



Minutes of the American Association of University Women of Pennsylvania 91st Annual State Meeting June 27, 2020 Zoom Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 10:07 a.m. on June 27, 2020. A welcome greeting was extended by the President of AAUW-PA, Ann Pehle. Ann explained the need for a Zoom meeting, given COVID-19 conditions, and introduced past presidents in attendance – Susan Nenstiel, Barbara Price, and Linda Tozier. President Pehle also introduced AAUW-PA Board members who were in attendance and noted all chairs are staying on for the next year.

AAUW-PA Board members introduced were:

Linda Tozier, Membership VP

Ajla Lausegger, Secretary

Mary Jo Buckwalter, Finance Officer

Pat Byerly, Administrative Director

Deb Roney, AAUW Funds Chair

Peggy Schmiedecke, College/University Chair

Susan Nenstiel, Bylaws Chair and Conference Registrar

Sue Johnston, District Coordinator, Central

Peggy Jennings, *Keystoner* Editor

Barbara Price, Public Policy Co-Chair

Jacqui Rogers, Public Policy Co-Chair

Linda Robbins, Archives

Jordan Glover, Diversity and Inclusion Chair.

Not in attendance: Lee Wolfe and Barbara Zaborowski.

Susan Nenstiel explained the rules relative to voting on applicable business matters and requested that those not a member of an AAUW-PA branch to abstain from voting on AAUW-PA business during the meeting.

Credentials Report. Secretary Ajla Lausegger announced that each member of the State in good standing as of the office notice of the meeting – February 1st – is entitled to one vote. She noted that Article XVI. Meetings of the Affiliate, Section 8, states, “The quorum shall be a

majority of the registered eligible voters at an election event (branch meeting, electronic voting, paper ballot voting, or other Board of Directors approved method of voting) who cast a vote.” Ajla noted that 3 branches held an election event with 50 votes cast, 111 votes were cast online, and 31 paper ballots were received. She further noted that there was a quorum to do business and moved for the adoption of the credentials. The motion was seconded by Linda Tozier (North Hills Pittsburgh Branch) and the motion passed unanimously.

Adoption of Rules of Order and Agenda. – Susan Nenstiel moved to adopt the Rules of Order and Agenda as outlined in the Yearbook on Page 10, which is in its final stages of review and has not been provided to members to date. The motion was seconded by Susan Zitnick (York Branch). President Ann called for the vote on the Rules of Order and Agenda, and they were adopted unanimously.

Minutes of the 2018 AAUW Pennsylvania Annual Business Meeting. Ajla reported on the Minutes of the 2019 State Annual Business Meeting and noted they are in the Yearbook starting on Page 9. The question was asked whether there was any objection to dispensing with the reading of the minutes. There were no objections. The Secretary asked if there were any conditions or corrections to the minutes, to which there were none. President Pehle asked if there were objections to accepting minutes by general consent, and the minutes were approved.

Committee to Review the 91st Annual Meeting Minutes. President Pehle reported that Pat Byerly (Pittsburgh Branch) and Deb Roney (Huntingdon Branch) will review the minutes of this year’s Annual business Meeting.

Nominating and Elections Committee Report. Linda Tozier gave the report of the Nominating and Elections Committee. Linda introduced the candidates presented by the nominating and elections committee for the 2020-2022 term: Ann Pehle for President and Lee Wolfe for Program Vice President. Linda dispensed with the reading of the candidate bios, which were provided to members during the election process. Ann noted that the officer election was completed via online, paper-ballot, and branch voting.

Linda reported that votes were cast by members from 27 AAUW Pennsylvania branches. The Nominating and Elections Committee received 111 votes online, results from 3 branch voting events with 50 votes cast, and 31 paper ballots. Linda noted that the paper ballots were opened by her, as Nominations and Elections Chair, per established procedure. The tallies showed 192 votes for Ann Pehle and 192 votes for Lee Wolfe. There were no votes for anyone else for these positions. President Pehle declared the election of the candidates and indicated that installation of the new officers would take place at the July Board Meeting.

AAUW Pennsylvania Board Officer Reports. President Ann indicated that this year’s individual board officer reports would be posted on the state website in July. She further indicated that the President’s letter would be on Page 4 of the Yearbook. Ann informed attendees that if they would like a printed copy of the board reports to let Pat Byerly know and she would mail them once they are posted on the website.

