

**Minutes of the LWVLA Board Meeting
Tuesday October 23, 2018
White Rock Public Library, Los Alamos, NM**

Call to Order

Barbara Calef called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Barbara Calef, Co-president

Becky Shankland, Co-president

Leslie Wallstrom, 2nd Vice President

Amy Birnbaum, Arrangements

Kathy Taylor, Treasurer

Rosmarie Frederickson, Secretary

Karyl Ann Armbruster, Lunch with a Leader

Akkana Peck, Director at Large

Ellen Mills, Director at Large

After a review of the September minutes and a discussion about how to add the August treasurer report; they were accepted as revised.

Treasurer's Report

Kathy Taylor reported that at the end of September there was \$5,943.42 in the checking account. The receipts totaled \$785.00 of which \$350.00 were donations received from the LWV fund drive and with dues. Dues collected amounted to \$335.00. Donation from Searchlight for food at the ECE forum was \$100. The disbursements for the month of September were \$586.55. The expenditures consisted of \$8.15 for copying at Aspen Copies, and \$478.40 for advertising two candidate forums and the Early Childhood Education forum. There was also a check to reimburse Becky Shankland for buying the food for the ECE forum.

The savings account had \$19,963.08 on September 30, 2018.

The LWVUS Ed fund has a balance of \$798.00.

Kathy reported that the LWVUS Ed Fund Manager has still not sent a check. He did send a statement, which contained the wrong numbers. Kathy told us to be patient. He has a big job and probably many requests for service. The most we might lose is 5 cents in interest.

Margaret Gibson, treasurer of AAUW, audited the League books and Kathy helped audit the AAUW books.

Lunch with a Leader

There will be no November LWL meeting.

For the December 11th meeting Karyl Ann has invited Ellen Ben-Naim of the Los Alamos First Born program and Molly McBranch, the former director, to come and give a presentation. There is some question whether Molly will be able to attend.

For the January meeting Barbara suggested Mary Feldblum of the Health Security Committee, because the Health Security Act will be an issue during the legislative session.

There was discussion about whether to invite her-for a L/L or to invite her as one of the speakers at the Legislative Preview. There would be more time at a L/L program and she and Tyler Tayler would have an interesting program which would teach us much.

Barbara suggested Laura Paskus, a journalist who writes about water issues for a future LWL. Becky suggested Sue Barns, who leads the Zero Waste Subcommittee. Everyone agreed that Richard Skolnik should be invited to speak about "Global Health 101, Why Should You Care?" in the spring.

Membership Report

Becky reported that there are currently 80 members on our roll book. Several of these have not paid their dues. The board recommended that she write one more snail-mail reminder and if there was no response they be dropped.

Voter Services

Lynn was unable to attend the meeting. There had been several requests for Voter Guides but no one knew where the extra copies had been stored. There was some discussion that apparently people did not separate their mailed copy of the Voter Guide from the Los Alamos Daily Post on October 11. Next time we should put a notice on the front page.

Report of Candidate Forums

The consensus of the board was that both forums went very well and both forums were very well attended.

The complaint that people could not hear in the back was heard by several board members.

The board suggested the following remedies might solve that problem

- Rotate the chairs 90 degrees.
- Have moderator announce that attendees should raise their hands if they could not hear.
- Have the board work with UNM-LA to improve their sound system.
- Investigate the availability of lapel mikes
- Teach each of the candidates how to use the mikes -- to speak into them directly

- Investigate whether the forums could be held in the council chambers where the sound system is excellent

The other issue discussed was how to handle the questions in a more efficient manner

- It was suggested to have people line up at two stationary mikes.
- Announce the time available for questions beforehand so that people would not be offended if they were cut off because of time restraints.
- Having people line up would take the burden of choosing the next person to ask a question from the moderator.
- The board felt that people liked being able to ask questions and would feel censored if they had to write them on a card and then hand them in.

BPU Observer Corp Report

In Julie's absence Kathy Taylor, a member of the BPU agreed to give an impromptu report. She told us that Jack Richardson talked about the gas system and he reported that he felt it was in good shape

The BPU also agreed that passing on the cost of credit card payments was not a good idea, even though the whole customer base has to pitch in to cover this expense. Some people felt was unfair to those people not using a credit card.

Construction of an electric line to connect the substation half-way down the truck route is expensive, but very much needed. It is not owned by the Department of Utilities, but by the Lab. It allows for back-up when one of the other substations goes off line and is therefore a big benefit to the department and is worth the investment

There was a discovery of some RDX explosive in the ground water near TA 16. It is not anywhere near the Los Alamos water supply wells. The Lab is investigating how it got there and how to remove it.

TFPL Consensus Meeting

Barbara reported that the Transfer of Public Lands study group has finished its investigation of the issues. They have formulated consensus questions and are ready to have each of the Leagues have a meeting to discuss them. The meeting for Los Alamos will be Dec. 6 from 6:30 to 8:00pm at Becky Shankland's home. It will be a BYOF party.

Legislative Preview

The Legislative Preview will be held at Fuller Lodge if it is available. The date could not yet be decided because the new representative will have to be available and we won't know who that is until after the election. The most likely date will be before January 15th, for that is the opening day for the 2019 session

There was a discussion about other speakers. The three issues that might be presented are:

- Ethics Reform
- Redistricting -- maybe talking about the Iowa plan. It would **save** money for there can be no litigation.
- Tax reform. The speaker suggested for tax reform is Mr. Charles Sallee from the Legislative Finance Committee.

The decision was deferred until after Dick Mason's presentation when the board will have a better feeling for what the State Board's priorities are and where we can have the most impact.

Health Security Report

Becky attended the meeting of the Health Security Act supporters held on October 10th. Mary Feldblum and Dr. Tyler Taylor outlined a strategy for encouraging the legislature to pass this bill. The bill would be a first step towards a one-payer system. She promised a written report to the membership.

Action Meeting in Los Alamos.

November 14th Dick Mason, LWVNM Action Chair, will visit Los Alamos to discuss lobbying efforts by League members. He will address 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 of Sandia in Los Alamos. It was suggested that there be snacks, a bottle or two of wine, some beer (Barb will bring) and soft drinks.

There will be a Lobbying Training Workshop on Dec. 8th and Dick will encourage those people willing to lobby to attend.

Some Important Dates:

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

There will be no December board meeting

The Newsletter deadline is October 25th.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 pm.

Rosmarie Frederickson