

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW MEXICO**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**Southside Library**

**November 19, 2011, 10:40 a.m.-3:00 p.m.**

**6599 Jaguar Dr., Santa Fe, NM 87507**

**Members Present:** Mona Blaber, Barbara Calef, Joe Keefe, Meredith Machen, Shelly Shepherd, Cheryl Haaker, Richard Mason, Chris Burroughs, Judy Williams

**Absent:** Sandra Browne, Lynn Jones, Linda Moscarella, Bonnie Burn, Lora Lucero

**Guests:** Dan Rudolph

**Approval of Agenda:** The board approved the agenda with revisions.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the September 17, 2011 meeting were accepted and will be filed. Keefe moved they be accepted; Mason seconded. Board approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Haaker presented the Treasurer's report. She said the spreadsheet shows 4 ½ months of activity. Not shown is a \$50 contribution which was deposited on September 15. She said we have a ways to go in fundraising this year. Nothing has yet been spent in "D4 Newsletter Postage." She will reimburse LWVCNM the \$55.70 which was charged to the LWVCNM postal account because the LWVNM's account had expired (by choice). LWVNM will be using the LWVCNM account in the future for any bulk mailings.

LWVNM has paid the MAL PMP to National. Haaker said she sent out PMP reminder letters to the presidents and treasurers of the local Leagues.

Blaber has established a one-year subscription with Constant Contact, obtaining a reduced rate.

USPS Account: Haaker said she has the instructions and is preparing a letter to send to USPS so LWVNM can get back the \$469.71 in the bulk mail account.

United by Friendship: A check for \$500 to UBF was sent to Kathy Campbell.

In-Kind Contributions: The current total is \$395.77, mostly travel expenses and redistricting support. Mason suggested that LWVNM develop a form for individuals to fill in once a year providing information on their in-kind donations.

Wells Fargo debit cards: Following the announcement by Wells Fargo that all debit cards would be assessed a \$3 a month charge, Haaker canceled all outstanding debit cards. There were two: Haaker's and Campbell's.

It was reported that a child sent a request to the League for \$40 to send her class to Washington. Haaker noted the League does not give money to individuals.

**Membership Report:** Calef reported for Lynn Jones, who was absent, that LWVNM has 15 members at-large. (Previously there were 14.) One at-large member joined LWVCNM and two new members joined LWVNM.

### **Old Business:**

\* ***La Palabra Editor:*** Discussion centered around finding a replacement for the La Palabra editor since Blaber will no longer fill that position. Burroughs volunteered to serve as editor on a short-term basis. Keefe suggested looking for a permanent editor by putting an ad in Topics and Action. Keefe said he knows the publisher of the Independent who might be willing to serve as editor. He will broach the subject with her. Mason suggested buying software (In-Design) that could be used by future editors.

\* ***Constant Contact:*** Machen said she wanted this on the agenda because she wants the board to figure out who will be sending out La Palabra and for members to learn how to use it. She wanted to make time after the meeting to have another tutorial. Mason said he would be interested in using it during the legislative session. Later in the meeting during the brief tutorial Blaber said she would continue to send out La Palabra.

\* ***Job description for secretary and Archives Policy:*** Machen moved and Shepherd seconded to adopt the job description for secretary. The section saying that the secretary would arrange for lunches was removed. There was a discussion about whether documents to be included in the archives should be paper or electronic. It was agreed they should be paper. Electronic versions would only be accepted if they were videos. Machen moved to adopt the archives policy as amended; Calef seconded. Motion approved by the board. The revised Archives Policy will be put on the web.

\* ***New Mexico Educator's Federal Credit Union:*** Haaker reported that deposits to the credit union can be made in all "League cities." Mason moved to use the New Mexico Educator's as the LWVNM's banking institution; Keefe seconded. Board approved. Machen moved that Machen, Mason and Haaker have credit cards from the credit union; Blaber seconded. Board approved.

### **New Business**

\* ***January 24 – League Day at the Legislature:*** Mason said that League Day at the Legislature will be January 24, 2012. League Day will start at the Capitol. Members can pick up their information packets from 7:30 a.m. on at the LWV table in the West or East Lobby. Members are encouraged to attend sessions in the House and Senate and/or committee hearings before 10:30 a.m. when they will head a few doors toward the Plaza to the State Land Office at 310 Old Santa Fe Trail to hear from:

Alicia Manzano, M.P.A, Outreach Director, New Mexico Voices for Children . She will speak on budget issues being considered in the session.

Marcela Diaz (B.A., Columbia University), Executive Director of Somos Un Pueblo Unido, a statewide immigrants' rights organization in New Mexico. She will be speaking on why we should be supporting driver's licenses for the undocumented.

It was agreed that Denise Lamb, Director of the Elections Bureau for Santa Fe County, would be asked to serve as the keynote speaker at the luncheon. She would talk about voting issues in New Mexico.

