed the Board Members and Branch Presidents. As Outgoing President, she introduced the Incoming President, Lana Cobb. There were several incoming Branch Presidents and Chairs: Rebecca Johnson Melvin, Newark Branch President, Faith Kusterer, EF, Virginia Nee, Coastal-Georgetown Branch President, Nadyne Rosin, Programs Vice-President, Diane Ash, Co-President Middletown Branch, and Barbara Mullin, Public Policy. There were nineteen members in attendance.

III. Reading of the Minutes – Laura Singleton

Mary Everhart, outgoing Bulletin/Directory Chair, made a motion to approve the minutes. Ann Alexander, Dover Branch President, seconded the motion. The minutes were approved without corrections.

IV. Agenda

Laura Singleton, Secretary, made a motion to approve the agenda as written and Lana Cobb seconded the motion.

V. 2008 State Convention Report – Dorene Petrosky & Wilmington Branch

Dr. Dorene Petrosky, Programs Vice-President, gave a report of the 65th Delaware AAUW State Convention, which was held at the Ed Oliver House Restaurant (Terrace at Greenhill), in Wilmington, DE, on April 26, 2008. It was hosted by the Wilmington Branch, Barbara French, Branch President, and Emmett Calhoun. The theme was “Financially Fit for Life” and the keynote speaker was Carol Arnott, a Certified Financial Planner, for the Delaware Money School. Three breakout discussion groups on various aspects of finances followed. These sessions included “Taxes” led by Carolyn Diehl, AAUW State Treasurer, “Debt, Compound Interest, and How to Stay Debt Free” led by EF Chair and Wesley College Professor, Dr. Kathy Jacobs, and “Planning on Enjoying Retirement” led by Jessica Dahill of Putnam Investments. There were 45 members in attendance.

VI. Reports

A. President Britt gave her final “2007-2008 Report of the President” to the members. She described all her activities and the opportunities that she had to co-partner with other women’s organizations throughout the state. She was successful at networking with these groups, forging new inroads, and promoting the mission and goals of the American Association of University Women. This is the transition meeting where she will officially turn over the state materials, gavel, and helm to Incoming State President, Lana Cobb. A recent last effort was to send 162 flyers to members-at-large in an attempt to encourage them to renew their active membership in AAUW.

B. Membership Vice-President, Wanda Simons, reported that the Delaware membership count for AAUW as of March 18, 2008, was 460 with approximately 150 members-at-large. This represents an increase in active members from the previous year. She distributed the listings of MALs from the Association to the branches for them to use to invite them to meetings. She organized and staffed a display table at the Delaware Women’s Conference at the University of Delaware in March. As a result, there were 10 women who signed up for more information and she will contact them for membership for the 2008-2009 year. She also thanked the individuals who recruited 13 new members during the Association’s two-year “Keys to the Future” campaign.

C. Programs Vice-President, Dr. Dorene Petrosky, had no additional information to report. Nadyne Rosin of Coastal-Georgetown Branch is the new Programs Vice-President Chair.

D. Treasurer, Carolyn Diehl, submitted her report by e-mail. The treasurer’s account balances as of May 30, 2008, are: Total Account Balances - \$23,171.24, and Total Reserve Balances - \$2,696.09. The account balance reflected the updated interest for the new ING Direct – 12 month CD and the addition of a \$5,000 educational bequest. She also attached the proposed budget file for 2008-2009. There was discussion of what type of expenses are covered in the budget and if the treasurer keeps track of donations to the organization. It was recommended that the proposed budget include a column with the previous year’s actual budget as well as a column for in-kind expenses. This will be discussed with Carolyn and then voted upon. The books need to be audited by June 30th. Ann Alexander made a motion to approve the proposed budget and Nadyne seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

E. Educational Foundation Chair, Dr. Kathy Jacobs, was not able to attend the meeting. She sent a memo stating that if anyone wants to contribute to the Eleanor Roosevelt fund for \$100/person and receive the label pin to let her know. For \$200/person you can receive the label pin plus the “20 year anniversary” lapel pin. Kathy is the Outgoing EF State Chair and the Incoming LAF State Chair.

