

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES – March 9, 2010

Present: Shirley Strange, Barb Dorzweiler, Nadine Miller, Marcia Hittle, Sara Companik, Beth English , Marlys Fritzell, Vicki Olenski, Leslie Taylor

Absent: Sue Silton , Cindy Carter , Winnie Doxsie

President Shirley Strange called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. at the Appleton Public Library.

Shirley opened the meeting by reading a letter to the Appleton LWV, sent by our state representative, Penny Bernard Schaber. She wrote to congratulate us on the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment and the founding of the League of Women Voters.

The January board minutes were accepted as corrected. The notes on the February board meeting, which lacked a quorum and was therefore not official, were filed.

Shirley began the president's report by reading a request from Project Promise that the LWV partner with them to sponsor a Lunch and Learn session with local and state legislators in September. We decided not to become official sponsors because it might violate the League's non-partisan status. The date is close to the fall election, and incumbents would be included, but not their challengers. We will, however, inform our membership about the meeting and encourage them to attend.

The Appleton LWV has received a request from the LWV-WI to host a satellite site for the state Annual Meeting on June 19. This would give League members on the eastern side of the state an opportunity to participate in the state meeting, by interactive teleconferencing, without traveling to LaCrosse. Many questions were raised by the Board: Just what would our responsibilities be as host? Would enough members attend from nearby Leagues to make it worthwhile? Also, Shirley polled the Board to determine how many of them would be available on June 19 to help run the session. Only one person was sure that she would be in town then. Shirley will contact Andrea Kaminski at the state office to get more specific details about the proposal.

The LWVUS convention is scheduled for June 11- 15. Shirley is considering going.

Shirley passed out the flyer for the "Census – 2010 – Empowerment" Public Forum to be held March 24, 6:30 – 8 p.m. at the Appleton Public Library. The Appleton LWV is co-sponsoring this event with the library. It will be publicized in the Post-Crescent and on-line, starting March 17. A grant from the Joyce Foundation is financing this event.

Shirley reminded board members to be sure to file forms for reimbursement for any expenses they may incur.

We are planning a fundraising luncheon on Women's Equality Day, August 26, to honor local elected women. Jan Quinlan is helping organize this event.

The LWV-US is in the process of updating and revising its Arms Control position. A new procedure is being used to seek member concurrence. Shirley and Marcia Hittle will look at the materials that have been provided by the national League, and comment on both the process and the content of this proposal.

In the absence of the treasurer Sue Silton , Marlys Fritzell presented the treasurer's reports for January and February. They were received and filed. A "Joyce Foundation" line has been added to the report to reflect the grant received for the Census Forum. So far, \$1,290 has been received from 17 members responding to the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary appeal to contribute \$90.

Marlys also presented the proposed budget for next year. She pointed out that the budget calls for dropping the phone answering service because it is not being used. The voters' service line was increased to \$500 to meet the extra expenses of an election year.

Leslie reported on the local study of energy reduction in public buildings. The committee has been meeting and is drawing on a number of studies compiled by other groups and governments. Appleton, Grand Chute, and Outagamie County have already done studies. The consensus questions are close to being formulated. They will be sent out to board members for comment and approval, then to the membership. A consensus meeting will be scheduled from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. at the library, right before the April 13 board meeting.

Nadine presented the action report. She distributed copies of the proposed Individual Action Proposal, which she and Miriam Douglass drafted. During the ensuing discussion it became clear that there was a need for a clearer statement of the basic principle that only the president can speak publicly for the League.

Other local Leagues have held a number of forums on the Clean Energy Jobs Act, but the Appleton League has been too busy with other projects. The Regional Transit Authority meeting is being held tonight in Green Bay. Cindy Carter is attending as our representative. The public hearing on the bill will be held in Madison on Thursday. Mayor Hanna and a delegation from the City of Appleton will be attending that hearing.

Barb gave the program report. She presented the results of the program planning for next year at the Lively Issues meeting. The item recommended there was a study of the need for and implications of a Regional Transit Authority. There was some discussion of whether this issue would still be relevant by the time we finished the study. The scope of the study was defined as “a study of the implications of implementing an RTA, looking specifically at issues of governance, funding, and service.” The acceptance of this recommended study was moved by Nadine and seconded by Marlys. The motion passed, with one vote in opposition.

The non-recommended items, which will be presented at the Annual Meeting are: extending the current study, the study of the need for a new library, and the study of the need for a convention center. The acceptance of these non-recommended items was moved by Barb, and seconded by Nadine. The motion passed.

The report from the nominating committee was received and accepted on a move by Barb and a second by Vicki.

Barb reminded everyone that May 3 is the deadline for annual reports from each committee chair. She has received the application for participation in the Flag Day parade. The extent of League’s participation is unclear at present, so she will wait to file the application.

Beth reported that there is only one contested seat in the spring election. She will send a complimentary letter to the Post-Crescent for its extensive coverage of candidates’ questionnaires.

Vicki reminded the board that the deadline for submitting articles for the next newsletter is March 23. She has been having technical problems with her computer, so she is going to change to Microsoft Word.

The next board meeting will be April 13, following the local study consensus meeting, at the Appleton Public Library. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia Hittle, secretary