

Minutes – LWV Appleton Board Meeting
Gardens of the Fox Cities
March 6, 2012

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

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

The agenda was approved.

The minutes of the 2-7-12 Board meeting were approved after clarification by Sara Companik that the only people allowed to pay at for the Annual Meeting will be those who register during the three days before the meeting.

President's Report – Shirley Strange reported that AASD board candidates have asked for a forum. There will be a public hearing on Thursday in Madison on legislation authorizing a Regional Transit Authority for the Fox Cities. Shirley will make a statement based on recent Board approval of the consensus reached on our RTA Study. At the Annual Meeting the membership will adopt the consensus as a support position.

Treasurer's Report – Jan Quinlan presented the new Budget format. Significant changes under Income are:

- B.3. is changed to “State and National Contributions”,
- B.5. “In Kind Donation” is removed (as is Expenses H.4. “In Kind Expense”). Incorporating these into Income B.1 “Member Contributions” and in the appropriate line item of Expenses will help members to document their donations and the League to keep track of expenses,
- C. is more specifically labeled “Event Expenses” replacing “Miscellaneous”,
- D.2. remains a place holder for funds used to balance the budget and
- D.3. is called “Merchandise Sales” with counterpart Expenses I. “Merchandise Bought”.

Changes under Expenses are:

- B.1. is renamed “Fund Raising” replacing “Finance Committee”,
- E. Communication is a new category and reflects our current methods used and
- G. Position Advocacy is for expenses that need to be reported to the IRS.

The new budget format and the budget were approved.

Fund Raising Committee – Jan Quinlan explained that the best way to raise money is to speak to groups, such as Rotary, and tell them what our organization does. For example, Voter Service activities are relevant now. Barb Dorzweiler is attending a course on fundraising and will join the Fund Raising Committee.

Membership –Stephanie Malaney discussed the format of the membership list distributed to members. The Board decided that hard copy lists should include name, mailing address, telephone number and email address. Lists that are emailed should not include the mailing address but will show name, telephone number and email address. The possibility of offering half-year memberships is still to be worked out.

Voter Service – Irene Strohbeen reported on recent voter registration assistance activities during the early registration period before the April 3 election. A candidates' forum will be held on March 28 for the mayoral candidates at 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. and the AASD school board candidates at 7:15 - 8:30 p.m.

Local Study RTA – Shirley Strange will clarify with Carolyn Mewhorter the wording of the consensus statement in support of a Regional Transit Authority.

Program – Sara Companik reported that the second Food for Thought Luncheon will be on April 18, 11:30-1:30 at a restaurant to be determined. The topic is Neighborhoods as the Heart and Soul of Community Development and Civic Engagement and will be presented by Karen Harkness - Appleton Director of Development and Julie Filapek - Sustainable Fox Valley.

The Annual Meeting and Dinner will be held on Thursday, May 10 at the Liberty Hall Banquet and Conference Center with the schedule 5:30 p.m. social with cash bar, 6:00 p.m. dinner and 6:45 p.m. Annual Meeting. Out of the Lively Issues meeting came the recommended local program for 2012-13 “Updating the Appleton Public Library Position”. This study will look at our current library positions and recent APL research in order to determine possible support position updates.

The Board approved the slate of candidates for 2012-2014 presented by the Nominating Committee Beth English, Marcia Hittle, Barb Kelly, Jan Quinlan and Carolyn Mewhorter. The membership will vote on the slate at the Annual Meeting.

Vice President: Irene Strohbeen
Treasurer: Barb Kelly
Director 2 yr: Stephanie Malaney
Director 2 yr: Stevie Schmidt
Director 2 yr: Penny Robinson
Director 1 yr: Lee Snodgrass (year 2 of Irene Strohbeen's term)
Nomination Chair: Jan Quinlan
Nomination Committee: Nadine Miller
Nomination Committee: Sue Eich

Continuing Board Members (year 2 of 2) are

Shirley Strange, President
Sara Companik, Program Vice President
Miriam Douglass, Secretary
Barb Dorzweiler, Director
Carolyn Mewhorter Director

Communications – Barb Dorzweiler emphasized the importance of making clear to candidates that the League is nonpartisan. She suggested that all League literature (posters, handouts, etc.) at candidates' forums include the wording "The League of Women Voters of Appleton is nonpartisan. As an organization, it does not support or oppose candidates for public office. Any use of the League name in campaign literature is non-authorized." The Board endorsed this statement.

Observer Corps – Marlys Fritzell reported that Observer Corps members will attend meetings of the Appleton Common Council on April 4 and the Appleton School Board on April 10, both preceded by a 5:30 p.m. dinner at Cheyenne's. On April 10 the Observer Corps will have a 5:00 p.m. dinner at Cheyenne's and attend the Outagamie County Board meeting at 6:30.

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Miriam Douglass, Secretary