F. LAF – Peg Prouse was not present. There is no report.

G. Public Policy Chair, Shirley Seibert, did not attend. Barbara Mullin, current Past President, will be the new Public Policy Chair. Delaware has been invited by national to submit

a proposal for an \$800 Public Policy Grant. Sixteen states have been invited to submit a proposal and only eight will be selected for funding. Coastal-Georgetown is willing to write the grant application and is seeking help from the branches in selecting, developing, and implementing the project.

H. College University Relations Chair, Kay Moses, reported that her main objective during the last two years has been to get more colleges and universities in the state to join AAUW. Delaware State University is our only partner institution at present. Although staff members at the University of Delaware have made some inquiries into our organization; they have not joined yet. Kay suggested contacting the colleges and universities again and to provide them with brochures about the “AAUW College/University Partnership Program” and “AAUW Campus Action Projects.”

I. Diversity Chair, Ada May Shipley, urged each branch to have an active Diversity Chairman and devote a monthly meeting to the topic of diversity. Plan an event and/or speaker to discuss diversity in our schools and communities. Develop a mentoring program by contacting the Mentoring Council at 1-866-DE-Mentor or at www.delawarementoring.org.

J. International Relations Chair, TruDee Burrell, submitted her report via e-mail describing the work she has been doing to write Rotary Foundation Proposals for Matching Grants, in order to help women and children in many underdeveloped countries. Through her international travels, she has attended meetings and made presentations to organizations that address women’s issues, having a positive impact in their lives. Her involvement has greatly enhanced her AAUW International Relations experiences. She is a unique ambassador of our mission and goals to women throughout the world.

K. Bylaws – vacant

L. Historian, Alice Ryan, suggested that each branch keep significant articles, documents, booklets, newspaper articles, etc. to be archived every two years. The Proclamation presented to AAUW by Governor Ruth Ann Minner for Equal Pay Day on April 22, 2008, is a good example of noteworthy items to be saved. Photos of the presentation may be found on the Governor’s webpage and on the AAUW website.

M. Bulletin/Directory – Mary Everhart recommended that Chick’s Graphics Unlimited be contracted to print “*The First Stater*.” Five hundred copies would cost one hundred and seventy-nine dollars (\$179.00), for an eight page newsletter. Contact Chick’s Graphics at graphics02@hotmail.com or call 302-398-5194.

N. Nominating – There is a need to find a nominee for State Treasurer. Carolyn Diehl has agreed to remain on until a replacement is found.

O. Webmaster – Tom Bason, has volunteered to update the Delaware AAUW website. He is willing to upgrade all web pages on the site. He can be contacted at t.bason@comcast.net and 302-645-1528.

P. Branch Reports

Coastal –Georgetown – Maria Simoes, the Outgoing President, gave a report describing the various mission based programs, speakers, and fundraisers. During her two-year tenure, Coastal-Georgetown branch has grown and now has nearly 90 members. Virginia Nee, Incoming President, also attended the board meeting.

Dover – Ann Alexander reported that the Dover branch awarded scholarships to three high school seniors in May. The group toured Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge recently guided by Tina Watson, the park ranger and a branch member. Branch activities have included several movie nights at the Schwartz Center in Dover, a book club, and an intermediate and beginner's bridge group. A highlight of the year was a luncheon at the Victorian Lady Tea House in Milford. Old Dover Days continues to be a very successful fundraiser for next year's youth scholarship.

Middletown – Diane Ash and Maria Greogors, Co-Presidents from Middletown, attended the board meeting. The Middletown branch has 25 members and meets monthly in each other's homes. They described their monthly activities in their report and that their purpose is to provide programs of interest or areas of concern to women and to raise money for scholarships to a female Middletown high school senior and two eighth grade girls who excel in math or science.

