

Indiana AAUW Board of Directors March 28, 2008



Members present – Jean Amman, Phyllis Thompson, Barbara Kanning, Susan Trout, Deb Romary, Jane Allerton, Sharon Schafer, Mary Lou Thomas, and Barbara Wellnitz.

Members absent – Marge Souers, Beth LeRoy, Carroll Parsons, Janice Greene, Treva May, and Marsha Miller.

Jean Amman called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Phyllis moved to accept the minutes of the last meeting as emailed to members and Deb seconded. Motion passed. Some discussion was held as to the need for formal minutes when we also have an actual transcript of the online meeting. The printed minutes will be the 'official' meeting minutes.

Susan received a letter from the IRS concerning our **tax filing** of Form 990. It was the feeling of those who have handled this before that this form does not need to be filed. Susan asked for clarification of student affiliate dues. Association sets their share and the state has decided no state dues would be charged to student affiliate members. There was some discussion about branches paying Association dues early to circumvent the increase. She will send a note to all branches reminding them Association dues this year are \$49. Susan feels the debit card is no longer being used and that all billings are now coming to her.

Reservations for State Convention need to be in by April 30 and this is most important for food planning. Deb suggested we make hotel reservations as soon as possible since only 8 rooms have been set aside for AAUW. Only about 2 hours after dinner will be needed for our board meeting. Deb will follow up as to time and place and let us know. Indianapolis is carpooling to the convention and making the Convention their May meeting. It would be great to get other branches to do the same.

Deb disseminated copies of **sample state convention agendas** as well as specific dialog to use during the business meeting.

Deb and Ruth Brown are working out how and when to use the **DVDs from Association** and they will certainly be a part of the summer retreat on July 26 in Bloomington.

Jean suggested that next year we set a **goal to mount an MAL campaign** to get MALs to join the state and a branch.

AAUW recently unveiled a **new position paper on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)** which can be downloaded from the national website.

Emerging leaders – Phyllis does not have any nominees at this point but Jean had received one from Dorothy Alexander of the Indianapolis branch which she turned over to Phyllis. She will put all names of prior nominees together and try for a gathering and program to recognize them – perhaps at the summer retreat.

Several **Ingenious Ideas** have been received from branches and Phyllis is putting those together for a presentation at the Convention. She will still accept entries until April 1.

Phyllis passed around the latest report from Association with branches and individuals named along with amounts given to **LAF** – nearly \$6,000, the most ever! The Project in Equity award is on hiatus until some unknown time in the future. Association has a few other programs in the hiatus status which concerns Phyllis.

Bylaws adopted in 2005 are the ones under which we are operating and were sent out to all board members. Barb W. handed out copies of the policies which had been revised at the October board meeting. This is a good model for branches to use if they do not have their own. This document has been brought up to date. She will reformat with the usual Table of Contents with page numbers. The board accepted the new document. Branch presidents should receive the policies and have them in their files for reference. Barb K. will prepare a cover letter to send with the policies to each branch president. It was suggested that the President-elect serve as bylaws chair to familiarize herself with the contents and duties. Officers should pass on information to their successor at the summer board meeting but there has been some disconnect at times.

Public policy – Jean advised the board the 2nd edition of the Woman-to-Woman Voter Turnout Manual is available online. What should the state board be doing? What should we encourage branches to do? We should know that the College Cost Reduction Act became law in September 2007 and AAUW is getting recognition for advocacy on this and several other education issues. AAUW made 1800 Lobby Corps calls in 2007.

Barb K. moved that the board appoint **Jean Stephens of Evansville** to assume the duties of Marge Souers as **Public Policy Chair** effective immediately. Deb seconded; motion passed. Jean will serve until 2009 when she will be eligible to run in her own right.

Voter education – the board's responsibilities – branches should have information about how to help and what can be done without endorsing a particular candidate. Phyllis suggested that branches not work in isolation but with other branches and organizations such as League of Women Voters. We should at a minimum encourage registration, transportation assistance, working at the polls, and reporting results to the press. We will investigate downloading and printing the Woman-to Woman Voter Turnout Manual to have it available at the State Convention.

Phyllis reported that **donations to Educational Foundation** were \$13,439.75 for the calendar year 2007. The state gave \$700 to Leadership and Training and \$3088.96 to the Association which includes the note cards, etc. Jean passed around her one copy of the new EF brochure. This is the 20th year of the Eleanor Roosevelt fund and a gift of \$200 or more will get you a special anniversary pin as well as the 2008 pin.

Jean introduced **Janet Brewer of Anderson** as the **new bulletin editor** who will take over beginning with the Fall issue. Deadline for the Summer issue is May 15 where the focus will be the summer retreat. Janet offered to present a session at the summer retreat on navigating the AAUW website. Your member number is needed to access member-only information.

Marsha has been updating the **state website** more frequently this year. Check your officer page to be sure the information is complete and accurate. The newly revised policies should be sent to her also.

Mary Lou reported we have 18 active branches in the state even though Association lists 22. If members are still paying dues from those locations, Association still keeps that location on their books – Brownsburg, Lafayette, Marion, and Terre Haute fall into this category. A new branch in West Lafayette is still trying to form and has been able to open a bank account. Mary Lou will see that the names of MALs in that area are sent to the forming branch. She will also make them aware of the upcoming state convention. Total members for the state have decreased from 880 in 2006 to 836 for 2007. Anderson and Muncie increased in membership; the others either were exactly the same or dropped. We should recognize those branches which grew in membership and the rest of the state should know about it and how they achieved their success. Retention is just as important as recruiting new members.

