

Minutes – LWV Appleton Board Meeting
Gardens of the Fox Cities
October 4, 2011

Present: Sara Companik, Miriam Douglass, Winnie Doxsie, Marlys Fritzell, Jan Quinlan, Sue Silton, Shirley Strange, Irene Strohbeen, Leslie Taylor

President Shirley Strange called the meeting to order at 11:35 a.m. The agenda was approved with the addition of the National Education Study.

The minutes of the 9-6-11 Board meeting were approved.

President's Report – Shirley Strange read a note from Donna Weiss thanking the League for the condolences following the death of her husband Len Weiss. Both Donna and Len have been long-time members of the Appleton LWV. Details of the National Study and progress on getting PayPal on the LWV Appleton website will be reported under those agenda items.

Treasurer's Report was presented by Sue Silton. The income and expenditures for the Women's Equality Day were nearly equal because of a \$400 grant from the Joyce Foundation. Because the LWVWI and LWV Appleton now have 501 (c) (3) status dues and donations are tax deductible. The Member Ed Fund and Nonmember Ed Fund categories, established by the LWVWI to allow tax-deductible contributions, are no longer needed. Money received from a member will be recorded, when appropriate, as \$60 for dues and the remaining as a donation. A letter or email acknowledging receipt of money will be sent to individuals as a tax deduction record. The Treasurer's Report was received and filed.

Paypal – Shirley Strange reviewed the progress she has made, with help from husband Dave, to establish the PayPal account on our website. A nonprofit business account was set up with PayPal, which is awaiting information proving our nonprofit status. Barb Dorzweiler will place two buttons on our website – one labeled BUY for paying dues, the other labeled DONATE for donations. Membership designations will be shown next to the BUY button - \$75 Sustaining, \$60 Regular, \$30 Second member of household and \$30 Student. An additional email address on the website to receive PayPal payments will be accessible by the President and Treasurer only. Alternating terms for these two officers will assure that someone is always familiar with the mechanism of operation. Shirley will write up the procedures. The Treasurer needs to inform the Membership Chair of any changes in the membership roll.

Communications – Leslie Taylor learned from Autumn Hill about the value of Constant Contact which provides email marketing, social media marketing, event marketing, and online survey tools for small organizations. The three modules have separate monthly fees and can be tested for free. One advantage is that it would provide a single email list to keep current. Leslie suggested that Barb Dorzweiler, the Communication Director, explore this further.

Voter Service – Irene Strohbeen reported that changes in state law prohibit certification by state officials of League members to register voters. The city now has that function but the Appleton city clerk is not planning to train until Fall 2012 election and trainees could only register voters in Appleton. Irene will contact the Outagamie County Clerk to see if training for a larger jurisdiction is possible. That training would still prohibit registration of voters in Winnebago and Calumet Counties. Potential volunteers might be found on the AARP website.

Local Study of a Regional Transit Authority – On October 13 at 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. a panel will answer questions pertaining to the pros and cons of an RTA. The six members of the panel will be Mayor Tim Hanna, Al Runde (WI Legislative Fiscal Bureau), Thom Ciske (Fox Cities Chamber of Commerce), George Dearborn (Community Development, Menasha), Penny Bernard Shaeber (State Assembly) and Jo Egelhoff (citizen). The public is invited. The consensus meeting will be November 10, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

National Study – The topic is The Role of the Federal Government in Public Education (preK-12). Aspects covered are Historical Perspectives, Funding and Equity Issues, and Common Core Standards and Assessment. The informational meeting and consensus will be held on October 26, 5:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. at UW Fox Valley. Committee members are Miriam Douglass, Irene Strohbeen, Renee Gralewicz and Shirley Strange.

Program – Sara Companik said that individual notices will be sent for the separate RTA panel and consensus meetings and the National Education Study information-consensus meeting. The Holiday Brunch will occur on December 10 at the Radisson Hotel, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.. Leslie Taylor will speak on Sustainability in the Appleton area. Sara would like our League to have a Food for Thought Luncheon in March or April and asked for speaker suggestions. The Oshkosh League has had good success with these luncheons.

Fund Raising Committee – Jan Quinlan, Shirley Strange and Barb Dorzweiler met with Terry Bergen, Executive Director of the History Museum, and Tim Wessel who suggested four approaches to fundraising with non-members: (1) develop an envelope with a form inside, (2) develop a relationship with individual potential donors, (3) conduct outreach to groups, such as Rotary and Kiwanis, using a PowerPoint presentation on Voter ID (this is not a time for fundraising but develops a relationship by giving useful information), and (4) for greater publicity hold the Women's Equality Day at the History Museum which would host it free-of-charge. The curator could speak on the history of the Women's Suffrage Movement.

Observer Corps – Marlys Fritzell said that the next Observer Corps opportunities are Appleton Common Council on October 5, AASD budget hearing and meeting on October 10 and the Outagamie County Board on October 11. All but the AASD meeting will be preceded by dinner.

Natural Resources – Leslie Taylor reported that League member Nadine Miller has been appointed as the citizen representative to the Outagamie County Sustainability Task Force.

Membership – Winnie Doxsie reported that new member Jacqueline Klimaszewski has joined. There is a need to define one place where the official membership list will be kept. Winnie is exploring Google Docs.

Around the Board – Shirley Strange offered many thanks to Winnie Doxsie for the many ways that she has served the LWV of Appleton. Other board members joined in with praise. Winnie and her husband are moving to Eau Claire to be able to experience the joys of their grandchild.

The meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Miriam Douglass, Secretary