



MINUTES OF THE LWV ROSEVILLE AREA BOARD MEETING, September 25, 2019

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

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m. by League President Sherry Hood.

Attendance: Present: Barb Anderson, Barb Barany, Stephanie DeBenedet, Jim DeBenedet, Grace Gee, Wayne Groff, Sherry Hood, and Mary Peterson.

I. Reports

A. Secretary's Report:

Barb B. moved and Jim seconded to accept August Board minutes. Motion passed.

B. Treasurer's Report:

Very little account activity since last month – one check to Jim D. for \$22 and one deposit for \$210. Stephanie moved for approval of the Treasurer's report and Jim seconded. Motion passed.

C. President's Report:

- Sherry was unable to do the President's call and there were no notes until right before this meeting. Sherry will pass along any important information to us.
- Barb A. has put together a two minute video about the Roseville LWV that can be viewed by going to our website and clicking on the YouTube link. This video will be shown before program events.
- Sherry would like to have a new member get-together social event like we did last year at Wayne's home. The Board thought it was a good idea and Wayne will check to see if possible to do at his place again.
- Celebrate LWV Minnesota's 100th birthday on October 26, at the Union Depot. \$175 per ticket (\$100 of each ticket is tax-deductible). RSVP by October 14. Will put in Friday email blast.

D. Vice-president's Report:

See Ad Hoc Census Committee Report.

E. Communications Report:

Jim will not be able to video record the October 3 Women in Politics event. He will show Sherry how to do it.

1. Social Media: Created an event in Facebook for the October 8 health insurance program; shared of postings from Do Good Roseville on the Volunteer Fair and the Women in Politics event on October 3. Also shared many postings from LWVMN.
2. Friday Email Blasts: Sent information on invitations to participate in the Better Angels program, the play Gloria: A Life, Women in Politics program, the Health Care program, the Volunteer Fair and several environmental events; also sent out follow-ups to Better Angels workshop and the play Gloria: A Life.

3. Web page: Posted articles about the October programs, the September *Voter*, and National Voter Registration Day.
4. The *Voter*: September issue was published and distributed.

F. Membership Report:

- Stephanie is unable to attend the October 3 event at the Roseville Library and needs someone to do the sign-in. Sherry will do this.
- Membership roster is 126, with 12 new members since January 1, 2019.
- The current directory has been published and made available to members via email.
- Spotlight articles focusing on new members have appeared in each *Voter* issue this summer with plans to continue these each month.
- Work with the State League continues with another meeting set for the end of this month. The plan will be to have new members register through the State website. Renewal dates would be based on original registration dates. Probably, members currently renewing on April 1 will continue with that as their renewal date. Details are still being work out. Barb A. added that the meeting with Grace Riley at the State League tomorrow will be working out each person's role with the platform that the State has purchased. We are the guinea pigs.
- A presence at the Volunteer Fair is anticipated.
- An updated new member list was provided for the Board.

G. Program Report:

- The September Better Angels workshop went well. There were approximately 45 in attendance which included the Roseville Area School Superintendent, representatives from the Roseville Area School Board and staff and LWV office and state board members. Many newer members were in attendance, some of whom had become interested in League membership because of this event. Many thanks to Rita Mills, Florence Sprague and Carol Marchel for their thorough organization which produced an event that was not only apropos to today's political climate but provided valuable resources for attendees to use in communicating in family, work and organizational situations.
- The October meeting returns to the Little Venetian for a social/dinner hour before the program. Details are being disseminated on the weekly e-blast and in the October *Voter*. We will be monitoring attendance to see if it is a draw for long time members who have been missing the social aspect of League meetings. Membership made personal contact with newer members to encourage them to sign up for the Better Angels meeting. We are hoping that this might be continued for the October meeting emphasizing that the social hour will provide a chance to meet and chat with long time members. Another possibility would be for one of the newer members to take on the job of making personal contact with others before each of the meetings.
- Plans are moving forward for the November housing panel. Rachel has agreed to moderate. A flyer has been developed and shared with other co-sponsors - St. Paul LWV, CMAL and CAN, a group that is advocating for homeless students in Ramsey County and chaired by Roseville Area Schools Mary Sue Hansen. Local elected officials will be invited by us. St. Paul will invite elected officials from their area. We will distribute a press release to the *Roseville Review*. St. Paul will distribute a press release to the *Pioneer Press*.
- If you haven't picked up a copy of our yearly calendar of events schedule at a meeting, please check either the *Voter* or our website.

