

League of Women Voters – Appleton
Board of Directors Meeting
August 7, 2013

Present: Sara Companik, Barbara Kelly, Kim Wetzell, Irene Strohbeen, Lois Bressette, Karen Jansen, Penny Robinson, Gayle Hardt, Jacqui Klimeszewski.
Absent: Stephanie Malaney, Miriam Douglass.

President Sara Companik called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

Sara will email the minutes from the May 2013 board meeting for approval at the next board meeting.

Sara gave her report regarding LWV-Appleton activities. There was a press conference regarding Medicare funding in May. Lois, Irene, Shirley, and Sara attended and gave a presentation on “Advocacy” at the State League meeting in Milwaukee in June. Planning has started for the Women’s Equality Day event to be held on August 26. Sara and Shirley made a presentation to the Lions Club in June. Dave Strange built our new website and it is now up and running. Sara also briefly spoke about the group “9 to 5” and their Family Medical *Leave* Act issue with a possible collaboration with the group. A letter to the editor was sent concerning the state and federal league position on “Immigration.”

Articles for the September newsletter will be due one week after the Board Meeting on September 11.

Sara appointed Miriam Douglass and Barbara Kelly for Nominating Committee.

Treasurer Report (Barbara Kelly): Revised budget in board book. One new member. For every \$60.00 membership, we lose one dollar because the National dues is \$31 and the state dues is \$30. Barb suggested we increase the membership fee to \$65.00 so we won’t lose one dollar on each membership. Use the same Expense Record (with receipts) to record in-kind donations. This will help with budget planning so we know actual expenses. There has been \$950.00 in contributions from the mailing sent out to members. CD-American National deposits interest goes directly into the checking account. This will come due in September. No action is needed.

Membership (Stephanie Malaney): Absent. The new membership list will be sent to Board members.

VP-Action (Irene Strohbeen): Action is based on the direction of the board. Irene made a recommendation to the board to consider the following as the top five “Action” items for the upcoming year: 1). Voting Rights; 2). Redistricting; 3). Campaign Finance Reform; 4). Judge Selection; 5). Environmental Resources. Irene also suggested considering: Women’s Equality: equal pay/employment; School Vouchers; Medicare and Immigration. Irene is still working on “Action” priorities.

9 to 5 Collaboration: Irene is working with the 9-5 group through Mid-Day Women's Alliance. 9-5 is a nationwide organization seeking to establish equality in the workplace for women. Currently there is a push to work across the state and the group is looking for coalition partners. The group is asking the league to sign a "Letter of Endorsement" to "Keep Families First". The focus is to protect the WI Family Medical Leave Act. Board does not feel comfortable signing a letter of endorsement at this time.

Motion by Barb to invite Emily (from 9-5) to Women's Equality Day with their petition for signatures and to introduce Emily to the group. Second by Karen. Motion carried.

VP-Program (Kim Wetzel): Kim presented the bookmark of upcoming events that are tentatively planned for September through May 2014. Kim will email events for members to review and refer people to our website for more information. Kim suggested she work with the Action Committee for more ideas.

Fundraising: Kim discussed mailing out an envelope seeking donations (and membership) for our 75th Anniversary. Discussion included mailing out the envelope more than once/year and having the envelope available at all events.

Motion by Gayle to accept the committee recommendation to have Autumn Hill print 1000 envelopes. Second by Penny. Motion carried.

Voter Services (Jacqui Klimeszewski): Jacqui spoke about the "Voter" video script. The script will be in English, Spanish and Hmong. Jacqui has found people for voices in Spanish and Hmong. The English version should be done in the next couple of weeks. The video will also have photos of what you will need to vote and what the polling place looks like.

Communications Committee: Sara passed out the Regional Transit Authority (RTA) Study.

State League Convention Report (Gayle Hardt): No report.

Legislative Director Report (Penny Robinson): Penny spoke about making a connection to the state through the legislative committee. The state issues are almost always the same as the local issues. Penny reported that public transit is in the state budget as the four percent (4%) funds have been restored.

Natural Resources and State Water Study Update (Karen Jansen): Karen said the proposed start date for the Water Study is in September. Karen has not been contacted with an itinerary (or the start date) and has yet to find out the extent of the study. Karen proposed new areas to focus. Those are: Waste water management; storm water/run-off management; ground water and urban consumption; monitoring water quality; and public administration of public access. Karen would like to present these areas to the state group.

State Redistricting Update (Lois Bressette): No report.

Local Study Committee Report (Miriam Douglass): Absent. No report.

Observer Corp: No action.

Board Book Walk Through: Next meeting.

Long Range Plans/Goals/Strategies: Next meeting.

Motion to adjourn by Karen. Second by Gayle. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Bressette, Secretary