

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW MEXICO

Board of Directors Meeting

May 15, 2010, 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Hilton of Santa Fe Hotel, Santa Fe

Members Present: Kathy Campbell, Jennice Fishburn, Cheryl Haaker, Lora Lucero, Meredith Machen, Dick Mason, Linda Moscarella

Absent: Jan Bray, Olin Bray, Bonnie Burn, Barbara Calef, Caroline Jackson, Vicki Simons

Call to Order: President Campbell called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: The following items were added to the agenda: League history (Machen) and sponsorship of film showing (Lucero).

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of March 13, 2010 were accepted and will be filed.

President's Report: Campbell noted that this report was presented at Council prior to this board meeting.

Schedule of Meetings for 2010-2011: Changes were made to the draft meeting schedule as follows:

- ≡ the LWVNM Lobbying Workshop will be Dec. 4 instead of November 20; League Day at the Legislature was changed from Jan. 25 to Feb. 1;
- ≡ the March board meeting in Socorro will be March 19 instead of March 12, which also means that the Spring *La Palabra* deadline and call to convention will be March 19 as well; and
- ≡ the May dates for the LWVNM Convention and subsequent board meeting were changed from the weekend of May 14-15 to May 21-22.

Jennice Fishburn requested that approval of candidates' questions for the *Voters' Guide* occur as early as possible in the agenda for the July 16-25, 2010 electronic board meeting. Meredith Machen will check on possible locations for League Day and the Lobbying Workshop. Machen requested that Campbell check the bylaws in regard to a local League president's being able to send a designated representative if she/he is unable to attend a specific LWVNM board meeting.

Strategic Planning Emphases for 2010-2011: Linda Moscarella led a review of the LWVNM's strategic plan goals and activities for the coming year. It was noted that a new system, "Salsa", has replaced Capwiz, and the plan needs to be revised accordingly. It was recommended that each local League designate a member to get up to speed on Salsa. In addition to Molly Siebel from SFC, who has been a resource on Capwiz operation, Dick Mason mentioned that a CNM board member, Erin Muffalatto, is good with technology and very interested in advocacy. Campbell also will work on understanding and using Salsa over the summer, and Moscarella suggested that Salsa be used to disseminate information about League positions as well as for advocacy. Further discussion of position dissemination included writing op-ed pieces for newspapers and issuing press releases when positions are updated or adopted. Action: Campbell will discuss the new water position with Barbara Calef and draft a press release related to that position.

Committee, Local League Reports:

Natural Resources: Lora Lucero submitted a report about the following activities and issues:

- 1) On May 14, the New Energy Economy filed a petition with the New Mexico Supreme Court to reverse the May 4th decision of a district court enjoining future EIB action on the petition regarding a state cap on greenhouse emissions (as described at previous board meetings). If the Supreme Court reverses that decision, then the EIB will hold additional hearings during the summer and take testimony from expert witnesses on both sides.
- 2) The Clean Energy Coalition (CEW) is now focusing on building support for the Kerry-Lieberman climate bill that was recently introduced. Since this is a national issue and therefore falls in the purview of LWVUS, Lucero will only act as observer. From talking with LWVUS staff, her understanding is that they are still studying the legislation and have not issued any statements or taken a position. The board agreed that Lucero should post questions on the LWVUS climate change listserv.
- 3) On May 7th, Lucero attended a meeting with Lt. Governor Diane Denish and about 20 other organizations to brief her on environmental issues that are of importance to the League, distribute a one-page LWVNM briefing paper, and stress the non-partisan nature of our organization.
- 4) As part of International Women's Day in March, LWVNM collaborated with New Mexico Interfaith Power and Light, Oxfam, CEW, and others to show "Sisters on the Planet" at UNM. Following the film, four speakers shared insights about the importance of women being at the forefront of the climate change issue. A list of selected resources on gender and climate change was provided to the board.

Lucero asked for a board decision about the possibility of co-sponsoring the Albuquerque showing of a PBS film, "Beyond Motor City", with other state organizations such as the New Mexico Chapter of the American Planning Association and the Sierra Club. She feels this film is historical and educational in nature and relates to our positions on transportation and sustainability. Resource persons could be invited to comment on the film and share additional information. Action: Motion by Mason, second by Moscarella, passed that LWVNM co-sponsor the Albuquerque showing of the film.

Action Committee: Mason reported that the Better Choices coalition is now planning for the next legislative session and is researching economic issues. He said that it's important for advocates to understand that everything's on the table in terms of budgets and programs/services from entitlements to education to the military. He likes what the Washington state League is doing to educate the public about what their tax money is supporting. Campbell noted that information about their activities is posted on their website.

Fair Representation: Cheryl Haaker reported that the study group has been speaking with legislators, attending and speaking before Interim Committee meetings, and working to educate the public in advance of the legislative session. Campbell suggested that the study group consider some questions for fall election candidates and provide them to the LWVNM *Voters' Guide* committee.

Local Leagues: Board member lists were provided by GLC and SF, and Campbell has the list from LA. The only missing list is that of CNM. In her absence, Bonnie Burn sent written reports on GLC's membership survey and their "Know Your State and Local Government" educational sessions. Campbell will post them in a new resources section on the LWVNM

website. Machen reported on SFC's history project and what they are learning about the LWV in Santa Fe during the 1920s era. During this time, the suffrage-related work of attorney Ann Webster demonstrated the role of the LWVSFC in the national picture. They also are finding information about LWVSFC activities in the late 1940s, when there was a push for Native American voting rights. They hope to secure funding to develop a documentary film based on the results of their research, and board members are invited to join the SFC group in June when they visit the LWVNM archives at the University of New Mexico.

Next Meeting: The next board meeting will be an electronic meeting during the period of July 16-25, 2010.

Adjournment: Upon a motion to adjourn by Machen/seconded by Moscarella/passed, the meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.