



**American Association of University Women North Carolina (AAUW NC)
Board Meeting - August 18, 2021
Minutes**

Meeting Date: August 18, 2021
Meeting Time: 7 pm
Meeting Location: *ZOOM*

Board Members Present: Janet Bunger, Wendy Haner, Pat Ashe, Jane Terwillegar, Beverly Larson, Christi Whitworth, Mary Ann Bents, Kathy Pearre, Nicole Sherrill-Jamison, Melodía Gutiérrez, Adrienne Stuckey

Guests Present: Dr. LaToya Gathers

Subject	Discussion/Progress/Decisions
Welcome/Introduction	<p>Pat Ashe, President, called the meeting to order at 7:04 and opened with introductions/welcome. Dr. LaToya Gathers was introduced as a member of the Greensboro branch expressing interest in joining the Board.</p> <p>Pat reported that some phishing attempts have been made with a fake “board president” email address asking for money, and she asks all board members to verify if any emails they receive are from her before taking action on anything that seems suspicious.</p>
Approval of the previous meeting’s minutes	<p>Minutes from the previous meeting were provided via email prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Pat Ashe asked for review and approval of the meeting minutes from July 14, 2021.</p> <p>Discussion resulted in the following correction: in the Program report, edit to say that <i>American Dirt</i> is a “potential recommendation” for a proposed statewide book read rather than a final choice.</p> <p>A motion to approve the minutes with corrections was made by Wendy Haner. The motion was seconded by Melodía Gutiérrez.</p> <p>The vote for approval was unanimous.</p>
Treasurer’s Report	<p>Wendy Haner presented the treasurer’s report (APPENDIX B).</p> <p>There was discussion about several items related to the</p>

	<p>number of active members. There was disagreement about whether Lifetime Members also pay state and branch dues to be counted in the state membership numbers. Those present who are Lifetime Members stated they do. There was also discussion about levels of membership.</p> <p>According to Janet Bunger, members cannot join the state without being a branch member as well.</p> <p>Janet Bunger requested that Wendy send out an updated membership dues report after further analysis.</p>
<p>Public Policy Report</p>	<p>Beverly Larsen, Public Policy Chair, reported activity she has conducted since the last meeting.</p> <p>July - She met with public policy chairs to provide an update and some tools for advocacy in their areas.</p> <p>July - She sent an email to policy chairs with information to advocate on redistricting.</p> <p>She reported that she would like to send the state goals to public policy chairs, but the ones from the AAUW NC website are out of date, so she will do that once the proposed goals are finalized.</p> <p>Beverly also reported that AAUW NC is a lead organization at Women’s Equality Day, on August 26, 2021, on the grounds of the legislative building. We will provide a table at the event, and Pat Ashe will speak.</p>
<p>Programs Report</p>	<p>Melodía Gutiérrez, Programs Chair, reported that she held the first branch program chairs meeting on July 28 at 7pm. Fifteen of the eighteen program chairs attended to share current and proposed programing ideas across the state. Attendees expressed a desire to establish a regular meeting time for this interaction with other program chairs and the state leadership.</p> <p>Mary Ann Bents asked if branch presidents could be notified of meetings as well as the program chairs, so that an alternate can be appointed to attend these meetings if the program chairs cannot attend.</p>
<p>STEM Report</p>	<p>Christi Whitworth, STEM Chair, reported.</p> <p>Forty-two teachers participated in the two STEM professional development workshops from the summer. This represents 840 students who will benefit from what they learned about science and technology. Christi has photos from the event to load to AAUW NC materials; Pat Ashe asked her to provide them to Kathy Pearre, who will work with Mary Ann Bents to determine where to post them. There was \$639 left over that the program</p>

	<p>coordinators will be returning to AAUW NC to be disbursed for other mini-grants..</p> <p>Christi indicated she plans to provide reports to branches on further STEM initiatives for girls beginning in October.</p>
<p>Communications Report</p>	<p>Kathy Pearre, acting Communications Chair, reported. Kayla (the new part-time Communications hire) has done some initial changes to the website, but Kathy will be sending emails to the board executive chairs asking about what needs to be updated on the relevant areas of the website. This will allow Mary Ann Bents to provide short blurbs of information in <i>CONNECT</i> and then link back to the website for more details.</p> <p>Kathy Pearre reported Siobhan Murphy has resigned from making posts on social media, so we are seeking some person or persons to help with this at the rate of about 6 posts a month.</p> <p>Branches with the capacity to do so are being invited to host a statewide program through the state <i>ZOOM</i> account if they would like to.</p> <p>State <i>ZOOM</i> account usage peaked for 2021 up until May and dipped in June to August after some branches met in person and state monthly programs ended. In total, there have been 529 hours of <i>ZOOM</i> usage on the account.</p>
<p><i>CONNECT</i> Report</p>	<p>Mary Ann Bents reported that there will be monthly <i>CONNECT</i> issues sent out near the beginning of each month, with sporadic, infrequent additional issues sent only as needed. Board members were asked to send her information for the next month's issue prior to the end of the previous month.</p>
<p>Draft 2021-2022 Goals Discussion</p>	<p>Pat Ashe presented her proposed list of state goals (APPENDIX C) and requested comments and feedback. Discussion is summarized here, but Pat also asked board members to review them on their own and provide her with feedback separately.</p> <p>Beverly Larson reported that the Charlotte branch has appointed someone to champion Goal 5 in their community, and Pat Ashe reported that the Asheville branch has also achieved Goal 5 for their community.</p> <p>Mary Ann Bents recommended adding a column in the chart listing how each goal aligns with the Strategic Plan 2.0. Pat Ashe indicated that some of them are not aligned with National priorities, as they are specific to our state governance needs.</p>

