

**Minutes of the LWVLA Board Meeting
Thursday, August 31, 2017
Mesa Public Library, Los Alamos, NM**

Call to Order

Barbara Calef called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Barbara Calef, Co-president
Becky Shankland, Co-president
Amy Birnbaum, Arrangements
Kathy Taylor, Treasurer

Julie Williams-Hill, BPU Observer
Rosmarie Frederickson, Secretary
Akkana Peck, Director-at-Large (DAL)
Lynn Jones, Voter Services
Jody Benson, Publicity

Review of July Minutes

The July minutes were reviewed and accepted as presented.

Treasurer's Report

Kathy reported that for July we have an ending checkbook balance of \$6,737.42. We received \$95 dues from Judith Buckingham & Robert Williams and a donation from Andy Fraser of \$25.00 for total income of \$120.00. Disbursements in July were \$400 for the 501(c)(3) application filing fee. Our savings account earned 9 cents interest for a balance of \$2,146.42; and our Ed Fund beginning and ending balances were \$19,272.75. .

Lunch with a Leader

In Karyl Ann's absence Barbara reported that Karyl Ann arranged for Lynn Bjorklund and Jennifer Sublett both with the Forest Service for the September meeting and Naomi Maestas, County Clerk, and Gloria Maestas, Elections Manager; for October. In November we hope to have Julianna Koob of Planned Parenthood.

Nuclear Waste Study

There will be an evening meeting on November 2nd to address issues coming out of the State study committee on Nuclear Waste. Karen Douglas will make a PowerPoint presentation which Kathy Taylor will present. The nuclear waste comes primarily from highly level radiation material. There were several ways suggested to handle the meeting, for instance have a panel

of several speakers. Many people attending the meeting will have a high level of expertise in the field and one person handling difficult questions might be very difficult and stressful.

There are already several excellent study questions available -- these might serve later as consensus questions and for the present make excellent background material.

Amy will see if she can reserve the Lecture Hall in Building 2 of UNM-LA.

The presentation will be filmed by PAC 8.

Accepting Online Payment

There was a short discussion on whether to use PayPal to collect monies for membership dues and donations. Many other Leagues already use this service. I might make the treasurer's job easier because PayPal will take over some of the check writing. Some people thought it might be too expensive and that there have been problems with the service. Kathy will look into it further, find out fees and how to set it up.

Membership Report

Becky reported that she was able to add seven more people to the National Data Base, which had somehow been dropped. There were eight members that rejoined and so we have 71 members.

Our September Social meeting is scheduled for September 7th. After discussion, we decided to invite Tarin Nix to explain how citizens can interact with the NM legislature, and Councilor Rick Reiss to discuss the County's view of the recent NM legislative session. The board will bring 'hearty appetizers' for the social, and newspaper advertisements and articles should appear on August 31. Julie will put the event up on Facebook and our webpage earlier – say August 21st. The Face book page allows readers to indicate tentative attendance, which would be nice to know – plus they get reminders of the event. Our newsletter (Update), which comes out next week, will have a link to the webpage and/or Face book page. It was also suggested that Voices of Los Alamos might want to make a statement at the social.

Observer Corps

County Council: Lynn reported that the County Council passed unanimously a proclamation honoring the contributions of immigrants to Los Alamos. Harry Burgess, County Manager reported that he has issued 223 Notices of violation with the ordinance to keep a neat front lawn. It was reported that even the Dept. of Public Utilities received a NOV about the house on North Road and Diamond Drive. Lyn further reported that the council has voted to allocate the existing Capital Improvement funds to fund a splash pond, golf course improvements, improvements to the existing ice rink and a warm water pool. The council has appointed a committee (James Chobocinski, Pete Sheehey and Chris Chandler) to study the Sherriff and police department question.

BPU: Julie reported that a Public hearing was held on an ordinance to raise the non-potable water rate. The board approved the ordinance. It will now go to the Council to be considered for adoption on September 26th.

The customer satisfaction survey was presented to the Board. One of the questions asked citizens their level of support for the County to pursue nuclear energy as a possible option to replace energy from the San Juan Generating Station which is coal fired. Approximately 75% of residents strongly agree that the County should consider this option.

Voices of Los Alamos

Becky , Barbara and Karyl Ann attended a meeting with the Voices of Los Alamos. They made a presentation about the goals and XXXX of the League of Women voters. They invited the group to come to the upcoming LWV Social of Sept. 7th. It was also decided to invite the group to the upcoming Lunch with a Leader.

Mandy Marksteiner

Mandy Marksteiner has several times offered to work with the LWV. Barb reported that she was unsure what Mandy might do and whether she would charge for her services. One of the suggestions was that she format the newsletter this month.

September Newsletter

The newsletter deadline is September 5.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on September 28, 2017.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:48p.m.