

*Approved at January 8, 2014 Board Meeting
Take Note 2 dates for upcoming events have been changed.
*Ag Mtg. now Jan. 22 at WDM Library 5:30
* Next Board Meeting now March 5*

LWV DES MOINES METRO BRANCH BOARD MINUTES
November 6, 2013

PRESENT: Pres. Deborah Turner , Sec. Judy Dirks, Treas. Gary Kaufman, Phyllis Franklin-Devine, Carol Hibbs, Teresa Bomhoff, Karen Person.

ABSENT: Lena Robinson, Jessie Hill, Max Knauer.

The meeting was held at 2662 Ingersoll Avenue – from 6:00-7:30.

League member, DJ Newlin, attended and shared a letter from her daughter in Colorado. This contained a news article about a climate change forum sponsored by the local League. DJ made the point that many, including her daughter, are unaware of the League's involvement and interest in other civic areas beyond voting matters. Her comments fit in well with one of our League's goals which is to increase awareness of the League within the community.

- I. APPROVAL MINUTES October 16, 2013 – Phyllis moved to accept and all approved.
- II. PRESIDENT'S REPORT
 - A. PMP - Deb shared official policy forms regarding use of PMP's (Per Member Payments.) Key lines from the policy include: *Leagues may use unrestricted, tax-deductible funds to satisfy up to 50 percent of their national per-member payment obligation. Requests to satisfy more than 50 percent of PMP obligations with tax-deductible funds shall be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Such requests may be approved provided that the total amount paid with tax-deductible monies by all Leagues combined does not exceed 50 percent of the total national PMP income for the year.* The board has expressed a wish to change the percentage of PMP support from Ed Funds in upcoming budgets. Karen moved that we will continue with our budget as planned at the last annual meeting for the current fiscal year. Prior to the next annual meeting, the proposed budget for 2014-15 shall reflect PMP payment that applies only 50% of Ed Fund monies toward National PMP's and 25% toward State PMP's. The board approved this proposal.
 - B. Meeting time – It was decided to continue a starting time of 6:30 to fit in with the majority of the board members' schedules.
 - C. Attendance – Members were reminded and encouraged to notify the president if they anticipate an absence at a board meeting. This complies with bylaws. These are covered in the blue folder provided at the retreat.
 - D. Meeting etiquette – All board members were encouraged to follow formal meeting etiquette during points of discussion.

- E. Giving Tuesday (This national movement encouraging donations to member non-profit organizations at the start of the holiday season was discussed in full during new business. LWVUS is on the list of organizations supported by Giving Tuesday.)

III. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- A. Membership – Molly was absent, so there was no report. Gary was able to provide numbers on membership. Currently the roster shows 56 members – including 18 memberships due for renewal by the end of the year. We have 4 new members this fall.

IV. TREASURER'S REPORT – The board accepted the treasurer's report as presented and approved recent expenditures. The balance, as of November 4, 2013, is \$7,095.94.

V. VOTER

- A. Next volume - Karen expressed hope that Jessie Hill might edit the next edition.
- B. Subsequent Vol. Dates – No article assignments were made at this meeting.

VI. JOB POSITIONS/DESCRIPTIONS - These remain the same as in other meetings.

- A. Vice President – membership – Molly Shanks
- B. Secretary - Corresponding/ Recording – Judy Dirks (Dorothy McGinnis & Carol Hibbs)
(Dorothy post office box, website, mass mailings – Carol group email notices)
 - 1. Minutes
- C. Treasurer- Gary Kaufman
- D. Program Director- Suggestion to change this to Events Director – No one person
- E. Voter Editor – Karen Person & Jessie Hill
- F. Other positions
 - 1. Advocacy- Teresa, liaison
 - 2. Web Site/Facebook- Dorothy with help offered from Judith H.
 - 3. Nomination Committee- appoint 2 board members
 - 4. *Voter Education Chair- Sherrie and Lena - Remove Sherrie*
 - 5. Publicity/Media Chair – Jessie Hill
 - 6. Archivist/Record Keeper – Judy Dirks

VII. UP COMING PROGRAMS

- A. Nov. 12 and 16 - Legislative Forums – Karen distributed flyers regarding the upcoming forums to be held November 12 & 16 and January 28 & February 1. Board members were asked to share these flyers with interested individuals and at community locations, if possible. Teresa Bomhoff, League member and President of Nami, will act as moderator at the Nov. 12 forum. Eight legislators have responded with their intent to attend on Nov. 12, including: Brad Zaun, Bruce Hunter, Marti Anderson, Janet Peterson, Jack Hatch, Jo Oldson, John Forbes, and Dick Dearden. At this time, two legislators, Matt McCoy and Joe Riding, have responded with their intent to attend on Nov. 16.
These forums will have shared sponsorship by our League and also NAMI, NAACP, and the Links.

