

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES – August 11, 2009

Present: Shirley Strange, Barb Dorzweiler, Marcia Hittle, Beth English, Cindy Carter, Sara Companik, Marlys Fritzell, Vicky Olenski, Megan Kuehl, Bree Madison

Absent: Winnie Doxsie, Nadine Miller, Sue Silton

After informing the Board about an unfortunate accident which she suffered last week on Martha's Vineyard, President Shirley Strange called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. at the Appleton Public Library.

Approval of the minutes of the June 9, 2009 meeting was moved by Beth English and seconded by Sara Companik.

In her President's report, Shirley Strange mentioned board committees that have been working this summer on various topics: Non-partisanship Policy (Strange, Dorzweiler, Doxsie), and 2010 Census (Dorzweiler, chair, Strange, Companik). Olenski and Dorzweiler have been keeping the League's website up-to-date.

In the absence of Winnie Doxsie, membership chair, the president handed out the newly updated membership brochure, and reported that there would be new member profiles featured in the monthly Bulletin, which has been re-named "The Informed Voter", the title that the LWVUS wants the local Leagues to use for their newsletters. Board members were urged to write articles about League activities for the newsletter.

The president mentioned the weekly "Leaders' Update" e-mail, which the LWVUS sends out. She will forward it to all board members.

The treasurer's report was distributed by the president, in the absence of Sue Silton. There is \$11,879.86 in the League's account.

Barb Dorzweiler began her program report by handing out a revised calendar for September. She announced the monthly deadlines for submitting material for the newsletter: Aug. 27, Sept. 28, Oct. 29, Nov. 27, Dec. 29. She also handed out a sheet from LWVUS explaining what "Program" is. The census committee is working with city clerk, Cindy Hesse and the Complete Census Count (CCC) committee to organize local efforts to facilitate a successful census. The League plans to work with local non-profits and co-ordinate with LWVUS. Beth English mentioned the "Aware" group which meets at the Harmony Café and intends to help recruit census workers from various ethnic groups.

Dorzweiler distributed the report from the LWV-WI Annual Meeting, held May 29-30, 2009. The Recommended Program for this year consists of a study of issues related to the selection of Supreme Court justices, and two action items: (1) universal/affordable health care; and (2) local and state government agendas to deal with climate change and promote sustainability. Megan Kuehl volunteered to chair the local study committee on the selection of justices. Bree Madison will serve with her on the committee. Cindy Carter volunteered to serve on the sustainability task force. This issue coordinates well with the local study of the reduction of energy consumption in local government buildings.

A draft of a new non-partisan policy was handed out for the board to read and discuss at the September board meeting. Marlys Fritzell then read the League's existing non-partisanship policy. The committee will compare the old and the new policies and report at the next board meeting.

Beth English reported that Voters' service has not yet become active. The issue of early voting will be of concern this year.

Marlys Fritzell pointed out that because of limitations on the number of observers available, the League will focus on observing government meetings when issues that are League priorities are being considered. Shirley Strange will cover the city council; and Beth English, the county board.

Vicky Olenski discussed a website which offers free business cards. It was agreed to have cards printed, with the s. & h costs coming from the president's expense account.

Kuehl and Madison would like to contact high schools and Lawrence to recruit student members for League. February is "Youth Voter Month", so they may focus their efforts then.

The president distributed the position summaries that Kuehl and Madison have compiled. Kuehl said that their goal was to capture the essence of the positions and provide a quick reference. The complete positions would still be available for use when needed. It was decided to hold a general meeting to discuss the summaries. Kuehl will set up a meeting date, and announce it in the newsletter.

The next board meeting will be September 8 at 6 p.m. at the Appleton Public Library.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marcia Hittle, secretary

---