

## LWV BOARD MEETING MINUTES OCTOBER 7, 2014

*Meeting was held at the DRI building conference room. Present: Deb Turner, President; Phyllis Franklin-Devine, V. President; Dorothy McGinnis, V. President; Gary Kaufman, Treasurer; Judy Dirks, Secretary; and Board Members: Teresa Bomhoff, Karla Brizzi, Christine Gerken, Jessie Hill, Kathy Kahoun, Max Knauer, Karen Person, Lena Robison, and Member: JP Knauer.*

### **I. Introductions**

### **II. State Board Report**

#### **A. Calendar**

##### **1. Board Meeting Des Moines Outreach Building Nov. 15, 2014**

- a. All members are welcome .*
- b. It would be especially good for the State Convention Committee to attend.*

#### **B. Officer Training –Aug. 23, Marshalltown Library**

- 1. Members who attended were Teresa Bomhoff, Karla Brizzi, Judy Dirks, Phyllis Franklin-Devine, Christine Gerken, Dorothy McGinnis, Lena Robison, and Deb Turner.*

#### **C. Issues briefing – Sept. 20, Marshalltown Library**

- 1. Those who attended were Jean Basinger, Kathy Kahoun, Karen Person, and Debbie Turner.*

#### **D. Mary Ann Nelson – MLD State Coach**

##### **1. Polly Horton, Iowa City is our coach – invite to meetings**

- a. MLD stands for Membership, Leadership, and Development*
- b. Polly should be in touch with Phyllis.*

#### **E. State Priority List**

- 1. Copies of the list were shared with the board. The headings include: 1) Voting Rights, 2) Water Quality, 3) Justice Reform, 4) Democracy, 5) Violence Against Women, 6) Education, and 7) Health Care.*

### **III. Treasurer's Report - Gary**

*A. Gary distributed copies of the 2014 Income Statement and two Treasurer's Reports (one through June 30, 2014 and one through October 7, 2014.)*

- 1. Gary noted that we are \$1,000 under our budget.*
- 2. Gary suggested that we see if our ed. Programs can utilize some of the Ed Funds this 2014-2015 year.*

3. *The state has billed us and Gary hopes to send in Ed Funds to National soon; he also hopes to hear back from them regarding our status.*

B. *The report was accepted by acclamation.*

#### **IV. Review board policies – Committee Activity – Copy of edited form**

A. **Nonpartisanship** – *Deb reminded board members of a pink copy passed out at the last meeting. It should be reviewed.*

B. **Conflict of interest policies** - *It was pointed out that the Executive Officers are the members who should limit political activities (donation and campaign participation.) They may contribute to individuals but not parties and partisan organizations.*

#### **V. Job Positions/Descriptions clarify duties - Duties were reviewed.**

A. **Vice President – membership - Dorothy**

B. **Vice President – board activity – Phyllis**

C. **Secretary - Corresponding/ Recording**

D. **Treasurer**

E. **Voter Editor – Jessie**

1. *Articles were requested by a deadline of Tuesday, October 14.*

2. *Articles and Writers include: President’s Message – Deb, New Member Event – Dorothy, Kickoff Meeting – Jessie, Book Review Reminder – Judy, VOTE 411 – Jessie, National Convention – Jessie, Issues Briefing Meeting – Karen, Voter Registration – Jessie and Lena, Legislation Priorities – Jessie, Officer Training Mtg – Phyllis.*

3. *A balance of coverage on past events and promotion of future events is the goal.*

#### **F. Other positions**

##### **1. Advocacy – Max and Teresa**

a. *Max reported on his advocacy in OIL, a wing of the Department of Aging; his goal will be to align our LWVMDM group with other advocacy groups in the future as co-sponsors for events and networking.*

b. *Teresa reported on advocacy with Mental Health issues. She commented on effects of lower budgets which will likely affect Medicaid cuts, especially cutting back of antipsychotic meds available for foster children and eventually adults. She mentioned an upcoming AMOS meeting on this.*

##### **2. WEB SITE/FACEBOOK/TWITTER**

a. *Dorothy reported that the web site is up to date.*

b. *Jessie wants to hold a staff in-service soon regarding a LWVMDM Facebook site. She will plan a time and place.*

**3. VOTER EDUCATION CHAIR – Voter Registration – Christie, Lena**

a. *Both Christie and Lena reported on recent registration events, including DMACC locations on September 23 (National Voter Registration Day), clinics in the area, and Naturalization Ceremonies.*

**4. Archivist/record Keeper – Judy**

**VI. Standing Committee**

**1. PUBLICITY/MEDIA CHAIR**

a. *In the future we might have a chair for this.*

b. **Column for a local publication-** *Kathy Kahoun shared contacts and information for how to get things covered in the Des Moines register. Dorothy will start to list meetings in the community sections.*

c. **List of all publications**

d. **Letters to the editor**

**2. NOMINATION COMMITTEE**

**3. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE – 2 VP's, Karen, Judy, Jessie**

a. *The committee met for dinner at the Club Car and made plans regarding the two opening events, one to be held at Dorothy's home and the official kickoff session. The current membership roster was also divided and each committee member agreed to personally call members, encouraging them to attend events this year and to remind them of the membership letters being sent early this fall.*

**VII. Membership – MLD**

**A. Targeted – diverse membership**

*All members are encouraged to reach out to individuals in these groups; Jessie Hill will do so with members of the New Leaders organization. Karen has sent invitation to young professionals she has connections with. Others should do so, as well.*

