

Minutes – LWV Appleton Board Meeting  
Gardens of the Fox Cities  
February 7, 2012

Present: Sara Companik, Barb Dorzweiler, Miriam Douglass, Marlys Fritzell, Stephanie Malaney, Carolyn Mewhorter, Jan Quinlan, Shirley Strange, Irene Strohbeen, Leslie Taylor.

President Shirley Strange called the meeting to order at 11:10 a.m.

The agenda was approved with the suggestion of Carolyn Mewhorter that at future meetings the Natural Resources/Sustainability report be given earlier in the meeting rather than always at the end.

The minutes of the 1-3-12 Board meeting were approved.

President's Report – Shirley Strange asked for volunteers to help with the Women's Equality Day celebration which will be celebrated at The History Museum close to August 26. The museum director and League member Terry Bergen has arranged for a curator to speak on "Women's Suffrage in the Fox Cities Area". Shirley suggested that a Legislative Director position be created for the Board to keep track of important bills as they move through the legislature. The Action VP would continue to alert members of action to be taken. Details of the two roles will be discussed further.

Treasurer's Report – Sue Silton sent a cumulative Treasurer's report for the period 7/1/2009 to 6/30/2012 to illustrate a new format.

Fund Raising Committee – Jan Quinlan exhibited the new donation envelope.

Membership – Stephanie Malaney presented an annual calendar for dues collection and recruitment of new members. Her report summarized the methods to be used to recruit and welcome new members, collect dues and maintain the member data base. The question of what dues to collect from a member who joins during the fiscal year needs resolution. Stephanie is checking with National to learn if half-year dues may be collected. Another option is to carry the new member without charge and add the name to the National database during the next fiscal year when dues are paid. The Board thanked Stephanie for creating a clear membership and dues collection process which our League has needed for some time.

Voter Service – Irene Strohbeen summarized recent voter registration activities. Twenty people attended the Voter Registration Forum on January 25 where Appleton Elections Clerk Jane Booth answered questions on the Voter ID law, voter registration, voting process at polls and absentee voting. One person was registered. At Oneida Heights Irene, Shirley Strange and Miriam Douglass reviewed the same topics, helped 3 people to register and 2 with absentee voter requests. On March 31 Shirley and Miriam helped 14 students and 2 teachers fill out voter registration forms. The Mayoral Primary Candidates Forum will be held February 13. Questions were formulated. Marlys asked that on all of our printed material, such as the forum agenda, a

line be printed emphasizing that the LWV is a nonpartisan organization. We must protect our nonpartisan reputation!

Local Study RTA – Carolyn Mewhorter reported on the information, discussion and consensus meetings held to reach consensus in support of a Regional Transit Authority. Her report will be distributed to the membership.

Program – Sara Companik reminded the Board about the February 13 Appleton Mayoral Candidate Forum at the Appleton Public Library, 6:30-8:30 p.m. and the March 14 Food for Thought Luncheon at Jonathan’s Italian Bistro, 11:30-1:30 where Amy Oberg will speak on “The Future of Women”. The latter will be publicized to AAUW, the Winnebago LWV and in the Post-Crescent. Sarah distributed a list of reports she needs from the Board to give to members 30 days before the Annual Meeting to be held May 10.

Communications – Barb Dorzweiler announced topics and a February 14 deadline for articles to be sent to her and Vicki Olenski for the newsletter which will be published February 21.

Observer Corps – Marlys Fritzell reported that Observer Corps members will attend meetings of the Appleton Common Council on March 7 and the Appleton School Board on March 12, both preceded by a 5:30 p.m. dinner at Cheyenne’s. On March 13 the Observer Corps will have a 5:00 p.m. dinner at Fratello’s and attend the Outagamie County Board meeting at 6:30.

Natural Resources – Leslie Taylor suggested the title of Natural Resources Director be changed to Sustainability Director, a title which encompasses natural resources, social and fiscal issues. Shirley Strange suggested that the Natural Resources title reflects a time in the LWV when environmental matters were a primary focus and that we discuss a name change at the next Board meeting.

Around the Board – Sara Companik suggested that some invitations to the Annual Meeting be sent by email and that payment be accepted at the door with a charge for no-shows.

The meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Miriam Douglass, Secretary