Discussion centered around whether LWVNM should rent the room at the Desert Inn for the morning speakers as well as the lunch. Mason said he would check into it.

**\* January 23 Legislative Educational Forum/Reception at Desert Inn:** Legislators will be invited to the educational forum/reception to be held at the Desert Inn. Mason said there will be a panel with Josephine Porter serving as moderator. Panelists will include Gabriel Sanchez, UNM political science professor; Steve Allen of Common Cause; and someone from the state county clerks' association. Funds from the Advocacy for Voter Protection (PAVP) will be used to pay for room rental and refreshments. Money from the grant will also be used to pay for an ad in the Disability Day pamphlet.

**\* Immigrant Drivers' Licenses Fact Sheet:** Machen said it is anticipated that the immigrant drivers' licenses issue will be brought up during the 2012 legislative session. LWVNM is going to develop a fact sheet on the topic. Mason said the fact sheet should be one page and have backup material.

**\* Review Board Policies:**

Coalition Guidelines – Point 4 was changed to: The aims of any coalition LWVNM joins must be to educate the public, provide input, and hold decision makers accountable. Point 9 was changed to say: To ensure the full effectiveness of LWVNM participation in any coalition, the coalition representative must be available to do the required work within a coalition, to report regularly to the Board on coalition activity and actively engage LWVNM membership in that coalition-related activity. Machen moved to adopt the Coalition Guidelines as amended; Keefe seconded. Board approved.

Communication Policy – Burn submitted the following changes. Item C, last sentence: La Palabra will be sent electronically to members and appropriate individuals. Printed copies will be sent to members having no email addresses or to a courtesy list of names for which emails are not available. Item F, last sentence. Board members who keep files are responsible for integrating these with office or archive files at the end of their terms. Machen moved to adopt Communication Policy as amended; Shepherd seconded. Board approved.

**\* New Mexico Fairness Project:** Machen moved that the LWVNM join the New Mexico Fairness Project, formerly called Better Choices Campaign; Calef seconded. Board approved. **\*\* Citizens United:** Mason moved that LWVNM resolves to advocate for a constitutional amendment that will negate Citizens United; Keefe seconded. Board approved.

## Reports and Discussion

\* **Action committee:** Mason said the key issues at the 2012 Legislative session will be Photo ID, driver's licenses and tax credits for businesses. He said the main thing is "to keep bad things from happening"

\* **Redistricting Issues:** Haaker reported on efforts by the Redistricting Committee. In October two of the LWVCNM Unit meetings featured members who attended state Redistricting Committee hearings in the summer. Judith Binder, Gayle Prinkey and Shelly Shepherd discussed what happened at these hearings and their overall impressions. Shepherd had also been keeping up on the Albuquerque City Redistricting Committee, an independent group charged with redrawing the city council districts. The October Luncheon Unit had confirmed Senator Linda Lopez, co-chair of the State Redistricting Committee, as speaker, but she had to cancel at the last minute. Representative Gail Chasey, also on the committee, agreed to substitute with an hour's notice and provided insight to the committee and the special redistricting session of the legislature. The next step for the Redistricting Committee is to look into details of successful independent redistricting commissions and propose legislation to amend New Mexico's constitution to mandate a commission.

\* **Communications:** Keefe said he is in the process of redefining the media contact list. He wants to meet with media face to face and is looking at community information sources in an attempt to determine who are credible to contact. He is also trying to develop a network of one to two people per county. Also, he and Blaber want to put media on Constant Contact.

\* **La Palabra:** A save-the-date-for the silent auction and Salute will be included in the next La Palabra. The deadline for the next issue is December 15. Stories/authors include: voter issues, Jo Porter or Machen; Virtual New Mexico League, Keefe; League Day, Mason; driver's licenses, Machen; recruiting ad for assistance for La Palabra, Keefe; Land Use Study, Calef; update on redistricting, Haaker; and local League reports, League presidents.

\* **Local League Reports:** Presidents from each of the local Leagues gave reports.

\* **Salute to New Mexico's Centennial/Silent Auction:** Dan Rudolph and Shepherd gave an update on plans for the Salute to New Mexico fundraising event. The Salute to New Mexico First 100 Years and Beyond fundraising dinner will be April 21 at the Embassy Hotel and Suites in Albuquerque.

Governor Susana Martinez has been invited to keynote the event. Albuquerque Mayor Richard Berry has also been invited.

The event will feature two speakers. One will talk about New Mexico's past, and the other will take a look at the projected future of the state.

The League will honor individuals who have contributed to their community or the State of New Mexico at the event. Nomination forms are being finalized and are due by April 16, 2012. A committee consisting of members from all state Leagues will make the selections.

There will also be a silent auction at the event. Anyone with items to donate are encouraged to set them aside.

Discounted room rates will be available at the hotel for out-of-town participants. The Embassy Hotel and Suites is a Three Star, Three Diamond property.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 3:06 p.m.

Submitted by:

Christine Burroughs, Secretary