

## Minutes – LWV Appleton Board Meeting

June 14, 2011

Present: Sara Companik, Barbara Dorzweiler, Miriam Douglass, Marlys Fritzell, Carolyn Mewhorter, Jan Quinlan, Sue Silton, Shirley Strange, Irene Strohbeen. Absent: Winnie Doxsie, Leslie Taylor

President Shirley Strange called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. and asked members to identify themselves and their position.

Nominating Committee: Jan and Carolyn volunteered to be the board members required for the committee.

Treasurer's Report was presented by Sue Silton. The books will be closed the end of June. As of June 9 the account balances were \$5057.47 in a CD and \$6,440.84 in the checking account. Total expenses budgeted for 2011-12 are \$10,136.00. Sue said that money in the checking account should cover expenses until dues and contributions are received. Sue moved and Jan seconded that the CD money be placed in a 15-mo CD to accumulate more interest. If these funds are withdrawn early, only the interest is lost. There is no penalty for early withdrawal. The motion carried.

501(c)3 Status: The State League thinks that the IRS will grant status by the end of 2011. When this occurs, all Leagues will need to report all money spent on lobbying. State League has identified relevant budget items. Use of 20% of the annual budget for lobbying is allowed. Neither State nor National Leagues have ever spent this much for lobbying activities.

Membership: Shirley reported that Winnie Doxsie is looking at the program Google Doc so that the membership list can be kept current and accessible to board members. Personal contacts with new members will be made so they are not left in limbo.

Membership Recruitment Initiative: Sara and Shirley have been trained for this effort. Sara will organize a tea where members can meet retirees (teachers, business women, and others) and describe what League does. Jan suggested having the event the end of August which is both near to Women's Equality Day and is before people get busy with fall activities.

Local Study: Carolyn announced that a panel will present information on a Regional Transit Authority at a General Membership meeting on October 13. The public is invited.

State Annual Meeting was attended by Irene and Shirley. Irene reported on the Voter Services Round Table where new ways to provide access to Candidate Forums were discussed. Irene will invite Carolyn Castore, a member of the LWVWI Legislative Committee, to give a presentation on the new WI Voter ID law and its effect on the League's role in voter registration and the

voting process. Irene also described the greatly-expanded LWVWI website. Shirley reported a new effort by National League on the power of the vote – emphasizing issues League has always worked on, such as eliminating legal barriers to voting, nonpartisan voter information, registering voters, candidates’ debates and voter education.. The keynote speaker of the meeting was Dr. Charles Franklin, UW-Madison, who spoke on the “Impact of Polarization in Wisconsin Politics”. Relevant data are available at the website [pollsandvotes.com](http://pollsandvotes.com).

Program Calendar was fleshed out for July, 2011 through June, 2012. Sara will send the details to board members.

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Miriam Douglass, Secretary