Newark – The Newark Branch was represented by Incoming President, Rebecca Johnson Melvin, who is the Special Collections librarian at the University of Delaware and Alice Ryan, our Historian. The Newark branch is an active group with interesting speaker programs, several study and interest groups, and has a monthly newsletter. The Math/Science Luncheon with Coastal-Georgetown honors 11th grade girls who excel in math and science.

Western Sussex – Pat Davidson, Branch President, had a very promising year with a membership increase from 40 to 51 members. She credits this to their very successful dinner meetings and planned programs. These programs focus on women's health issues and mission-based AAUW public policies. The spring geranium sale makes it possible to award scholarships to a high school senior, a middle school student to attend Aerospace Academy, and a fifth grader to attend Camp Invention.

Wilmington – Barbara French, President, attended and reported on the successful fundraising efforts, speaker programs, the annual four day book sale, the State Convention, and the scholarship awards. The book sale grossed \$46,614, and had a new feature on Saturday with a table of local women authors signing their books. The Scholarship committee awarded 27 grants to some very worthy and qualified students. The branch has

very popular study groups: the 3 C's book group and the Landmarks E group, which tours local places of interest. The Wilmington Branch hosted the Delaware State Convention with speakers from the Delaware Money School presenting topics on how to be "Financially Fit for Life."

VII. Unfinished Business

A. Women Graduates – USA (IFUW) – It costs \$50.00 to join and can be contacted at www.wg-usa.org and info@wg-.org.

B. Officers and Chairpersons Needed – Treasurer, Bylaws (Nancy Black), Newsletter/Directory, International Relations/College University Relations

VIII. New Business

A. Deposit Designations to Citizens Bank – Jessica Dahill, Putnam Investments, was sponsored by Citizens Bank at the State Convention. It was suggested that AAUW do some business with them. Citizens Bank interest rate was a 1.5% as a CD rate compared to the ING savings rate of 3.15%. Faith Kusterer made a motion to respond to Citizens Bank by declining the opportunity at this time as it is not in our best financial interest. Rebecca Melvin Johnson seconded the motion and it was carried.

B. MAR – June 21, 2008 –Crowne Plaza Hotel in North Baltimore, MD – Maisha Britt, Lana Cobb, and Virginia Nee are to attend.

C. AAUW Association

D. AAUW National Convention – St. Louis, MO – June 26-28, 2009

E. 2009 State Annual Meeting – Date – Location – Theme – Nadyne Rosen, Incoming Programs Vice-President to explore ideas for theme.

F. 2010 DE AAUW State Convention – Host – Date – Location – Theme – Western Sussex, Newark, and Middletown are possible hosts.

IX. Next State Board Meeting – September 13, 2008 – Location to be researched by Lana.

X. Agenda Items for Next Board Meeting – Newsletter Editor and Treasurer are needed.

XI. Announcements – Information about the Public Policy Grant forthcoming.

XII. Adjournment – Laura Singleton made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Virginia Nee seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Singleton, State Secretary

ATTENDANCE

Ann Alexander	Dover
Diane Ash	Middletown
Maisha D. Britt	Dover
Lana Cobb	Coastal-Georgetown
Pat Davidson	Western Sussex
Mary Everhart	Dover
Barbara French	Wilmington
Maria Gregors	Middletown
Faith Kusterer	Coastal-Georgetown
Rebecca Johnson Melvin	Newark
Kay Moses	Dover
Barbara Mullin	Coastal-Georgetown
Virginia Nee	Coastal-Georgetown
Dorene Petrosky	Dover
Nadyne Rosin	Coastal Georgetown
Alice Ryan	Newark
Ada May Shipley	Coastal-Georgetown
Maria Simoes	Coastal-Georgetown
Laura Singleton	Dover