- 1. Younger professionals,**
- 2. Educators**
- 3. Female legislators**

**VIII. Board schedule**

**A. Every other month**

**B. August 5, October 7, December 2, February 3 , April 7, June**

**C. Meeting site - DRI**

**D. Meeting notifications** – *Dorothy will send out email reminders to Bd members.*

## **IX. Publicity**

**A. Newspaper**

**B. Radio**

**C. TV** – *Deb did a recording on Wayne Ford's "We Want You" TV show on MediaCom. He wondered if LWVMDM could work further with the Black/Brown coalition.*

## **X. Convention**

**A. Committee Meeting – November 8**

**B. Des Moines Visitors and Convention Bureau**

**C. Publicity**

**D.** *Karen reported that the Grant was not approved to cover a pre-convention event on Friday night over the topic of Gender Balance on County and City Boards & Commissions. New plans will need to be made.*

## **XI. Other issues**

**A. Pay Pal Account** – *The Treasurer of an organization must set up an account in circumstances such as our organization. Dorothy and Gary exchanged start up details and will plan further. The League website will handle Pay Pal but not use of credit cards such as Visa. Dues can possibly be paid this way in the future once accounts are established.*

## **XII. VOTER REGISTRATION ACTIVITIES**

**A. Voter registration Day** – *This was September 23 this year.*

*LWVMDM held registration centers at three DMACC locations this day, with resulting registration totals of DMACC-Ankeny 28, DMACC-Southridge 10, DMACC-Urban 26. 2 more people registered that day at a clinic site held by Lena R. Members who worked at these various sites included Karla Brizzi, Judy Dirks, Shari Hawk, Christie Gerken, Karen Person, Lena Robison, and Linda Skeers,. Two locations had walk-in volunteers who had heard of our activity on some online sites. Deb will look into these sites further.*

**B. Related Voter Registration Activities** – *Christie Gerken reported on work she is doing with Mental Health advocates at clinics and other areas. She shared materials on how to motivate voters and a survey on accessibility to polls for disabled citizens.*

**C. Voter Registration at Citizenship Naturalization Ceremonies** – *Lena Robison reported on League’s ongoing presence at Naturalization Ceremonies. Dates and numbers of registrants include: June 13 – 21 voters, September 16 – 32 voters (this was an outdoor event held to celebrate Constitution Day, as well), October 17 – 28 (?) registrants. Two more 2014 possible days for this include November 14 & December 5. League members working at most of these ceremonies were Lena Robison, Christie Gerken, Judy Dirks, and Karla Brizzi.*

**D. Advertisement on City Buses** –*Jessie Hill is looking into purchasing some voter promotional signs for buses close to election time.*

### **XIII. YEARLY PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

- Sep 9**            **Membership Meet & Greet; Jessie Hill / Membership Committee**  
*This was held at Dorothy McGinnis’ home.*
- Sep 23**           **National Voter Registration Day; Registration activities – Christie, Lena**  
*See above for details. XII –C.*
- Oct 8**            **Membership Kickoff: Membership Committee**  
*This was held at the Saints Pub & Patio in the Beaverville area. The speaker was Kristin Aschenbrenner from the Nature Conservancy.*
- Nov 10**          **Meeting on Human Trafficking with panel; Karen Person**  
*This has been scheduled for the WDM Library, 4000 Mills Civic Pkwy. 6:00-7:30 pm.*
- Dec 6**            **Holiday Luncheon with speaker on money & politics; Deb**  
*This will be held at Noah’s Ark Restaurant from 11:30-1:30. Board members are requested to bring cookies to share with members as part of the meal.*
- Jan 6**            **Meeting on “A Civil Death,” (Felon Disenfranchisement) Teresa Bomhoff**  
*Location and time are to be determined yet.*
- Feb 7**            **Meeting on book study Judy**  
*This will be held at the Johnston Library from 10:30-noon. It will be an open forum over selected books by members on League topics of interest.*
- Feb 10**          **Legislative Forum**  
*This will be held at the Polk Co. Central Senior Center, 2008 Forest Ave, DM, 5-7:00.*
- Feb 25**          **LWVIA Lobby Day**  
*This will be at the Capitol, East 9<sup>th</sup> & Grand, DM 10:00 am-3:00 pm.*
- March 3**          **Legislative Forum**  
*This will be held at the Windsor Heights Comm. Center, 6900 School St., 5-7:00 pm.*
- March 7**          **International Women’s Day Potluck Karla & Lena**

*This will be held at the Johnston Library. Members will be requested to bring potluck items to share reflecting their own heritage. Members are also encouraged to invite guests.*

**April Meeting on Environmental Issues Jessie**  
*Location and time are yet to be arranged for this event.*

**May 2 Annual Meeting**  
*This will be held at Wesley Acres, 3520 Grand Ave, DM, 11:15-1:30pm.*

**XIV. Old Business** – *Gary complimented the board on the fall letter with its clear format, especially regarding dues payment amounts.*

**XV. New Business-** *The topic of the Observer Corps from listed goals was discussed. Kathy Kahoun and others LWV have worked on this in the past. (Am I correct here?)*

**XVI. Goals for the Year** - *These were established at the retreat in June.*

- 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 \_\_\_% (Can someone tell me our agreed upon percent?)**
- D. Increase awareness/visibility**
- E. Participate in the LWVUS studies**
- F. Increase visibility in the legislature – attendance at committee hearings**
  - 1. Observer Corps**
- G. Coordinate at least one event with another League – Ames, Newton, Omaha**
- H. Define a program of voter education**
- I. Legislative forums**