

LWV DES MOINES METRO BRANCH BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 16, 2013

Present : Pres. Deborah Turner, Sec. Judy Dirks, Treas. Gary Kaufman, Phyllis Franklindevine, Teresa Bomhoff, Karen Person, Jessie Hill, Max Knauer
Absent: Carol Hibbs, VP Molly Shanks, Lena Robison

Meeting Time 6:00-8:30 at Karen Person's Home

I. APPROVAL MINUTES August 6, 2013 *approved with changes in one name and one date*

II. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A. Review Membership Kickoff – Sept. 17

- *30 attended at Plymouth Congregational. The key speakers were immigration attorney, Ann Naffier, and a panel of 3 individuals with immigration experiences.*
- *This met the year's goals of A, B, C, D, I. Goals E, G were not applicable.*

B. Review Oct. 9 Immigration Meeting

- *8 attended at St. Augustin's Church– The speaker was immigration attorney, Lori Chesser.*
- *This met the year's goals A, C, D, I. Goals E, G were not applicable.*

C. Review Health Exchange & Integrated Health Homes

- 35 attended at Plymouth Congregational – This met criteria of collaborating with other groups and current League topic- positive responses from board members who attended.*
- *This met year's goals of A, B, C, D, I. Goals E, G were not applicable.*

D. Review Legislative Priorities Issues Forum

Karen Person and Teresa Bomhoff attended. – Topics & presenters included: Water Issues, Bill Stowe; Voting Rights, Myrna Lohrein; Mental Health, Amy Campbell; Changing HIV Laws, Tammy Haught.

E. Review Officer Training Oct. 12

Karen Person attended; multiple topics were covered. Karen attended Criminal & Juvenile Justice Committee. State president, Bonnie Pitz, handed out Legislative Priorities form – which is available online in the last "Iowa Voter".

F. Nonpartisan and Conflict of Interest policies

Deb Turner will provide forms for board's consideration; this is a continuation from discussion at retreat.

G. Other State Issues

1. LWVIA is planning on making State water issues a major priority.
2. LWVIA is working with Sec. of State to redesign Voter Registration Form.
A concern was noted with wording in most recent form, regarding question on registrant being a "felon" – contradictory wording – groups working to encourage Secretary of State Office's revision of wording: ACLU, LWVIA, PIRG.
3. Karen Person will be working with state in Admin. Asst. role
- She will be filling in for Melissa Cahalan while she is on leave.

III. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A. Membership – *Molly was absent. Gary provided a list of all current members and current dues status. Current membership count is 55, including 3 new members this fall. 35 members have paid their 2014 dues. 20 members have not paid to date. Dorothy McGinnis will send reminder letters out to members who have not renewed memberships. We should have a definite count after the December meeting.*

IV. TREASURER'S REPORT

A. Gary provided printed reports of budget and total report. The Operating Fund balance as of Oct 14, 2013 is \$6,925.94. Our Education Fund balance is \$4,732.15

B. The board discussed the continuing question of payment of 100% of national PMP and state allowed percentage of PMP's from Ed Fund monies. Review of national policy states that 50% of PMP could be covered by the ED fund. Iowa has been operating under a special provision allowed at the national level in 1993 because of hardship of financial distress during the flood. A decision to change our percentage will be decided at the next BOARD MEETING.

C. The need for an internal audit was discussed. A decision was made to ask two members experienced with League finances to perform the audit. The president will ask Jennifer Galuzzo and Joan Racki.

V. VOTER

A. Next volume – Articles' deadline will be Nov. 1 to meet the publication deadline of Nov. 7.

B. Board member involvement

Deb, President's Message; Lena, first two meetings on Immigration; Teresa, Health Care Initiatives Event; Phyllis, Holiday Luncheon; Judy, Book Event Reminder; Karen, Legislative Forums; Max & others, photos of past events.

VI. **JOB POSITIONS/DESCRIPTIONS** – Most remain the same. There will be some changing of duties regarding email notices and addition of Facebook start up duties (Jessie Hill).