- B. Dec 7: Holiday Luncheon – Speaker on Voter Suppression. Phyllis and Judy announced the name of the speaker, Carl Weiderander, Assistant Polk Co. Auditor. He will speak on issues related to voting, with special focus on voter suppression. A printed invitation will be sent to all members soon, especially requesting an RSVP to confirm attendance and menu choices. Board members were asked to each bring holiday cookies to share.
- C. Jan 14: Genetically Modified Organisms-Ag Study Com – Karen, Carol, and Sherrie are planning a panel discussion over this topic for the January event.
- D. Feb 8: Book Study Meeting – Judy spoke about plans for announcing this event through the shared list serve of area libraries. Local book clubs will be invited to participate. The book chosen is *The Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson. The event will be held at the Johnston Public Library community room from 10:30-12:00.
 - 1. Consider inviting other groups to participate- It was suggested that other groups be contacted and invited to attend, as well, especially those also involved with the forums. Judy will get contacts to use for inviting members of NAACP and The Links, if possible.
- E. March 8: International Women’s Day Program – with Oxfam- Karen said that plans for this event are still in progress.
- F. April 26: Annual Mtg – speaker Amy Campbell Leg. Session – Carol will contact Amy Campbell to confirm her availability. DJ Newlin has made arrangements for the luncheon location.
- G. Voter Registration – Lena was not present to share numbers.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

- A. PMP – See the information earlier in these minutes (II. President’s Report A) regarding our current payment form for PMP’s and a possible proposal for change to be brought up by the next annual meeting.
- B. AG Study - The board discussed the limited materials provided at this time by LWVUS. It was agreed that our local League would still hold its January panel discussion on Genetically Modified Organisms and the Ag Study; decisions on follow-up are pending.
- C. Face Book – Jessie Hill was absent, but she did communicate via email that she planned to have a proposal for a LWVMDM Facebook site by the next board meeting.
- D. Convention Committee -
 - 1. Deb has set an initial meeting Saturday Nov. 23 or Sunday Nov. 24 and will contact the planning core and interested others.
 - 2. Suggestions for site of convention will be a major early decision for the group.
 - 3. Considerations for blocking hotel rooms should be done in conjunction with selection of a convention site.

4. Ames has shared their report on this year's convention details; this will be a useful guideline in our planning.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Giving Tuesday - Deb shared materials regarding this pre-holiday designated day of donating to non-profit organizations – which is part of a national movement. Further details appear earlier in the minutes (II President's Report E.)

1. The board read the related handouts.
2. The board discussed possible use of the provided press release and considered other activities to promote our local League as a potential recipient of donations.
3. Reference to the Giving Tuesday day and movement have been made in our recent VOTER in The President's Message.

B. Board activity – Phyllis spoke to the board about a need for group-building amongst the current board. This would encourage comradery and also could provide League visibility, if participation in a service-related project took place. One suggestion was that the board group together to perhaps help out at a local shelter. All members agreed that this would be beneficial in many ways and will consider various options within the metro community.

X. FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS – The following schedule will be followed.

A. Board Meetings - 3662 Ingersoll, DM, at 6:30. All Wednesdays.

1. Jan. 8,
2. March 12,
3. May 14

XI. GOALS FOR THE YEAR- These goals will be considered within the context of all activities.

- A. Develop Educational Programming that Supports the positions of the League
- B. Plan all educational meetings in Collaboration with other organizations
- C. Increase membership by 10%.
- D. Increase awareness/visibility
- E. Participate in the LWVUS studies (One this year is the Agriculture Policy)
- F. Increase visibility in the legislature – attendance at committee hearings,
- G. Observer Corps - Broadlawns Board Meetings
- H. Coordinate at least one event with another League
- I. Define a program of voter education