AAUW Pennsylvania Bylaws Proposal. The proposed amendment to state bylaw Article X. Affiliate Nominations and Elections; Section 1, Nominations, Part A was presented by Susan Nenstiel as listed on Page 11 of the Yearbook. Nenstiel moved for the proposed amendment to be adopted. The motion was seconded by Linda Tozier (North Hills Pittsburgh Branch) and Susan Zitnick (York Branch). President Pehle inquired whether there was any discussion to be had. There was an inquiry as to how we are defining “caucus.” Linda Tozier explained that it was assumed there would have been a caucus in July when there was no state meeting on odd years in July and that on even years, there would be a state convention in April, during which time would be set aside for districts to gather. That is what would be categorized as a “caucus.” Kathy Shaginaw (Makefield Area Branch) inquired about whether we can schedule a Zoom caucus this summer. President Ann indicated a Zoom caucus could be scheduled. The motion was unanimously approved by those in attendance.

Public Policy Priorities 2020 – 2022. Barbara Price (Lower Bucks Branch) indicated that the proposed Public Policy Priorities for 2020-2022 are provided in the Yearbook on Page 11. She further noted that the proposed changes reflect current changes to the state public policy agenda and current work with coalitions. Barbara noted that one change has been included, citing the addition of “reducing the unprecedented level of student debt and the high cost of college.” Barbara moved to adopt the proposed public policy priorities. The motion was seconded by Susan Rimby (Harrisburg Branch). There was no discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business. President Pehle noted that, due to the cancellation of the State Convention due to coronavirus, the Awards ceremony did not take place, but certificates were mailed for branch achievement in membership and fundraising. Pehle indicated that the certificates for the AAUW Pennsylvania member awards – Outstanding Women and Members Making a Difference—were also mailed. The individuals and branches who received certificates have been recognized in the Yearbook.

President Pehle also noted that District meetings were not held due to the cancellation of the State Convention. She indicated that Districts will need to name a representative to the 2020-2021 Nominating Committee and that the AAUW Pennsylvania officer positions to be filled are Membership Vice President, Secretary, and Finance Officer. Pehle will appoint a chair of the committee at the July 2020 Board Meeting.

No additional unfinished business was brought up by those in attendance.

New Business. President Ann asked those in attendance whether there was any new business. Kathy Shaginaw (Makefield Area Branch) asked whether AAUW PA would provide programming that could be implemented by branches. President Pehle noted that in lieu of the State Convention, programming is being developed, including a webinar with Frances Wolf, first lady of PA, and Barbara Price (Lower Bucks Branch). More content that was to be presented at State Convention will be provided. An inquiry arose as to whether the Yearbook can be e-mailed to all members. Ann noted that the Yearbook cannot be e-mailed because it is too big, but it will be distributed with a link to where the Yearbook can be downloaded.

A question arose regarding whether there would be programming focused on the anniversary of the 19th Amendment. President Pehle highlighted that the programming from the State Convention was planned to center around the anniversary of the 19th Amendment, so the AAUW-PA Board is planning to bring similar content to everyone. However, there is not specific programming outlined separately focusing on the 19th Amendment. Pehle further noted that there is a focus on promoting other programs focused on the 19th Amendment, such as the Capitol dressing up in purple and gold (August 26th) in Harrisburg.

It was further noted that the Annual Meeting is not being recorded.

Announcements. Pat Byerly (Pittsburgh Branch) indicated that she was sad about not being able to introduce a new venue for the State Convention but indicated that the next state meeting will be in July 2021. The date and venue of that meeting has not been determined yet. Byerly also noted that the next AAUW Pennsylvania Convention will be in April 2022; the date and location has not been determined. Sally Kalin (State College Branch) asked about the financial implications of cancelling the State Convention, to which President Pehle indicated there were none except for the PayPal processing fee, which had to be absorbed if someone paid online via PayPal. AAUW-PA refunded everyone's registration fee, unless the fee was submitted as a donation.

President Pehle also thanked the AAUW Pennsylvania Board for their service and is pleased that all appointed members will continue for the next term. She noted the work put into planning the 2020 State Convention since 2018, never imagining it would be cancelled due to COVID-19. She specifically thanked Lee Wolfe (Lansdale Branch), the co-chair of the State Convention responsible for the content, as well as Barbara Zaborowski (AAUW National Member) for co-chairing the event and being responsible for venue selection, logistics, and publicity and Peggy Jennings (Carlisle Branch) for taking content submissions and creating the Yearbook. President Pehle noted that she would be doing President Zoom calls during the summer.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion made by President Pehle, and the meeting was declared adjourned by acclamation at 10:45am.