

**VT Wellesley Club Annual Meeting @ Norwich Inn, Norwich VT  
3/29/14**

Present:

Nancy Dean '49

Holly Crawford '62

Candace Neary '58

Mary Jane Clark '71

Kelly McCutcheon Adams '93

Carolyn Elliot '59

Eileen Crehan '08

Margie Cook '59

Carla Staffaroni '13

Caitlin Waddick '96

Annie Crawford '00

**Business Meeting**

*After a warm and robust introduction of each member present, President Caitlin Waddick called the meeting to order. Annie Crawford served as interim secretary.*

Programming - discussion

- General:
  - Discussion of joining with NH club for meetings.
    - Caitlin noted that she had reached out with mixed reaction; however this is something that was successfully done in the past and could be revived.
  - Group expressed benefits/desire for meetings to become more cyclical. If we have a reliable rhythm for meetings, we'll have better success with fundraising/attendance/and feeding other programs like the book award and book sale.
  - Summer potlucks have been great fun, but attendance has been mixed.
  - Time the annual meeting with the book sale so that folks can deliver books to a volunteer coordinator for the sale? Or consider moving annual meeting to fall so that volunteers could conceivably do both with less infringement on their time...
  - There are ~340 members in our area, and we do a lot considering the size of our club.
  - Email is a good way to communicate, but paper is still essential (in addition) for fundraising/admin purposes.
  
- Book Sale:
  - Who organizes the sale for Wellesley?
    - This was unanswered... it appears to mostly – or solely?- be Nancy Dean. Mary Jane Clark is involved with sorting as an appraiser, but is not involved in the planning/promoting.
  - How is attendance at the book sorting day?
    - Has been low, according to Mary Jane and Nancy.
    - Attendance at the book sale its self has been easier to recruit for.

- Book Award program
  - Gave 31 “Norton Book of Women’s Lives” in ’13. Kelly contacts 32 schools in March. In April & May a junior h.s. girl is nominated. In May and June, Kelly wraps and mails book to the high school before their award ceremony.
  - Kelly expressed that she’s happy to continue to do this on her own, but it’s essential that the club continues to raise the \$900/year to continue this program.

Treasury Report - discussion

- Per Nancy’s handout:
  - Balance on hand 6/12/13           \$4,432.15
  - Income as of 3/29/14           \$1,780.00 (\$705 dues, \$820 Books, \$255 senior gifts)
  - Expenses as of 3/29/14       \$1,334.51 (additional expenses still to come before year-end)
  - Balance on hand 3/28/14       \$4,877.62
- Last year we had hoped to get a cycle ahead for book awards, but it’s time to let that go. In the spring, we fundraise for books we’re sending out that same spring. We did solicit in the fall, but it didn’t yield much.

Officers – vote

- In a unanimous vote, Eileen Crehan was voted in as president, Annie Crawford was voted in as vice president, and Kelly McCutcheon Adams was voted in as treasurer.
- Annie served as interim secretary, for this meeting, and Kelly continues on as book award coordinator.
- It was noted that the Alumnae Leadership Council meets annually in October. The college pays for hotel and meals and our club will pay for gas for up to 3 people in the club to attend.

Changes to the Bylaws – vote

- Go to Wellesley College/Alumnae/Volunteer for information about club bylaws.
- Per Eileen’s handout of proposed bylaw changes:
  - 1) The Vermont Wellesley Club will hold at least one annual meeting.
  - 2) Elections for board officers will be held every two years. The offices of President and Vice President will be elected one year and the Secretary and Treasurer will be elected the following year at the general meeting. Should situations arise in which current board members are unable/unwilling to complete their term, paper ballots in the form of a mailing will be used to contact dues-paying members to approve interim officers. (Shifting the start of terms for the officers so they are one year offset, so we are not restarting with a whole new board every two years.)
  - 3) The fiscal year for the club will now run from July 1 to June 30 to be consistent with the college.
- The above changes to the bylaws were approved unanimously.

- Nancy Dean volunteered to review all the bylaws more comprehensively to suggest changes which would bring the bylaws in line with our current practices.

### Spending Guidelines – discussion

- We have a very healthy balance in our account, but we don't have any way to evaluate a spending proposal. Caitlin lead a discussion which focused on what types of activities/programs the club would feel comfortable spending on.
- Why does our club exist? What is our purpose? – don't want to see us getting afield from our purpose:
  - Things that connect us more to the college
    - Currently: book sale, alumnae leadership weekend
  - Creating connections among Vermont alums
    - Currently: annual meetings, teas, potlucks, etc.
    - Suggested:
      - send paper mailing to nearby NH and NY alums (?)
      - Invite new VT or young alums to attend first annual meeting “on the club”.
  - Things that connect prospective students to the college
    - Currently: book award
  - Things that connect current students to our club
    - Currently: senior care-package
    - Suggested: care-package or letters at mid-terms or finals...or during 1<sup>st</sup> exam period of first-year. Would be so nice to know someone is thinking of you! A letter, note, snacks, \$5 bill, roll of quarters, sewing kit...
- No decisions were made about spending guidelines.

*The business meeting was closed by President Caitlin Waddick.*

### **“Insider Trading” presentation/discussion**

- Attendees were invited to share their “insider trading” ideas in an informal presentation/discussion.
  - Carolyn Elliot shared her experiences traveling in Iran for 3-weeks
  - Kelly McCutcheon Adams shared her methods for successfully sending note cards for birthdays
  - Mary Jane Clark discussed how to clean out your attic, or your parent's attic
  - Caitlin Waddick shared her ideas about living with tweens and how to create a healthy family dynamic.