

League of Women Voters of Appleton-Fox Cities Board Meeting
Wednesday, June 7, 2023, 4:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Stone Arch Brew Pub
1004 South Olde Oneida St., Appleton

1. Welcome and call to order (4:00) Meeting was called to order at 4:20 pm. In attendance were: Linda Bjella, Jan Quinlan, Jacqui Klimaszewski, Kathy Voigt, Renee Gralewicz, April Savage, Cindy Fallona, Karin Alvarez, and Diane Putzer.

2. Strategy session (4:05-5:30)

a) Review of nonpartisan policy (Jacqui)

Nonpartisan policy was reviewed and discussed. Jacqui will take suggestions for the policy document, and a vote will be taken at the September meeting.

b) Review of DEI policy (April)

DEI policy was reviewed and discussed. Topics of discussion included having a link on the website to the national LVW DEI policy (instead of large block of text), and how to effectively partner/ build relationships with other organizations.

c) Advice to the board: Strategies to diversify our membership and infuse DEI in our work (All)

d) Goals and focus for the upcoming League year (All: Please be prepared to identify targeted goals for each portfolio.)

Cindy: There has been a slowed rate of new members joining; would like to address this, as well as partner with DEI.

Diane: Need to organize and document things such as credit cards, etc. and what is used for what. (Linda added-want to step up the spring finance drive.)

Renee: Increase event/ meeting attendance

April: Connect with other community groups via “board to board” meetings

Kathy: Start using QR codes instead of URLs for engagement; change format of newsletter; make content on website more robust

Jacqui: Build on Vote411; identify people willing to take leadership roles

Jan: 2 legislative town halls, and ask other local leagues to partner with

Linda: Focus on credibility of League in the community

BREAK FOR DINNER (5:30-6:30)

3. Consent Agenda (6:30-6:35) Please read all reports in the board meeting folder prior to the meeting. This information won't be discussed unless questions are raised prior to the meeting. Link to the [20230607](#) folder in our Google drive. (Click on file upload to the left to upload your document to the file.)

a) Minutes from May 3, 2023

b) President's Report

c) Treasurer's Report

d) Action

e) Communications & Technology

- f) DEI
- g) Events
- h) Membership
- i) Nominating Committee
- j) Program
- k) Voter Service

The meeting was again called to order at 6:46 pm. Linda made a motion to accept the consent agenda, Jacqui seconded the motion. All were in favor, and no abstentions; motion carried.

4. Old Business (6:35-7:00)

a) Spring finance drive (Diane)

With donations and grants, \$5000 total (spring drive: \$2800). Diane would like to talk to the Community Foundation about grants.

b) Insurance (Diane) (vote)

Insurance would cover auto accident liability (i.e., if driving somewhere on League business), office property, events/ volunteer liability, cyber coverage and allegations against League. Discussed changing policy term to 7/1/2023 - 6/30/2024 (fiscal year). Quote from Lisa Johnson Agency is \$1401 (budgeted \$1250). Diane made a motion to accept the policy and change the policy dates to 7/1/23 - 6/30/24, Jan seconded the motion. All were in favor, and no abstentions; motion carried.

5. New Business (7:00-7:45)

a) New policy on candidate information (Jacqui) (vote)

Kathy asked if Voter Guides and Vote411 could be explained/ delineated further. Jacqui made a motion to accept policy for informing the public about issues/ candidates, Cindy seconded the motion. All were in favor, and no abstentions; motion carried.

b) New study: position review applying DEI and regional lens (Jan)

Discussed clarifying logistics of how group is put together, and how discussions could be held (e.g., over Zoom?). Also discussed timeline to assemble a committee. Renee said first email for this would occur by June 21st. April suggested initial meeting to plan scope/ pare down nebulous topics.

c) Mapping out our upcoming programs (Renee)

10/16: Local law enforcement will talk about what important issues are in the area. Polly Olson (Appleton Police Chief) has already confirmed date. Cindy suggested law enforcement officials from Heart of the Valley (Kaukauna, Little Chute) and county sheriff.

11/20: Government Accountability

12/16: Holiday brunch topic of book bans. Discussed calling this “The Freedom to Read” to frame in a more positive light.

1/23: Lively Issues

February 2024: Legislative town hall

2/19: Quality and Quantity of Our Water (Renee will contact Atlas Science Center)

3/18: Consensus meeting over policy review

4/15: Affordable senior housing (optional tour of Brewster Village)

5/18: Annual meeting

Side programs: Tour of Outagamie recycling center, encourage state League to host meeting on mis- and dis-information and vetting information sources, regional land use planning (Highway 41 corridor)

d) Date for next board meeting (Linda)

No meeting in July. Discussed moving August meeting to 8/23/2023 but decided to wait until September. Next board meeting will be 9/6/23.

6. Wrap-Up / Assignments (7:45-8:00)

a) Website updates needed (All)

Update some parts of the upcoming events calendar, and “Actions to Take” page

b) Newsletter articles due 6/9 (June/ July edition) (Kathy)

Discussed submission dates for newsletter articles. Date decided was 6/22 (submit to Kathy).

Task list:

-get plaques for Making Democracy Work recipients made for office

-MDW application and timeline

-update email contact list

-create database for members that includes their municipality, county, legislative and congressional districts for targeted action alerts

-LWV AFC Legacy project – interviews and documentation / videos?

Linda requested that anyone who wants to help with these let her know. Jan and Cindy will work on the database. Marcia Hittle has volunteered to assist with the Legacy project.

Jacqui made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kathy seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karin Alvarez
Secretary

Reminders and Announcements:

June 9-10: LWV WI Annual Meeting, Home2Suites- La Crosse

June 11, noon – 5:00 p.m. [Juneteenth](#) @ Jones Park

June 17, 11:00-3:00: Celebrate Diversity Fox Cities Carnival / Picnic @ Jefferson Park in Menasha

June 20, noon-2 p.m.- Book discussion @ Alicia Park. Families and friends are welcome.)

June 24: Gay Pride Event @ Jones Park in Appleton

June 28: Book discussion

July 11: Book discussion

July 20, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. – summer potluck at 1000 Islands Nature Center (Families and friends are welcome.)

August 26, 9:00 a.m.: Women's Equality Day and launch of the Women's Action Coalition-Houdini Plaza (Appleton Farm Market)