Deb gave the Nominating Committee report. The following slate of officers will be voted on during the business meeting at the State Convention:

- Director of Membership – Kay Depel
- Director of Finance – Susan Trout
- Director of Educational Foundation – Mary Lou Thomas
- Barb Kanning will automatically ascend to the office of President as she was elected as President-elect last year.

All of the above positions have a term from July 2008 to June 2010.

Nominating Committee chair – Deb Romary

Jean Stephens will continue in the office of Director of Public Policy as appointed to fill out the term until June 2009.

The Board voted to accept the above slate of officers to the respective offices.

Four more members were suggested for the Nominating Committee – Jane Allerton, Agnes George, Coy Halpern, and Sharon Schafer. This is a one-year term.

Barb K. presented her recommendations for appointed officers as follows:

- College/University Rep/Educational Equity/Bylaws/Resolutions – Jean Amman
- International Relations/Diversity Coordinator – Sharon Schafer
- Webmaster – Marsha Miller
- Parliamentarian/Recognition Program – Phyllis Thompson
- Communications – Jane Allerton
- Historian – Treva May
- Branch Consultant Coordinator – Beth LeRoy
- Lending Library Coordinator – Agnes George
- Newsletter – Janet Brewer

Sharon moved we accept Barb K.'s recommendations and Jane Allerton seconded. Motion carried.

Sharon Schafer – no formal report

Old business – Phyllis has been in contact with **Madison-Hanover** and hopes some members will attend the State Convention. Each consultant should contact the branch for which she is consultant to remind them of the State Convention and encourage members to attend.

Phyllis suggested asking **Warsaw** to be the host for the 2009 State Convention. If we could get a decision on this prior to this year's convention so we could announce it at that time, it would be great! Deb will pursue this.

Some branches have been **clustering** – Gary-Merrillville/South Lake County/Calumet and Michigan City/LaPorte held joint events.

The suggestion to feature branches and clustering and its benefits in a future newsletter was suggested to Janet.

Time line – newsletter contest entries are due April 1. Fort Wayne sent their entry in and Jean suggested the deadline be extended to April 15 and that Janice encourage branches via email to send in their entries. Equal Pay Day is April 22. Perhaps we could encourage branches to be pro-active next year about this.

Jane asked that branch presidents get new branch officer information to Barb K. and her as soon as possible to enable the directory to be produced earlier.

Tables will be available at the State Convention for branch exhibits. Hopefully, we can get enough new EF, LAF, and membership brochures to have available for members to take back with them.

Board meeting on May 9 – the place is not yet known but we should only need about two hours after dinner. Barb K. reminded members to get a roommate or they will need to pay half the cost of the room.

NCCWSL will be held June 5-7, 2008 – Jean has information and it is also on the national website. An application was in the president's mailing and is on our state website. Applications are due April 1 but Jean has not yet received any. Scholarships are available from Association and we have budgeted some money to assist as well. She will see about sending this information to women's studies groups if her secretary still has that mailing list. Barb K. suggested if we find an applicant and she attends the State Convention, we can pass the hat to assist with expenses. Jean will talk with the student government association and women's studies groups at Ball State for suggestions. Mary Lou will email the new group in West Lafayette to see if there is interest.

Jean reviewed our 2007-2008 goals – Jean requested all branches to appoint a liaison to the state board and out of 18, she has received 5. Only one, Ann Birkey of Goshen, is not a state board member. We need to be sure that we utilize these liaisons and communicate with them. We have been emailing board minutes to each branch and posting them on our website. It was suggested we quantify our goals in order to measure our progress.

The 2009 Association Biennial Meeting will be held June 26-28, 2009 at the Renaissance St. Louis Grand & Suites Hotel in St. Louis, MO.

April 22 is Pay Equity Day and we should promote branches to do more to get the word out about this. It was suggested that perhaps Sharon Langlotz, head of the Indiana Commission for Women, write a guest editorial and send it to all news outlets in the state.

Women Graduates-USA, Inc. has been formed by Florine Swanson to help take up the slack since we, as an Association, are no longer members of IFUW. Florine is also on the AAUW Development Committee.

Jean handed out various pieces of information.

Jean's secretary will prepare the program book for this year's State Convention and Deb's office will assume that responsibility next year. Jean reminded us that we all need to send her our reports for inclusion in this book. According to our policy sheet, these reports will be included in the State Convention program book and published on our website. She will need these reports by April 25 and they should be sent to Jean electronically.

Resolutions – the 2007-2008 ones are in our directory. Some branches use the Resolved portion of these in each of their publications. These are based on the Association mission statement. Much discussion was held on the rewording of the first Resolved. The first one would read:

Resolved that all branches of the Indiana Association of University Women be urged to become aware of the rights of and opportunities for all persons;

And a new one would read:

Resolved that all Indiana branches promote opportunities for and access to education to ensure full participation in society.

Barb K. will write the courtesy resolution.

Jean adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Wellnitz, Secretary