	<p>Regarding Goal 1: Mary Ann Bents recommended substituting the verb “achieve” in Goal 1 with one indicating progress rather than completion (such as “progress toward”) because achieving 5-Star status is not likely to be completed in one year in most branches. She recommended identifying if any of the “star criteria” are of greater priority than others, for the board to encourage branches to focus on. However, the goal is for the state to achieve 5 Star program recognition. In the goals it is identified that only 10% or 2 branches need to be participating in 5 Star Program activities. Adrienne Stuckey and Beverly Larson shared that their branches have been doing their planning for the upcoming year by using the 5-Star Program criteria as priorities and appointing people to champion initiatives for each criterion.</p> <p>Beverly Larson suggested placing a short recommendation from the DEI Toolbox at the end of each issue of <i>CONNECT</i>, to help branches facilitate progress toward the 5-Star criteria related to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI).</p> <p>Mary Ann Bents recommended revising each objective so that they are written in measurable terms.</p>
<p>Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Discussion</p>	<p>For the sake of time, this topic was postponed to the next meeting.</p>
<p>Zoom versus in person March 2022 annual meeting/conference preferences</p>	<p>Pat Ashe asked the Board to recommend whether to plan the 2022 Annual Meeting to be virtual or in-person. The timeliness of this decision relates to the need to secure a venue for an in-person event.</p> <p>Dr. Nicole Sherill-Jamison noted that <i>ZOOM</i> fatigue is pervasive, so an in-person event might be better received by that time, if it is safe.</p> <p>Jane Terwillegar suggested holding the annual meeting (i.e., the business meeting, swearing-in new officers, and one speaker) on <i>ZOOM</i> but then holding other events around the state (such as Women’s Equality Day or Town Halls) in person. Mary Ann Bents supported this idea.</p> <p>Christi Wentworth recommended considering a hybrid event (some people attending in person, and some attending virtually) to accommodate various needs.</p>
<p>Data from AAUW open</p>	<p>Pat Ashe has gathered the national Open Membership vote</p>

membership vote	results (from Spring 2021) by state and branch. Anyone who wishes to see the full data may contact her for it. Kathy Pearre noted that participation levels seemed to correlate with whether branches had a member on the state board. She suggested that this can serve as feedback about the levels of connection members across the state feel to the state and national organization.
Next Meeting	The next meeting will be September 15 @ 7:00 pm
Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm
Notetaker	The minutes were prepared and submitted by Adrienne Stuckey, Secretary, AAUW NC.

APPENDIX A

Board of Directors Meeting

August 18, 2021 7:00 pm via Zoom

AGENDA

AAUW Mission: Advancing gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy

Strategic Goal of AAUW NC: To develop program planning, communication, and advocacy to advance the climate for women's equity in North Carolina

I. Introduction of guest Dr. LaToya Gathers (Pat Ashe, President)

II. Minutes of the July 14, 2021 board meeting (Adrienne Stuckey, Secretary)

III. Treasurer's Report (Wendy Haner, Treasurer)

IV. Committee Chair Reports

- a. Executive Committee (Pat Ashe)
- b. Public Policy (Beverly Larson, Chair)
- c. Programs (Melodia Gutierrez, Chair)
- d. STEM (Christi Whitworth, Chair)
- e. Communications (Kathy Pearre, Chair)
- f. Connect newsletter (Mary Ann Bents, Editor)

V. Draft 2021-2022 Goals Discussion

VI. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Discussion

VII. Other Business

- a. Zoom versus in person March 2022 annual meeting/conference preferences
- b. Data from AAUW open membership vote

VIII. Adjournment

APPENDIX B
Treasurer's Report

July 2021 Transaction History			
Date	Income		
7/7/2021	Gaston 12 membes	\$ 132,00	12 members
#####	MPP Dues	1.694,00	154 members
	Donations		
#####	Donation from B. Ann Vance Greensboro branch	\$ 11,00	
	Total Income	\$ 1.837,00	
	Expenses		
7/6/2021	Dream Host	\$ 15,99	Communication expense
#####	Keyla Ferretiz	\$ 75,00	Communication expense Web designer
#####	Google Workspace July 13-31	\$ 11,03	Communication expense
	Total Expense	\$ 102,02	
	As of 7/31/21		
	Checking Account Balance	\$ 26.384,82	
	Savings Account Balance	\$10.346,39	
	Grand Total	\$ 36.731,21	

APPENDIX C Proposed Goals

AAUW NORTH CAROLINA GOALS FOR 2021-2022

GOAL	OBJECTIVES	RESPONSIBLE PERSON(S)	
Achieve AAUW 5 Star Award Recognition	The requirements for each section of the program (see accompanying document)		
Address governance/sustainability/leadership	1). Review/revise the Bylaws; 2) Develop a succession plan for the board; 3) Recruit a webmaster; 4) Facilitate the process of creating a Procedures Manual		
Create an ongoing communication method(s) with and between branches for these committees: Public Policy, Programs, STEM	1) Coordinate with all branches to determine actions for selected state Public Policy Priorities; 2) Provide at least 4 branch based programs to the state membership through Zoom; 3) Facilitate participation of at least 9 branches in a STEM program and/or community STEM activity		
Appoint a Diversity Officer to lead diversity and inclusion planning and support of board and branch DEI efforts	1) Introduce board members and branch leadership to resources they have for DEI awareness, programming and actions; 2) Assist branches as requested in programming/activities for their branch; 3) Facilitate at least one DEI program from the DEI toolkit for board members		
Assist branches as needed/requested to establish a relationship with an institution of higher learning in their communities	Three branches accomplish this through establishing communications and collaboration for at least one activity		