

Thursday, February 25, 2016

Minutes of the LWVLA Board Meeting Thursday, February 25, 2016 Mesa Public Library, Los Alamos, NM

Called to order

Barbara called the meeting to order at 12:07 pm.

Board members present:

Barbara Calef, President
Karyl Ann Armbruster, Lunch with a Leader
Tarin Nix, Membership
Lynn Jones, Voter Services & Observer Corps;

Rosmarie Frederickson, Co-Treasurer
Kathy Taylor, Budget Committee Chair
Amy Birnbaum, Reservations

Guests: Akkana Peck, LWVNM Webmaster; Dave North, Member

Review of January Minutes

January minutes will be approved next month.

Non-Partisan Policy

Barbara gave a short explanation of the non-partisan policy that she sent out this morning. Every league is required to have a non-partisan policy that they review each year. Barbara liked the Las Cruces version, and so made changes to that document to arrive at the current proposed version. We will discuss it next month.

Treasurer's Report

Rosmarie reported that our current book balance is \$5,413.34. We had \$229.42 in disbursements, consisting of \$140.35 to the Blue Window for the Legislative Preview dinner, and \$89.07 to Aspen Copies for the LWVLA Brochure. We had \$.05 in interest. Our Savings Account balance is \$2,144.80. Our Ed Fund had one donation deposit of \$150, with a final balance of \$19,057.64.

Lunch with a Leader

Karyl Ann reported that Utility Manager Tim Glasco will be our March 15th speaker at LWL; PBS NM In Depth Moderator Gene Grant will be our April 19th speaker; and LWVNM President Meredith Machen will be our May 17th speaker. Suggestions for future speakers included Chamber of Commerce Manager Nancy Partridge and County Council Vice Chair Susan O'Leary.

Membership Report

Tarin reported that we have 60 members currently active. She had the league roster up-to-date for the LWVUS counting of active members on January 31st. The next membership renewal email should go out April 1 since the membership renewal date is April 30th. Kathy Taylor has a need for the numbers of single and family and regular and sustaining memberships, so Tarin will start keeping that in her database. Rosmarie can also provide that information.

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Observer Corps Report

Lynn reported that the County Council appointed Bill McKerley as the new Probate Judge to fill the position being vacated by Christine Chandler. The appointed position is only through December of this year, and not for the remaining term, which would be December of 2018. Council wants a new Probate Judge to run for election this fall. This came as a surprise to the applicants at the County Council meeting. Lynn also reported that the Fuller Lodge renovations began in February and were expected to be completed by December; the Canyon Rim Trail has been contracted and should be done by fall; the Central Avenue upgrades will take place this summer; and the Western Area and Denver Steels Phase 2 Improvements will take place this summer.

Program Planning Party Results

The Program Planning participants chose to support "Making Democracy Work" as our league's goal for next year. They had a discussion about adding climate change as a top tier priority, but did not have a consensus. For suggestions for LWVUS program priorities, the conclusion was that climate change is a vital national issue, but one better led by other organizations that specialize in the environment, in order to keep our resources working towards campaign finance reform, expanding voting rights and holding fair elections. They also discussed conducting a local study of the need for vocational classes for high school students and radioactive waste issues, but again there was no consensus. Barbara would like a study of the impacts of transferring BLM and Forest Service lands to New Mexico. Barbara and Akkana and Lynn are likely study participants. We voted to approve the outcome of the Program Planning Party.

Fund Drive Party

The Fund Drive Party will be held at Amy Birnbaum's on March 3. Rosmarie will bring the stationery and lists for about 80 letters. She will also bring cookies. A Friendly Reminder needs to go out before this party.

Annual Meeting

Our LWVLA Annual Meeting is on April 19th at Mesa Public Library. It will start at 11:45 a.m. with Lunch With a Leader with Gene Grant as our speaker, and move into the Annual Meeting at 1:00 pm. Kathy Taylor is completing the proposed budget to be presented at the meeting. The current board member nominations are as follows:

- Wendee Brunish, President
- 1st Vice President unfilled
- Becky Shankland, Second Vice President
- Barbara Calef, Secretary
- Kathy Taylor, Treasurer
- Tarin Nix, Membership
- Karyl Ann Armbruster, LWL
- Lynn Jones, Voter Services and County Council Observer
- Julie Williams-Hill, BPU Observer, assistant webmaster
- Amy Birnbaum, Reservations
- Akkana Peck, Board Member at Large
- Rosmarie Frederickson, Board Member at Large

Karyl Ann moved to approve the slate, and Amy seconded. It passed unanimously.

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Note: The agreement between Barbara for Secretary and Julie for BPU Observer came later that day.

Legislative Session Report

Tarin reported that the Real ID bill passed the legislature. It is not a good bill because eventually any illegal immigrant will be required to give fingerprints, which is not going to happen. So effectively they have denied these people driver's licenses as of 2018. We discussed the Ethics Bill and the stumbling that took place there.

LWVNM Council

The LWVNM Council will be held here in Los Alamos at the NM Consortium on May 21st. It was decided that the registration fee would be \$20 and include lunch from the CO-OP. La Palabra will be going out beforehand, and will have an announcement regarding the Council. Attorney Yvonne Flores from Las Cruces will speak on the subject of immigration.

LWVUS Convention

The LWVNM Convention is in Washington, D.C. on June 16 – 19. We can send two delegates, presumably Wendee and one other. More members may attend, but only two will be paid for by the league. Sometimes other leagues are not able to send delegates and may appoint another league's members as their voting delegates. The registration deadline is in May.

Newsletter Deadline

The next newsletter input will be due March 11th.

Next LWVLA Board meeting

The next LWVLA Board meeting is scheduled for March 31st.

Adjourned

Barbara adjourned the meeting at 1:50 pm.

Lynn Jones, 3/6/2016