

**LWVLA Board Meeting, Mesa Library, 12 p.m., Thursday, March 30, 201**

Members Present: Barbara Calef, Karyl Ann Armbruster, Becky Shankland, Akkana Peck, Julie Williams-Hill, Jody Benson, Lynn Jones, Tarin Nix

**Approval of agenda: Added: Discussion on bylaws and articles of incorporation**

**Review February minutes (Rosmarie)**

**The minutes were approved as corrected** (the final is the 3/31 version distributed by Becky).

**Treasurer's Report (Kathy) including report on March 28 meeting in Santa Fe  
Draft Budget**

Kathy sent the treasurer's report electronically. The expenditures were a check to the LA Monitor for the advertisement for the UNMLA/School Board election forum and \$49 for stamps.

**February Ending Book Balances:**

Savings account is **\$2,145.97.**

Checking account is **\$3,426.38**

Ed fund is **\$19,272.75**

Becky reported on costs for the special newsletter mailing:

Newsletter printing and envelope inserts (Aspen Copies) \$95.79

Stamps for mailing (in addition to some Kathy already bought) \$10.50

**Total \$106.29**

(For next budget purposes, the total cost for stamps for mailing a newsletter if one included Kathy's would be around \$35.)

**Lunch with a Leader (Karyl Ann)**

Karyl Ann will invite Naomi and Gloria Maestas from the County Clerk's office to discuss voting procedures in June. Further discussion: Karyl Ann won't be here in July; she is leaving Sunday Jul 16. We'd tentatively planned on asking Lynn Bjorklund for July. Becky might not be here in July, Barbara may not be here in August. Becky thinks it's okay to skip a month. We decided to wait and discuss it at a later meeting.

**Discussion on changing Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws.**

At a March 28 meeting in Santa Fe, Tom Carson gave a long talk on converting the LWV from 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4). Our current activities clearly qualify us to be 501(c)(3), which means that all income from memberships will be tax-deductible and the treasurer would no longer have to keep two separate columns for 501 (c)(3) and 501 (c) (4).

The discussion focused on the need to change our Articles of Incorporation submitted to the Secretary of State in 1952 along with our bylaws. With the bylaws, organizations previously were required to submit every change to the Secretary of State—this is no longer required.

The discussion continued with Kathy's e-mail of 03/30/17.

We decided that since the changed wording would be in both the bylaws and the Articles of Incorporations, we could vote on both together.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the bylaws changes as proposed in the newsletter, and, as needed, the language in Articles 1, 2, 3, and 13 of the amended bylaws for inclusion in our Articles of Incorporation. Moved by Akkana, seconded by Julie. Approved unanimously.**

There was a discussion as to whether we need an additional article in the newsletter explaining the 501c3 change. Barbara doesn't think most members would be interested in the details, except for information that dues will be deductible

#### **Membership Report (Becky and Lynn))**

Most members re-up at the annual membership meeting. Lynn has access to the official records and is updating the database.

#### **Observer Corps Reports (Lynn, Julie)**

- The director of the library left for a better position in Seattle. The County is advertising nationwide.
- The CDD has become responsive to the public and has streamlined the permitting process. Michael Arellano is the new permit inspector. Susan O'Leary restated at the Council meeting her response to the LWVLA about her concerns with losing the Los Alamos Public Health Office. The Council is looking for a path forward. Discussion followed on whether we should go to the School Board and ask for the Schools to host the office at LAHS. The consensus was that it would be good to have one at LAHS, but the office would be better served if the Council provided a space and a nurse if DoH will not.
- The Board agreed to include Lynn's letter in the Observer Corps section and note that the Board followed up on the issue with this letter. (See appendices.)
- The last meeting of the BPU, members approved the FY18 budget. Staff will return next month to further explain the 10-year forecast for electricity production.
- In regard to the Long-Range Water Supply Plan, James Alarid met with people who had concerns. Steve McLin was happy with the final plan. The plan was passed by BPU; however, some Council members had problems with some language. Also, some Councilors felt that there was too much emphasis on developing the San Juan water rights. Council did not adopt the Long-Range Water Supply Plan. Rather, they sent it back to BPU.

- Councilor Izraelevitz made a public comment in February asking BPU to reconsider adding language to the natural gas rate ordinance. Specifically, language to sunset the pass-through rate structure after a duration of time. At the March meeting the BPU members felt that a sunset clause wasn't needed for the gas rate. If it is determined at a future date that the rate structure needs to change, BPU will change the ordinance at that time.
- In April the BPU will discuss the Long-Range Water Supply Plan and rate increases of 8% for both water and wastewater.

*(Notes by Akanna, starting at 1:30)*

### **LWVNM Convention**

The LWVLA needs three volunteers attending LWVNM Convention-May 20-21

Becky will attend. Akkana and Barbara will attend as LWVNM Board members. Lynn thinks she can go. Julie and Karyl Ann are interested but have potential conflicts and can't commit. Rosmarie and Kathy were suggested.

The Convention is only half a day each on Saturday and Sunday, starting at noon Saturday, ending at noon Sunday. The Saturday night dinner (Valerie Plame) is optional. In addition, there's an optional Friday night reception at Meredith's house. Julie, Karyl Ann, and Rosemarie should tell Barbara ASAP whether or not they can go.

### **Newsletter**

Newsletter deadline should be some time around April 5. It will need to include information on the County Council, BPU, and Lunch with a Leader.

### **Other Topics**

The County Council meeting on April 4 discussing Pete Sheehey's resolution on treatment of immigrants and refugees conflicts with a water discussion at PEEC.

Karyl Ann says the school board may be talking soon about the issue of trans-children as well as what to do about ICE.

### **Appendix 1: Letter to Becky Shankland from Councilor Susan O'Leary**

Hi Becky, thanks to you and the League for attending the Council meeting last week and sharing your letter about the Public Health Nurse vacancy. I share your concern about the lack of services in Los Alamos and find it an unacceptable and incredibly disappointing situation. The League's letter and your presence at the Council meeting helped to add urgency to the need to resolve the issue.

I've been working on this behind the scenes for months now and have had a number of discussions with Andrea Cunningham, the Community Health Council, individual councilors, Stephanie Garcia Richard, and the County Manager. Since last September when the position

was vacated, some Councilors and the County Manager have tried to work with DOH to find a satisfactory solution that brought services back to town. We've had a series of meetings with DOH including with the Department Secretary. We found out recently that DOH is not going to put resources in Los Alamos that meet our needs anytime in the near future.

Next steps for Los Alamos County are not clear. The issue is complicated with complex funding and health regulations at both state and federal levels. The solution may or may not involve the school district. The small number of medical providers in Los Alamos County complicates the possible solutions. I have become increasingly frustrated by the lack of clarity around our choices.

Two weeks ago, I asked County Manager Burgess if his staff could prepare an analysis that identifies the various options for providing services and their associated pros/cons and cost implications. He agreed to prepare this analysis and suggested that we use it to discuss a path forward with a group of community members, including the school district. We expect to have that meeting in the next few weeks. It's my hope that we quickly chart a path forward and begin implementing it soon.

To inform the public, and in response to your letter, I mentioned all of this during councilor comments at our council meeting last night. I wanted to contact you directly to share this information in case you missed the meeting.

Please let me know if you have any questions or suggestions. This issue is at the top of my list of priorities as a councilor. I will do whatever I can to see that the County resolve it as soon as possible. Regards, Susan