

**Minutes of the LWVLA Board Meeting
Thursday, September 28, 2017
Mesa Public Library, Los Alamos, NM**

Call to Order

Barbara Calef called the meeting to order at 12:00 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 August Minutes

The August minutes may be filed as presented.

Treasurer's Report

Kathy reported that the end of August we have an ending checkbook balance of \$5246.48. We received \$45 dues from Ellen Mills for total income of \$45.00. Disbursements in August were \$1536.00 to pay for the National PMP to LWV. The savings account earned 9 cents interest for a balance of \$2,146.51; and the Ed Fund ending balance was \$19,372.75 after a donation from Richard and Marilyn Foster of \$100.

Lunch with a Leader

In Karyl Ann's absence Barbara reported that Karyl Ann has arranged for Naomi Maestas, County Clerk, and Gloria Maestas, Elections Manager, to speak at the October meeting. In November Julianna Koob and Marshall Martinez have agreed speak about reproductive services of New Mexico.

Planning for future meetings of LWL, the board expressed a desire to hear from the Voices of Los Alamos. It was also decided to meet on December 12 instead of December 19th. Many people will be traveling during the later date.

PED Hearings

The PED gave notice that it intends to make some changes to the Next Generation Science Standards. To give public input, there will be a meeting

at Mabry Hall in the Jerry Apodaca Education Building at 300 Don Gaspar Ave. in Santa Fe. During this public comment period attendees are allowed 3 minutes to make a statement concerning the changes. Written comment will also be accepted at the meeting.

On Wednesday Oct. 4th at 7:00pm PEEC will hold an educational meeting about the NM Public Education Department's (NMPED) recently released proposed changes to update school science standards. There will be a presentation by Siobhan Niklasson about what the changes mean for science education in the New Mexico.

Julie will remind people on the Social Media sites that it is important to comment on the changes either in a letter or on-line. If these changes are adopted in New Mexico, it will require changes in new text books being readied for July 18th distribution and it will be difficult to reverse the adverse effect on NM students.

Nuclear Waste Study

There was much discussion about the evening meeting planned for November 2nd to address issues coming out of the State study committee on Nuclear Waste. Karen Douglas has made a PowerPoint presentation which Kathy Taylor has viewed and is willing to present. The nuclear waste comes primarily from spent fuel and Kathy hopes that people will adhere to the scope of the discussion. There was again a discussion about the format of the meeting. Several names were suggested to help Kathy field questions. Dee Rau and Don Krier were suggested and Becky and Jody were tasked to query friends and husband to see who might be willing and knowledgeable to be able to do that task.

The Jeanette Wallace Room in building 5 has been reserved. There should be a place for literature and Amy should make arrangements for microphones. There will be hearty snacks from 6:30 pm to 7:00 pm and the meeting will be finished at 9:00pm.

The presentation will be filmed by PAC 8, but it was mentioned that the lecture hall has much of the equipment necessary to do that and Amy was to find out about cost and availability.

Membership Report

The membership report from Becky was that there are currently 71 members. There are seven new members:

1. Ellen Mills
2. Joan Lucas
3. Linda McCormick,
4. Elena Georgi,
5. Jack and Beverly Shlachter
6. Cas Mason.
7. Elaine Jacobs has rejoined.

There are still six members that have not renewed their membership. Becky will contact them again about renewing their membership.

There was discussion that the membership party was a nice success. There were at least two members that joined after attending the party and finding out more about the League. It was decided that maybe it would be a good idea to have a social get together several times a year. Amy agreed to talk to Unquarked to see if they might be interested to allow us to meet in their restaurant.

Observer Corps

County Council: Lynn reported that the County Council had two meetings and neither meeting had many issues that were of interest.

The Council did vote to raise the non-potable water rate from \$1.15 to \$2.50 per acre/foot.

BPU: Julie and Lynn reported on the joint meeting of the Board of Public Utilities and County Council to discuss the wastewater treatment plant replacement in White Rock. There was discussion that Board and Council could approve an ordinance to allow the Department of Public Utilities (DPU) to transfer excess funds from the gas fund to the waste water fund to get the project started and allow the DPU to get an excellent interest rate for

the loan necessary to pay for the new treatment plant. No action was taken at the meeting.

Lynn agreed to review the articles in the Monitor about the chromium plume and the testing of the resulting contamination.

There was a short discussion about the announcement of Greg White filing to run for sheriff. The current sheriff, Lucero, is term limited. Since the office of the sheriff and his duties has been such a big issue, this is an important issue to watch.

October Newsletter

The newsletter deadline is October 5.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on October 26, 2017.

Adjournment

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