

2023 AAUW PA Annual Business Meeting Minutes  
94<sup>th</sup> Edition – May 9, 2023

**Registered: 22**

**In Attendance: 21**

**CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME.** Cindy Hall called the meeting to order at 7:13pm and welcomed the members to the 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of AAUW-PA. Cindy noted the separation of the Annual Meeting and State Convention for timing purposes. Cindy further emphasized that all registrants received an announcement of the virtual Business Meeting via e-mail on April 8, 2023, while Branch Presidents received the same on February 20, 2023. Cindy thanked the registrants for their patience with virtual tool issues.

**INTRODUCTIONS.** Cindy made mention of Past Presidents on the call – Ann Pehle, Dr. Deborah Roney, and Barbara Price. Cindy noted that AAUW-PA lost two former presidents who had devoted themselves to AAUW – Linda Tozier, North Hills Pittsburgh; and Margaret McGrath, Fox Chapel Area. Cindy reflected how heavily their loss has been felt by those who knew them well on the State Board and in their branches and indicated that our thoughts are with their families and friends. Cindy recognized members currently serving on AAUW National Committees and Task Forces: Advancement: Ann Pehle (Carlisle); Public Policy: Barbara Price, Chair (Lower Bucks); Audit: Susan Nenstiel (Allentown, recently disbanded); Governance: Paula Tomko (Johnstown); and Nominations: Cindy Hall (State College). Cindy further introduced the State Board.

**VOTING PROCEDURES.** Sue Norris noted that only members of AAUW PA branches are eligible to vote in the election for state officer candidates and the proposed bylaws change. Voting was held online, on paper ballots, or at branch events and voting closed on April 30, 2023. There will be no voting for officers or the proposed bylaws change at the Annual Meeting.

**CREDENTIALS REPORT (A. Lausegger).** Ajla indicated that each member of the State in good standing as of the official notice of this meeting 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. As of May 3, 2023, there were 204 eligible voters from 26 branches registered for this meeting.

**ADOPTION OF RULES OF ORDER AND AGENDA (S. Norris).** Sue Norris indicated pursuant to AAUW Pennsylvania bylaws, Section 5 Meeting Rules Affiliate annual business meeting rules shall be proposed by the Affiliate Board of directors and considered by each Affiliate annual business meeting as its first order of business. Registrants were sent a link to the Rules of Order and to the Agenda. Cindy moved for the adoption of the Rules of Order and Agenda. Kathy Quinn confirmed a second was not needed. Members clicked a “thumbs up” to show they were in favor of the adoption of the Rules of Order and Agenda. All members gave a “thumbs up.” The Rules of Order and Agenda were adopted.

**MINUTES OF THE 2022 STATE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING.** Ajla mentioned the minutes of the last annual business meeting have been reviewed by Deb Roney (Huntingdon) and Sue Johnston (State College). A link to the minutes was sent to registrants of the meeting. Ajla stated if there was no objection, we would dispense with the reading of those minutes. No one objected. Ajla asked if there were additions or corrections to the minutes and no one responded. Ajla moved for the acceptance of the minutes as written into the record. No one objected and Cindy approved the minutes as written by general consent.

**COMMITTEE TO REVIEW THE 94<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES.** Cindy noted that Ann Pehle (Carlisle) and Sally Kalin (State College) have been asked and have agreed to review the minutes for this year's Annual Business Meeting.

**NOMINATIONS ND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE.** Sue Norris presented the candidates for the 2023-2025 term: Karen Wellin (Valley Forge)-Membership VP; and Ann Echols (State College)—Finance Officer. Sue dispensed with the reading of candidate bios, as they were provided to members during the election process. Cindy noted that because this meeting is not being held in person, the officer election was completed with online voting, paper ballots, and branch voting. Sue reiterated votes were cast by members from 26 of the AAUW Pennsylvania branches. The Nominations and Elections Committee received 204 votes online and 11 paper ballots with signatures of members on the member identification box that is separated from the ballot after verification of eligibility. The paper ballots were opened by Susan Norris as Nominations and Elections Chair per established procedure. Tallies showed 215 votes for Karen Wellin for Membership VP and 213 votes for Ann Echols for Finance Officer. In addition, there were write-in votes cast for the position of Secretary of the board. The write-ins for Secretary were Paula Tomko, Connie Kirker, and Sandra Miller. No nominees for Secretary were listed on the ballot. Cindy confirmed, given that report of votes cast by online and paper ballot, the election of candidates Karen Wellin and Ann Echols. Cindy thanked the branches for promoting the AAUW PA officer elections and further congratulated Karen and Ann. The installation of the new officers at a later date.

**AAUW PENNSYLVANIA BYLAWS PROPOSAL.** Sue Norris indicated there was one proposed change on the ballot pertaining to the AAUW Pennsylvania Bylaws. The proposed change was in Article XI Affiliate Officers. The change was as follows: The elected officers or co-officers shall be president, program vice president, membership vice president, marketing and communications vice president, secretary, and finance officer. The president, program vice president, and marketing and communications vice president shall be elected in even-numbered years. The membership vice president, secretary, and finance officer shall be elected in odd-numbered years. The proposed change to the AAUW Pennsylvania bylaws was included in the ballot. Sue confirmed votes were cast by members from 26 of the AAUW Pennsylvania branches. The Nominations and Elections Committee received 204 votes online and 11 paper ballots with signatures of members on the member identification box that is separated from the ballot after verification of eligibility. The paper ballots were opened by Sue Norris as Nominating and Elections Chair per established procedure. Tallies showed 213 votes in favor of the bylaws change and 2 against.

**NEW BUSINESS.** Cindy inquired whether there was new business to discuss. No new business was raised.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS.** Cindy mentioned the next AAUW Pennsylvania meeting—Summer Retreat—will be held in Gettysburg, PA on July 29<sup>th</sup> and that registration was available on the AAUW PA website. She further noted that AAUW PA branch awards can be found in the 2023 Yearbook which is on the AAUW Pennsylvania website and congratulated all of the winners on the awards. Cindy indicated the AAUW PA Gateway to Equity Award honors an individual, group, or organization that has shown by action and philosophy the promotion of the AAUW mission to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. She informed the members that the State’s Gateway to Equity Award went to Kate Elkins, Gail D’Urso (pronounce De’orso), Mary (Cherry) France, and Nany Sigrist from the Carlisle Branch for their Beyond Suffrage Project. Their program will be presented at the Summer Retreat. Cindy also mentioned we have a wonderful showing of branches presenting programs at the Retreat and urged members to attend. Cindy indicated all members should vote in the national election and that an email was sent on April 5 with the Subject line AAUW Election 2023 with voting information and members unique elector ID and password.

**ADJOURNMENT.** Cindy inquired if there was further business, but there was none raised. Cindy asked for a motion to adjourn the business meeting by acclamation. Sandra Miller moved to end the meeting. Kathy Quinn seconded. All members gave a “thumbs up” in favor of adjourning the 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Meeting. The meeting ended at 7:28pm.