A. **Vice President – membership – Molly Shanks**

B. **Secretary - Corresponding/ Recording – Judy Dirks (Dorothy McGinnis & Carol Hibbs)**

(Dorothy post office box, website, mass mailings – Carol & Judy group email notices)

1. Minutes – Judy will plan on having a first draft out 1 week after the board meeting. The Board will then review this and submit corrections. The second draft will then go out, and if approved by a majority of the board, will be published on the website and sent out by mass email to all League members. A tag line "Minutes subject to final board approval at next meeting ____" will be used.

C. **Treasurer- Gary Kaufman**

D. **Program Director-** Suggestion to change this to **Events Director** – No one person

A new business comment made on a need for one director – or consistent planning formats.

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.

Jessie Hill presented a plan to start up a Facebook page for LWV Metro – will prepare more to show board by next meeting

3. **Nomination Committee-** appoint 2 board members

4. **Voter Education Chair-** Sherrie and Lena

5. **Publicity/Media Chair** – Jessie Hill

6. **Archivist/Record Keeper** – Judy Dirks

VII. UP COMING PROGRAMS

A. Legislative Forums - Nov. 12 and 16 - also - Jan. 28 and Feb. 1 (Karen-Teresa)

Karen explained format and the sharing sponsorship by NAMI, NAACP, LWVMDM, and LINKS.

Legislators will be invited to one of two events in the fall and again in the winter. Each sponsor will be responsible for one event and provide a moderator and staffing. The League will be responsible for the January 28 event. We will provide ques. screeners Nov 12-16 (Gary/Jessie)

-Tuesday, Nov. 12 (Plymouth Congregational) 5:00 Social – Forum 5:30-7:00

-Saturday, Nov. 16 (Des Moines University SEC Auditorium) 8:30 Social – Forum 9:00-10:30

-Tuesday, Jan. 28 (Plymouth Congregational) 5:00 Social – Forum 5:30-7:00

-Saturday, Feb. 1 (Des Moines University SEC Auditorium) 8:30 Social – Forum 9:00-10:30.

- B. Dec 7: Holiday Luncheon – Speaker Voter Suppression (Phyllis, Judy, Jessie)
Noah's Ark 11:30-1:30. The speaker will be Carl Weiderander, Assistant Polk County Auditor. Board members have agreed to bring selections of cookies for dessert. Details will be sent out closer to the date.)
- C. Jan 14: Genetically Modified Organisms-Ag Study (Karen, Carol, Sherrie, Judith H)
- Several speakers are being considered and approached at this time.
- D. Feb 8: Book Study Meeting – *note change in date from earlier notices – the 8th is a Saturday. This will be held at Johnston's Public Library meeting room 10:30-12:00. Title - "The Warmth of Other Suns" by Isabel Wilkerson (Judy, Laura)*
- E. March 8: International Women's Day Program – with Oxfam (Karen)
- F. April 26: Annual Mtg – speaker Amy Campbell review of the Leg. Session (Carol & DJ)

I. Legislative forums – *see above*

J. Voter Registration – *Lena was absent, but she has recently sent in data of events covered this fall.*

VIII. FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

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

2. November 6

3. January 8

4. March 12

5. May 14

IX. OLD BUSINESS

B. Electronic Voting approval *Proposal to allow this and accept must be done at annual meeting*

1. Majority

2. Reply all

3. Secretary must record

4. Only president or designated other can call vote

D. Web Site – Dorothy McGinnis – *Deb has met with Dorothy and others clarifying procedures for adding material to web site (may soon publish approved minutes on the site)*

X. CONVENTION COMMITTEE

A. Initial meeting of convention planning committee still to be determined.

B. *Speaker – Iowa League president, Bonnie Pitz, is working to get National President as Keynote speaker.*

XI. NEW BUSINESS

B. Convention committee – Will meet Saturday AM 10/19/2013.

1. Set Deadlines

2. Set Site

C. *We discussed the question of coordinating League events and the League calendar with other major events or meetings. Pros and cons were discussed, and it was decided that when the yearly schedule is set up at the Board retreat any conflicts or concerns should be raised at that time.*

XII. GOALS FOR THE YEAR

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*) – Karen set up an exhibitors' booth for League at Environmental Council on Oct. 11 – League reimbursed for booth.
- F. **Increase visibility in the legislature – attendance at committee hearings.**
- G. **Observer Corps - Broadlawns Board Meetings** *future consideration for this.*
- H. **Coordinate at least one event with another League.**
- I. **Define a program of voter education.**