



MINUTES OF THE LWV ROSEVILLE AREA BOARD MEETING, October 23, 2019

Fireside Room, Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Victoria and Co. Rd. D, Roseville, MN

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by League President Sherry Hood.

Attendance: Present: Barb Anderson, Barb Barany, Joyce Briggs, Jim DeBenedet, Stephanie DeBenedet, Sherry Hood, Bonnie Koch, Karen Lake, Priscilla Morton, and Mary Peterson.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

Joyce moved and Jim seconded approval of the September Board minutes. Motion passed.

2. Financial/Treasurer's Report:

Joyce reported that the Treasurer's report, going forward, will now reflect the end of the month to the end of the month reporting. Barb A. moved for approval of the Treasurer's report and Bonnie seconded. Motion passed.

Barb A. reported that June Stewart will be composing a letter to the Roseville Community Fund Program (where the Archive grant money came from) to request spending the available funds in a slightly different way – toward updating and reprinting the Meddlers, Activists and Watchdogs booklet.

3. Reports of Officers:

a. President

- Nick Harper will be attending People Powered Fair Maps campaign training in Washington D.C.
- Only ten local leagues have a LWV action/advocacy committee in Minnesota. Vivian Tanniehill, LWVMN Advocacy Chair will be contacting our action/advocacy committee.
- Join LWVMN board members Laurie Boche and Miriam Simmons for a morning of quick, informative workshops. See the State website.

b. Vice-President – See Ad Hoc Census under Report of Committees

c. Secretary - None

4. Report of Committees

a. Action/Advocacy:

- The annual training workshop was held on September 30 with ten people attending. The new process for reviewing agendas and reporting action items to the entire League was presented at this workshop. Currently, Deborah Alexander, Carol Marchel, Idelle Peterson, Sherry Hood and Priscilla Morton are reviewing agendas, and Beth Salzl has volunteered to monitor one district or government body of our choice. Meeting agendas are not available for the following week until after the Friday email blast. It has been recommended not to send out more than one communication per week.

- A page on the League website for easy access to local government and school board agendas along with recommendations and comments from Observer volunteers has been developed. Barb A. is helping with the formatting of this page.

Environmental subcommittee:

- The environmental forum with city officials, co-sponsored with the Roseville Library has been rescheduled for March 24.
- Working on possible environmental action steps with Resilient Roseville.
- Planning to work with the State LWV in preparation for the 50th anniversary of Earth Day, April 22, 2020.
- Aiming to continue regular articles on environmental issues for the *Voter*. Trying to find areas where information regarding environmental issues can be published.

These four items are the areas of focus for this subcommittee and will continue for the balance of the Fall and Spring 2020.

b. Communications:

1. Social Media: Created event in Facebook for the November 18 Fair Housing program; shared postings from Do Good Roseville on the Volunteer Fair, the League Leadership workshop, the LWV Gala and shared many postings from LWVMN.
2. Friday Email Blasts: Information was sent on invitations to participate in the Better Angels program, Gloria: A Life, Women in Politics, the Health Care program, the Volunteer Fair and several environmental events; also sent out follow-ups to Better Angels workshop and Gloria: A Life. Other emails were also sent to Gloria: A Life attendees as a reminder and Better Angels attendees with links to related readings as recommended by Better Angels staff.
3. Website: Posted an article about the October programs, with a link to a previous presentation on YouTube, the October *Voter*, and the November Fair Housing program. Also posted a notice and link to the LWVRA video on YouTube, and a link to the Falcon Heights Candidate Forum video.
4. The *Voter*: October issue was published and distributed.
5. Public Relations: With the closing of the Lillie Suburban Newspapers doors suggestions that may help us to get the word out are to publish events in the Patch online newspaper, or to use the Maplewood Living newsletter. Barb A. will contact them to see if they are willing to accept notices from us. Other suggestions are welcome.
6. Tara Jebens-Singh had agreed to act as backup/trainee for the website and email blast. Unfortunately, Tara has recently moved out of our area and will not be renewing with our local. The search is on.

c. Membership:

- Stephanie reported that 22 members and 11 other people attended the Health Care program at the Little Venetian.
- Membership roster is 127, with 13 new members since January 1, 2019. The newest member, Cari Nesje, joined online through the new State system.
- A new membership gathering is planned for Thursday, November 7, at Wayne Groff's home. Invitations were mailed on October 13, with RSVPs directed to Sherry Hood.

