



**American Association of University Women North Carolina (AAUW NC)**  
**Board Meeting - August 14, 2024**  
**Minutes**

Meeting Date:

Meeting Time: 5:30pm

Meeting Location: *ZOOM*

Board Members Present: Pat Ashe, Kathy Pearre, Mary Ann Bents, Tiffany Jacobs, Sandy Bernard, Millie Hoffler-Foushee, Lena Murrill-Chapman

Board Members Absent: None

Guests Present: Susan Ikerd (acting as Secretary for the meeting)

| Subject  | Discussion/Progress/Decisions   |
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| Welcome and Introductions<br><i>Pat Ashe, President</i>        | The meeting was called to order at 5:31 by Pat Ashe.  |
| Treasurer's Report<br><i>Millie Hoffler-Foushee, Treasurer</i> | <p>Four different types of reports were presented for discussion to determine which the board wants to see in the future. The report form chosen was the one with the budget and then any expenses for that month on that line. In addition the board wants to see information about the CD's. A decision was made to post this budget based report on the website quarterly, but a monthly report be made available to the board. Mary Ann asked if there is a simpler version of the 2024-2025 budget to post on the website. Pat and Millie will follow up.</p> <p>Millie asked if AAUW NC Board has a Finance Committee. Pat responded that the board acts as that committee. The Treasurer drafts a budget, the board approves, and reviews financials every month. Sandy asked if there is an internal review of finances. Pat responded that a review was completed, as required by our Bylaws, with the transition to a new Treasurer. There were no discrepancies identified nor</p> |

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|  | <p>any recommendation to the board for changes in processes.</p> <p>After discussion, it was determined not to apply for Pay Pal at present, but a solution for accepting funds electronically is desired.</p>  |
| <p>Approval of Previous Minutes<br/><i>Mary Ann Bents</i></p>                | <p>The June 19, 2024 minutes were provided for Board review. No corrections were identified. They were accepted as distributed.</p>   |
| <p>Executive Committee<br/><i>Pat Ashe</i></p>                               | <p>No meeting this month so no report</p>   |
| <p>Public Policy<br/><i>Open Position</i></p>                                | <p>Katie Pincura has moved to New Jersey and has resigned her position. Pat will contact each branch President to see if they have anyone who is interested in being the state Public Policy Chair (or Secretary as this position is open as well).</p>   |
| <p>Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion<br/><i>Tiffany Jacobs, DEI Chair</i></p> | <p>Tiffany stated that DEI is a “hot topic,” these days politically. As an example all UNC universities have been directed to end their DEI programs and efforts.</p> <p>She reported that the state DEI Chairs meet once a month on the second Tuesday by Zoom. Branch Chairs are encouraged to attend as well. The national Equity and Inclusion Committee has identified three equity priorities for focus this year: Fair pay, advancement of women in leadership, and integration of DEI with Public Policy priorities.</p> <p>Tiffany stated that she will do a Swap Shop presentation at the AAUW Atlantic Regional Conference on September 28th, titled “Curiosity, Creativity and Career Exploration,” which addresses nontraditional jobs for women such as skilled trades and construction.</p> <p>Tiffany reminded us that allyship is important in modeling opportunities for girls. “It’s embedded in our mission and that’s who we are.”</p> |
| <p>STEM Ed<br/><i>Laura Tew, STEM Chair</i></p>                              | <p>Laura reported that she continues to send out a newsletter monthly; open rate is 50%. NC is relatively unique in having a STEM leader at the state level. Pat commented that it seems like national is not actively promoting or supporting STEM activities. Laura responded that the</p>  |

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|   | <p>STEM Ed program is in its 3rd year and is active. They offer sessions presented on CANVAS. The link to the sample recorded video is <a href="https://act.aauw.org/3ulJehk">https://act.aauw.org/3ulJehk</a> and is about 35 minutes long. Laura asked the board for suggestions on how she could better support branches in STEM Ed.</p>  |
| <p>Programs<br/><i>Kathy Pearre, Chair</i></p>              | <p>Kathy reported that the state will be offering some programs this year as the number of branch supported ones has been decreasing. The first one is on October 15th presented by Holly Jones, Senior Policy Advisor for the NC Department of Justice on rape kit backlog elimination. Branches need to be encouraged to offer their programs by Zoom when possible.</p>   |
| <p>Connect Newsletter<br/><i>Mary Ann Bents, Editor</i></p> | <p>Mary Ann reported that the open rate for the August <i>Connect</i> newsletter to date is 37.1%. The due date to submit articles for the September newsletter is August 23rd. The bank card information for MailChimp was updated. 50 MailChimp unsubscribed member addresses were archived as <b>controlling</b> the number of member addresses determines the cost of our licensing plan.</p>  |
| <p>AAUW NC Website<br/><i>Mary Ann Bents</i></p>            | <p>The STEM Ed newsletters for June-August were linked to News and STEM webpages. The Join and Membership pages, branch Presidents names for FY25, and Board of Directors pages were updated. The Regional Conference information was added to the main page. A backlog of board minutes were posted. Pat and Mary Ann met by Zoom to discuss the need to take posts and other information from the website and place in the Google Docs Archives and then eliminating them from the website. They determined that this task would be very complex and time consuming and would be an ongoing project. Additional assistance may be needed to accomplish it.</p> |
| <p>AAUW Funds<br/><i>Sandy Bernard, Chair</i></p>           | <p>Sandy reported that the Greatest Funds Needs campaign raised \$8134 in NC January-June. She pointed out that Laura Tew is the highest donor; Hendersonville and Greensboro are the highest branch donors. Cape Fear donated the remainder of their treasury when they disbanded. Branches should be receiving their reports shortly so they can thank donors.</p>   |
| <p>College/University Partnerships</p>                      | <p>Pat has identified the need for a state Chair for this effort as our local AAUW member C/U's and thus representatives</p>   |

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| <i>Pat Ashe</i>                              | have been decreasing dramatically throughout the state. National has created a new C/U resource that can be used by both the state and branches to establish or bolster C/U relationships.   |
| Board Goals for 2024-2025<br><i>Pat Ashe</i> | Pat briefly reviewed the distributed discussion document of potential areas in which to write goals. One area identified was the need for a Membership Chair and Lena will assume that role. Further discussion was postponed until the September meeting. She also stated that Lena had suggested we need a strategic plan. A question to the board was to decide if we should have a planning meeting. |
| Next Meeting                                 | September 18, 2024 at 5:30 pm by <i>ZOOM</i>   |
| Adjournment                                  | The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 pm.  |
| Notetaker                                    | The minutes were prepared and submitted by Susan Ikerd, volunteer from AAUW Asheville  |