

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING VIA ZOOM
MAY 6, 2020
JOHNSTOWN BRANCH AAUW

Attending: Pat Grzybicki, Doris Leidy, Georgia Yeager, Valerie Grash, Claire Montoya, Kathy Howanek, Deanna Haddle, Ann Furlong, Nancy Miller and Paula Tomko.

President Pat Grzybicki called the meeting to order at 7:11 pm.

President's Report: Pat received an email indicating that the 2020 State Convention has been canceled and money will be refunded.

The Branch May business meeting has been canceled.

Paulette Solomon and Marie Olshefski will not continue as Write-Read-Write project chairs for the 2020-21 year. This year's books were delivered to Windber elementary with verbal thank yous from some of the students, but as the Covid epidemic resulted in early school closures, there will be no written thank you notes. An article regarding the project will appear in the next newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: Claire Montoya reviewed the proposed 2020-21 budget and will prepare it for emailing to the membership. The \$5.00 dues increase will take effect in the 2021-22 year.

Program VP Report: Doris Leidy reported that while all programs are on hold for the remainder of this year, Brad Clemenson and Tara Rotuna have agreed to present during the 2020-21 business year (virus permitting).

Membership VP Report: Georgia Yeager reported that our current membership total is 84 including four new paid members. Given the current pandemic situation, there may be a small welcome event for new members sometime this summer or early fall and our regular Meet and Greet/ Shape the Future event may or may not occur. The Branch has earned two free memberships via Shape the Future events. Dues should be paid in June and Georgia is aiming for an August publication of the yearbook.

Fund raising VP Report: Valerie Grash reported that the Book sale is still planned for October 14-17, virus permitting. A late summer or early fall collection MAY happen if on a limited basis. She wants to review with the Book sale committee the current process of selling collectibles and feels the online market is better for local history/interest/sports books. She also suggests the use of Google ads for the book sale and G-Suite for the sharing of documents, pictures etc. Holding of Trivia Night is also to be determined. The committee met March 11 and discussed "Text to Donate" program. On given days of the year, such as Mother's Day, Women's Equality Day, International Women's Day, the Branch would initiate an appeal for donations via text to support the Branch activities.

Committee Reports

Public Policy: Paula Tomko reported that the effect of the virus pandemic on our August Central Park event has yet to be determined and may result in a smaller event. Voter registration events will only be held if the libraries reopen to the public. This is not scheduled to happen in the foreseeable future.

Education: Nancy Miller reported that the certificates were sent to Scholarship winners and an article will appear in the next newsletter. Nancy has pictures which could be sent to the Tribune or Johnstown Magazine as recognition as the Awards banquet has been canceled. Our Branch awards are: Named

Gift: Ann Furlong and Maryann Minihan; Member Making a Difference: Laryssa Duncan; Outstanding Woman: Pat Grzybicki; Gateway to Equity: Hope 4 Johnstown. These awards will be presented at a future meeting.

By-Laws: Paula Tomko reported that 2/3 of the current members listed in the national database must approve any change to the by-laws. Right now that means 56 members. There are two proposed by laws change. The first is to ARTICLE X: BOARD OF DIRECTORS Section 1. Composition: The board of directors shall include the elected officers and the following chairs: Past President, Book Sale, Communications, Education, Public Policy and Historian. The second is the addition of the following provision to ARTICLE IX Section 1:.... The President upon completing their elected term shall serve on the Board as the Past President for a period of two years.

Nominating: Ann Furlong reported that the nomination for the President's position is now Kathy Howanek and Georgia Yeager as Co- Presidents. A new VP for Membership will be recruited.

Old Business: None

New Business:

As the May business meeting has been canceled, the business of the Branch will be conducted via a combination of online and paper notification and paper balloting. Kathy Howanek will email or mail the proposed budget, nominees for offices and by-laws changes to members by May 13, 2020. Pat Grzybicki will prepare ballots and Georgia Yeager will mail the ballots by June 13 with a response due to Pat Grzybicki by June 20. If a quorum is not reached, members will be contacted by phone beginning June 28.

Announcements: Our next board meeting will be sometime after June 30!

Following a motion by Nancy Miller and second by Ann Furlong, the meeting was adjourned at 8:43 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Kathy Howanek

Branch Secretary