- A Spotlight article appeared in last month's *Voter* and another article is anticipated for November.
- The Volunteer Fair was covered. There were 41 vendors, including our League.
- The work with the State League has progressed to initial implementation. New members will be encouraged to join through our website which is linked to the State database. The State will send out an acknowledgement and welcome information. Membership will follow-up with a note, the calendar of events, and a directory. The renewal framework is currently in the development phase. The bylaws (Article III) will need modification with its completion.
- Stephanie asked how we can get more people to attend our programs. Discussion followed.

d. Program:

- The "Why We Can't Afford Not to Have Health Care for All" October program had 50+ in attendance. Several members from our co-host, Roseville Area Advocates for the Minnesota Health Plan attended along with League members. A reporter from Politico was also in attendance at the invitation of Mindy Greiling who had invited him when visiting her daughter who works for Politico in Washington, D.C. Thanks to Val Swenson for making arrangements for the speaker and Mindy and Georgeann Hall for making the venue arrangements.
- One of the reasons for going back to a pre-program dinner social hour was to try to entice long time League members to attend, but almost all of the members in attendance were ones who come frequently to meetings. There were very few newer members. It is suggested that one or possibly two dinner meetings be included in program planning next year to continue to provide a time for socializing.
- Details about the November 19 panel on Fair Housing and the December 12 Dinner Theater LWV Centennial Celebration will be in the November *Voter*.
- The March environmental panel asking city officials "What Are Our Cities Doing on Environmental Issues" has now been set for Tuesday, March 24 with the Roseville Library co-hosting in the community room.
- With the loss of the Lillie Newspapers for community advertising, co-hosting with the library is a beneficial option. We then have the support of library advertising in their published calendar and on their website.

e. Voter Services:

- Voter registration was held at:
Roseville Area High School
 - September 24, National Voter Registration Day, with four registrations completed and 19 taken or committed to being completed online.
 - October 8, three registrations completed, two taken.
- Tartan High School
 - October 10, two registrations completed, two taken to be completed.
- A Candidate Forum was held on October 7 for Falcon Heights city council and mayor. There were three city council candidates, two mayoral candidates, and 54 attendees. Voter registration was offered. There were zero registrations completed.
- Cecilia Warner provided support to the St. Anthony Chamber of Commerce in their offering of a Candidate Forum there. LWVRA did not sponsor this forum. Grace Gee attended with an interest in LWVRA being possibly involved another year.

- We are on a list to receive a free discarded voting machine from the city of Minneapolis for use in voter education. Rita Mills is aware of a storage possibility.
- Information on the Minnesota presidential primary election in 2020 has been made available by the Minnesota Secretary of State's office and will be published in the *Voter* and offered on our web page and Facebook.

f. Ad Hoc Census:

- The infographic is on its third draft with hopes to have a useable version soon.
- Census awareness and recruiting has been conducted at Roseville Area High School on September 24 and at the Falcon Heights Candidate Forum on October 7 alongside voter services.
- Sherry has arranged for census information and members to be at a table at the Rice-Larpenteur Alliance Harvest Festival on October 27 and at Fairview Alternative High School on November 7. There will be assistance from Karen and Bhutanese interpreters on October 27 and from student council members on November 7.

g. Ad Hoc Centennial:

- The subcommittee working on the panel that will go alongside when we have the LWV State traveling exhibit in April 2020 continues to be worked on. The information will be given to the State graphic designer, Kristin Smith on November 1. Ken Stewart (June's husband) and Curtis Johnson took some photos for us to hopefully use on the panel.
- Mary is getting information on a table drape that would have our League logo on it and would fit a standard exhibit/banquet table.

5. Unfinished Business

Sherry asked if we wanted to update the *Meddlers, Activists and Watchdogs* booklet because of the League's milestone 100th anniversary. There was discussion on the cost and how many copies to reprint. Other details have already been worked out. **See Action Item A.**

6. New Business

- A. Sherry asked if we wanted to contribute to Do Good Roseville for CTV filming of "Women in Politics" that was co-sponsored by LWVRA. The total cost of the filming was \$300. **See Action item B.**
- B. We have not paid membership dues to the League of Women Voters Upper Mississippi River Region inter-league organization (ILO) for this year and the past two years, totaling \$75. **See Action item C.**
- C. There will be a live auction bid at the Gala on October 26 for a program by Dave Durenberger and Lori Sturdevant regarding their just-published book about what happened to progressive Republicans in our state. Do we want to and what would be our highest bid? Discussion followed. There was no motion.
- D. Discussion about communicating with the community with the demise of the *Roseville Review*. What do we do next?

7. Action Items

- A. Jim motioned and Karen seconded for up to \$1,400 to update and reprint 400 copies of the *Meddlers, Activists and Watchdogs* booklet and to also apply to the Roseville Community Fund for a grant toward the updating and reprinting costs. Motion passed unanimously.

- B. Jim motioned and Priscilla seconded to donate \$100 to Do Good Roseville to help defray the cost of CTV filming of "Women in Politics." Motion failed.
- C. Jim motioned and Barb A. seconded to pay \$75 for membership dues to the League of Women Voters Upper Mississippi River Region inter-league organization (ILO) for this year and the past two years (2017-2019). Motion passed unanimously.

8. Announcements

Barb A. received a call from Susan Clark, LWVMN State Board Finance Chair, and has agreed to serve on the State Finance Committee. Congratulations Barb!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.
Respectfully submitted by Mary Peterson