H. Voter Services Report:

- Voter registration at Roseville Area High School is scheduled for National Voter Registration Day on September 24. Census outreach also plans to be there.
- The following high schools have been contacted to offer voter registrations: Hill Murray, Mounds Park Academy, Concordia Academy and Fairview Alternative.
- Information about the Minnesota Presidential Primary on March 3, 2020 has been received by the Secretary of State office and will be distributed at voter registration events and will also be used to communicate to LWVRA and others via the *Voter*, website and Facebook.
- A candidate forum will be held on Monday, October 7 at 7:00 p.m. at the Falcon Heights City Offices for candidates for city council and mayor. Linda McLoon will moderate.
- The St. Paul LWV has requested help with moderating forums. Kitty Gogins has agreed to moderate several of them.
- A request was received from Roseville Area High School to register people on October 8, during lunch.

I. Advocacy Report:

The Action/Advocacy Group will meet for the first time this season on Monday, September 30 at the Lexington Park building for a social hour and workshop on Observer Corps activities. This group plans to change the process of observer corps activities to invite all League members to attend meetings that address certain League priorities. This group will monitor agendas and invite members when these items will be discussed at the meetings.

Wayne suggested that League give direction on five issues that could be monitored. Sherry will call Nick Harper regarding this.

Environmental sub-committee:

- Continues to be active, particularly around climate change. Will be working on more regular articles for the *Voter*, promoted awareness about the climate strike in email blast and letter to the editor (*Roseville Review*), and attended the Sustainability Action Fair in Falcon Heights.
- Finalized the date of March 31 for a forum on environmental progress in our cities.
- Attended a talk by Dr. Sam Potter, sponsored by two climate action groups in NE and NW metro.
- Attended part of the orientation for Minnesota Green Corps members (similar to Americorps) as it could be a possibility for any of our cities or schools in 2020 or 2021. (For selected projects, a member is assigned for 11 months, with a very low stipend through the Corporation for National and Community Service).
- Will attend the Nobel Conference on climate change at Gustavus Adolphus.

J. Ad Hoc Census Committee Report:

- Women, Infants and Children (WIC). Barb B. followed up with WIC supervisors following successful contact initiated by Megan Dahlberg. They are enthusiastic about partnering with us. The supervisors will identify a WIC recipient from each of the larger WIC offices to do outreach, both by tabling in March and April, and informally where they live. LWVRA members will assist with tabling at least the first time for each. We will thank each of the WIC recipients doing outreach with a gift card from the RACF grant.
- Infographic (THE BEST NEW THING)—Marcia Cheney suggested an infographic to show/reinforce the key points of the 2020 census. Marcia's design is based on her experience volunteering with literacy classes. She has identified a graphic artist to complete the drawings. The resulting flyer will be useful for populations that include multiple languages, languages for which we don't have translated materials, and those who have difficulty reading or aren't inclined to read a page of text. The WIC supervisors are very pleased with the concept. We expect to use the infographic for a number of outreach locations and to share it widely throughout Ramsey County and the rest of Minnesota.

- Off Campus Housing—Barb B. attended a meeting at the University of Minnesota called by their community and government relations rep, to share plans for reaching students in off-campus housing. Also in attendance were Amanda Lor from the city of Falcon Heights, reps from the University’s off-campus housing office, Minneapolis neighborhoods and the city of Minneapolis. The University will be holding events and contacting University students regarding the census, and plan to get assistance from international student and scholar services as well. Apparently college students these days rarely, if ever, check their snail mail, so that is an obvious issue. LWVRA will be conducting outreach at the Commonwealth Terrace family housing daycare center and Brimhall elementary school. Falcon Heights’ community engagement commission has not been successful in getting permission from building managers to go door-to-door in apartment buildings for 2020 census or any other outreach. We will enlist help from the two University of Minnesota graduate students running for city council in Falcon Heights in November.
- Coordination with Voter Services – will be joining voter services at voter registration events to advertise the census.

II Discussion Items

A. Budget

Jim asked if there are things we should be doing to promote voting. When we spend \$1,000 or \$2,000, what does that do to the budget? Barb B. asked how much extra money do we actually have in the budget. We need to think of the budget as a two-year budget.

B. Meddlers, Activists and Watchdogs booklet

Sherry talked to Mindy who thinks that we should reprint more copies of the booklet. Sherry thought it would be good to update this booklet. Mindy Greiling will talk to Judy Berglund who was on the committee and Dawn Mathers who was the graphic designer for the booklet?

III Action Items: None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.
Respectfully submitted by Mary Peterson