

League of Women Voters Appleton Board Meeting
Wednesday, November 6, 2013 @ 4:00 PM Appleton Public Library Room D

Dropbox 20131106 for November 6, Board Meeting Reports

Call to order at 4:05PM

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

Approval of October Minutes – Motion by Jacqui Klimaszewski to approve the October minutes. Second by Gayle Hardt. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Barbara Kelly -

Paperwork needs to be filed with the State of Wisconsin along with a \$10.00 fee. Each of the board members name and address must be submitted with this form. In-kind donations are still being submitted by members. If you would like to be reimbursed for expenses, submit your form with a receipt. Barbara has made changes to paypal to reflect the increase in membership dues.

President's Report – Sara Companik-

1) **Fox Valley Book Festival** There is still contact with Barbara Miner, author and activist involving Vouchers, to be part of the Fox Cities Book Festival in April . The library is giving the request consideration or a featured author. Vicki Olenski (League member) and teacher in Appleton is putting in a grant request to Appleton Education Foundation for Teacher development.

2) **State Legislation-** State Conference call with Carolyn Castore, and state redistricting committee. There is a powerpoint available for leagues to reach out to educate groups about redistricting.

3) **League Statements at Public Budget Hearings-**On October 28, Sara gave a statement from the league at the Outagamie Budget Hearing.

City of Appleton Budget Saturday on Nov. 2 and City Budget Hearing Statement: Wednesday, Nov. 6 at 6:00 pm, Sara will give a statement from the league.

4) **Membership** Soup and Conversation, Sara has invited 6 new 2013 league members and 2 prospective members to a gathering on Tuesday, Nov. 12 at my house.

5). **November/December Newsletter-**Articles/ announcements/ from Directors are due November 14.

Membership Report – Stephanie Malaney -

The list of active and inactive members is on dropbox. A letter will be sent to those on the inactive list to see if they are interested in becoming a member again. Stephanie has been working on updating the membership form to reflect the change in the membership fee.

VP- Action Report- Irene Strohbeen-

Affordable Care Act: With the problems plaguing the healthcare.gov website, the mobilizing efforts have not been able to materialize. On October 19—which had been designated as a canvassing trial date—we were unsuccessful in getting volunteers to turn out to canvas a lower-income neighborhood. We do have postcards, surveys and scripts when we're able to try again.

Family Medical Leave: We are still working to arrange in-district meetings with Senators Cowles and Ellis. We are at the stage of providing lists of constituents who support protecting and expanding Family Medical Leave.

Any LWV Board members who are residents in either District 2 or 19 and willing to have their names listed would be much appreciated!

(We will confirm attendance after the meetings are scheduled.)

The Town Hall meeting on October 24 was not well attended but we had an interesting discussion about Family Medical Leave with Penny Bernard-Schaber. I am also working to find small business owners who are willing to complete a survey about Family Medical Leave in support of these efforts.

VP –Program Report- Kim Wetzel-

Human Trafficking in Wisconsin, was well attended with 65 attendees. The four-person panel was informative and passionate, and the audience had many questions and personal stories to share.

Co-hosting this event with the library, as with our September event, allowed us to gain a wider audience through APL's marketing efforts, and offer an appropriate gathering space.

The annual League Brunch, which will be held Saturday, December 14 at 10:30-12:30 at the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel. Our speaker will be Carolyn Castore of the LWV Wisconsin, and she will speak on the issue of Redistricting. She has graciously agreed to fill in for our scheduled speaker, Lee Allinger, superintendent of AASD, who had to cancel last week.

Fund Raising Committee Report- Update in President's Report Donations have been received from 26 league members. Friends of the League who attended Women's Equality Day --4 donations were received. No additional letters have been sent to Friends of the League.

Voter Services Report- Jacqui Klimeszewski-

The league was invited to give a presentation in a Sociology Class/ teacher Sue Anderson. Irene, Jacqui, Sara and member Cathy Thompson will talk about the league, voter services, and health care sign up

State League Convention /Democracy Award Report Gayle Hardt Coordinator-
The Appleton League will be holding the State League Convention in 2014 in conjunction with the 75th Anniversary of the Appleton chapter of the League of Women Voters.

A committee has been formed begin working on the Democracy Award.

Legislative Director Report- Penny Robinson

RTA Legislation: According to Senator Leibham's office, they are planning to schedule a public hearing on SB 259 before the winter recess. This is the bill proposed by Senator Ellis that would authorize the Fox Cities to hold a referendum to decide whether or not to establish an RTA for the Fox Cities.

Penny participated in a meeting of the Committee for the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan on November 4. We are developing an action plan from results of a transportation assessment survey several months ago. Tentative plan results for feedback should be available soon.

Apparently there are still some problems with Non Emergency Medication Transportation (NEMT). People with stories of problems are asked to call the State Fraud and Abuse Hotline at 877-372-8317 and Penny Bernard Schaber's office.

Natural Resources and State Water Study Update- Karen Jansen

Karen attended the League of Women Voters Lake Michigan Conference on October 31. While her committee could adopt the state and national positions on water quality, the committee, would like to develop/adopt positions that are much stronger. The committee would also like to address enforcement laws, as this is a key issue.

Local Study Committee Report- Miriam Douglass-

(Consensus Meeting –Feb. 27, 2014)

Meetings are being held to inform the public before the Appleton Library report is released in February. The first meeting was held at Shirley Strange's home. This meeting was about the library facilities.

5:50 PM

Appleton City Council Public Hearing on the Budget @ 6:00 pm Nov. 6.

Long Range Plans/Goals/Strategies 2013-2014 - Open Discussion and Sharing Ideas

Around the Board:

Penny distributed a flier on the latino simulation "Walk in our Shoes". The event is free and open to the public and will be held on Thursday, November 21 from 6-9PM at St. Therese Catholic Church in Appleton.

Penny also distributed the new ESTHER program book.

Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 5:45PM