

**Draft Minutes of the LWVLA Board Meeting
Tuesday September 25, 2018
White Rock Public Library, Los Alamos, NM**

Call to Order

Barbara Calef called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Barbara Calef, Co-president

Sandra West, Newsletter Editor

Leslie Wallstrom, 2nd Vice President

Amy Birnbaum, Arrangements

Lynn Jones, Voter Services

Kathy Taylor, Treasurer

Rosmarie Frederickson, Secretary

Karyl Ann Armbruster, Lunch with a Leader

Akkana Peck, Director at Large

Jody Benson, Publicity

Ellen Mills, Director at Large

Julie Williams-Hill, BPU Observer

After a review of the August minutes and a request by Lynn Jones that she be listed as present at the meeting, they were accepted as revised.

Treasurer's Report

At the end of August, the general fund balance was \$5744.92. The receipts totaled \$2115 of which \$1400 were donations received from the LWV fund drive. Dues collected amounted to \$695. The disbursements for the month were \$55.84. The expenditures consisted of \$15.50 for replacement stamp at Aspen Copies, and \$40.34 for reservation of the domain name.

The savings account had \$19,962.26 on August 31, 2018.

Kathy reported that the LWVUS Ed Fund Manager has agreed that there was a discrepancy and that there will be a check for \$798.00 shortly, which will close the Ed Fund.

Lunch with a Leader

Lunch with a leader will be on October 16, at Graves Hall at the United Church at 11:45 a.m. Linda Daly will be the speaker. She has been the CEO of The Family YMCA since 1999 and is retiring at the end of October after 20 years of service. She will talk about the Y and other nonprofits, their needs, and the good they do for our community.

There will be no November LWL meeting.

For the December 11th Meeting Karyl Ann will invite Ellen Ben-Naim of the Los Alamos First Born program and Molly McBranch, the former director, to come and

give a presentation. If they are-not available Barbara suggested Laura Paskus, a journalist who writes about water issues. Sue Barns, who leads the Zero Waste Subcommittee, may also have an interesting program.

Membership Report

Becky reported via e-mail that at present there are 75 members who have paid dues. She wrote reminders to members who had not written their membership checks.

Voter Services

National Voter Registration Day was September 25. Several League board members have volunteered to participate. Mark and Lynn Jones, Ellen Mills, Leslie Wallstrom and Jody Benson volunteered to register voters at PEEC, UNM-LA and Starbucks.

Voter Guide.

Lynn reported that she had delivered the manuscript to Bonnie Gordon at the Daily Post on Sept. 20th. She did not get a date for when she could pick up the extra hard copies. The Voter Guide will be inserted in the October 4th mailing, which goes to every address in Los Alamos.

Candidate Forums

There will be two candidate forums, one on Thursday, September 27 and the other on Wednesday, October 3. Both will be in Building 2 of UNM-LA.

The meetings will start at 7:00 pm after refreshments at 6:30pm. The board has been requested to bring finger food. Becky will send out a friendly reminder asking for donations for the refreshment table from League members.

PAC 8 has been hired to tape both forums. There will be ads in both the Monitor and the Daily Post. Julie will be asked to post on the Facebook page and Twitter.

September 27 Barbara Calef will moderate. On October 3 Leslie and Ellen will moderate. Barbara requested that Leslie moderate for the magistrate judge and sheriff candidates and Ellen moderate for the municipal judge and NM House District 43 candidates.

All candidates for County Council will participate in the first forum.

Also participating will be Anne Nobile, running unopposed for Probate Judge, and a speaker to explain the North Central Regional Transportation District (NCRTD) reauthorization ballot issue. We have not yet been notified who will be the speaker for this issue.

The second forum will have the following participants:

NM House District 43 candidates and the candidates for Magistrate Judge, Municipal Judge and Sheriff. NM House District 43 candidates will present last. It will allow for more questions if there is a little spare time.

Also participating will be Ken Milder, the candidate for County Assessor. He is running unopposed.

Naomi Maestes has agreed to attend both forums and will give a short talk about voting places, machines and early voting.

Amy has met with UNM-LA officials and given instructions on how the room (the Student Center room) will be set up. The room will have tables for the candidates' brochures and there will be a table for refreshments.

Report on Early Childhood Education Forum.

Barbara reported that the Early Childhood Education Forum was a success. There were about 70 attendees. All age groups were represented.

Leslie felt that we were late in getting out some of the announcements. She was hanging posters the day before the Forum. The board agreed that there was good coverage in both papers and on Facebook.

Charles Sallee, Deputy Director of the New Mexico Legislative Finance Committee and an expert in evaluating state agencies and education programs was well received and gave an interesting talk. There was some discussion that maybe 9:00 pm was too late to end the meeting. Some people left before the meeting was adjourned.

There was a consensus of the board that it was difficult to hear the speakers. Next time the audio equipment should be checked before the meeting.

PAC 8 has taped the Forum and Julie will post a link on LWVLA's Facebook page to where it can be viewed.

BPU Report

Julie reported that at the August 15th BPU meeting the following actions were taken:

- Sewer Rate increase passed the BPU and will go to the County Council meeting of Sept. 25.
- Advanced Metering Infrastructure (smart meters) - A motion was made to approve the contract and purchase and install the AMI; however, the motion died for a lack of a second.
- Presentation to the BPU on the status of the new utility billing software as part of the County's new ERP Munis software.

Report on the September 19th Board of Utilities Meeting

- The AMI contract was again presented by the staff to the BPU for approval. The item was tabled until the County attorney could gather additional information and clarification on the privacy issues and the New Mexico State Sunshine laws dealing with IPRA (Inspection of Public Records Act). Also, the BPU adopted a policy a year or two ago that DPU customers could not opt out of a smart meter. A future BPU meeting will reconsider this policy position.
- Request for a change order and budget revision of drilling of the new drinking water well - Otowi #2. The contractor has run into numerous problems with a layer of basalt that has numerous fissures. The project is delayed, but is expected to be completed by November.
- Approved DPU to enter into a new low interest loan with the State of New Mexico for the purpose of replacing the White Rock wastewater treatment plant. This item will now go to the Council for approval on Sept. 25th.

Action Meeting in Los Alamos.

November 14th Dick Mason, LWVNM Action Chair will visit Los Alamos to discuss the LWVNM's priorities, including tax reform, automatic voter registration and Ethics Commission issues, which will be addressed during the legislative session in the spring. He hopes to interest some of the League Members in volunteering to lobby for the issues that are supported by the League. The meeting will start at 7:00pm at 1372 47th, just off Sandia in Los Alamos.

Some Important Dates:

October 19, 2018 Congressional District 3 Forum in Santa Fe.

Next Board Meeting will be Tuesday, October 27, 2018. This board meeting will be at the White Rock Library.

The Newsletter deadline is September 26.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00pm.

Rosmarie Frederickson