

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW MEXICO

Board of Directors Meeting

March 17, 2012, 10:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

REI meeting room

500-A Market Street

Santa Fe, NM 87501

Members Present: Shelly Shepherd, Barbara Calef, Joe Keefe, Cheryl Haaker, Richard Mason, Chris Burroughs, Judy Williams, Lynn Jones, Linda Moscarella, Mona Blaber

Absent: Sandra Browne, Lora Lucero, Meredith Machen, Bonnie Burn

Meeting convened at 10:36 a.m.

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

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the January 7, 2012 meeting were accepted and will be filed.

Treasurer's report: Treasurer Haaker reported that there was a total of \$12,560.02 in the League's Wells Fargo accounts and \$1,486.42 left in the Education Fund. So far, \$3,188.61 remained of the \$5,000 PAVP grant, after reimbursing individuals for their expenses. Members were told that, if they have additional expenses that have not yet been reimbursed, to prepare a reimbursement form and sent it with the receipts, to Haaker. Haaker reported that she had been unable to open an account with NMEFCU (NM Educators Credit Union), due to their requirements that all individuals wanting to be signers on the account had to be present when applying, and that all had to be eligible to be NMEFCU members (i.e., a part of the state's educational establishment.) At the suggestion of the Board, Haaker will look into getting credit cards for certain Board members through LANB, the Los Alamos National Bank where the League's reserves fund (a CD) is kept.

Web Report: Haaker reported that she needs to update the LWVNM web page more often.

Membership Report: Lynn Jones reported that there are 13 members at large. Keefe said he anticipates signing up three new members at large in the next few weeks.

Old Business:

League Day at the Legislature: Mason said that some 35-40 people attended League Day at the Legislature Jan. 24, 2012. He said it was a good event and there was also a full house at the reception/panel the evening before. He said the panel was wonderful. He suggested looking into using the Santa Fe Community Foundation space next year. They only charge \$75 for a full day.

Protocol for documents in development: Calef requested a procedure for editing documents to avoid confusion. She was advised to check google docs.

Finalization of non-partisan but political policy: A long discussion centered around establishing a policy that all information and photographs put on the list serve should adhere to non-partisanship guidelines which are: Supporting or opposing candidates and parties is partisan. Supporting or opposing issues on which the League has a position is nonpartisan. It was agreed that the board would adopt no new policy because the issue comes up so infrequently – only twice in recent memory. Also, the League already has in place a policy to be nonpartisan.

Salute Postponement: Shepherd said the LWVCNM board agreed to postpone the Salute to New Mexico banquet and fund raising event for several reasons. There didn't seem to be a lot of support for it and \$80 a seat is a lot of money in this economy. She said the board also agreed to do a smaller event, maybe a Saturday lunch, later in the year. They are also doing another fund raising event for the Voters' Guide this spring. It will be a “non-event” in which people can donate money in lieu of going to a banquet.

Deliberative Democracy: Mason said the organization Deliberative Democracy is planning an event in January. The questions will be “what the public services do you want from your government and how do you want them paid for?” They want the League to support the event. Mason said he is willing to be part of the planning process but does not want the League to be part of the coalition. Mason moved to participate in the planing of the event, but not be part of the coalition. Shepherd seconded. The board approved unanimously.

New Business

State Council: Shepherd reported that Peggy Hill, the LWVUS liaison to the League of Women Voters of New Mexico, will be the luncheon speaker during the bi-annual state Council meeting May 12 at the MGM Elegante Hotel, 2020 Menaul N.E. Albuquerque. The meeting is being hosted by the LWVCNM. Registration for the Council will extend from 9:30-10 a.m., followed by the business meeting which will start at 10 a.m. The business meeting will consist of presentation of the treasurer's report, presentation and adoption of budget changes, report from state committees and reports from local Leagues. Each New Mexico League will have two delegates – the president or an alternate and one additional member. Also serving as delegates will be all state board members, including officers and on-board directors, plus one delegate representing the members-at-large. All other League members are invited to attend as observers and stay for the lunch and speaker at noon. Cost of the luncheon is \$20. Reservations for the Council meeting and lunch must be made by Monday, May 7.

Selection of delegates to the LWVUS Convention: The three people selected to go from state to the national convention are Keefe, Haaker and Mason. The convention is June 8-12 in Washington, D.C. The registration fee is \$320 per person.

LWVNM budget: The board recommended no changes to the budget since it was approved last year at the state convention. However, later it was suggested that the budget should

be amended because there was not enough money allocated in it to send three delegates to the national convention. No vote on this was taken.

Gun Legislation: Haaker said that she received a letter from a member of the Minnesota LWV State Action committee asking LWVNM to pressure our U.S. Senators to oppose a bill that “would override the laws of almost every state by obliging each [state] to accept concealed handgun carry permits from every other state, even if the permit holder would not be allowed to carry or even possess a handgun in the state where he or she is traveling.” It was pointed out that the national League has not taken a position on this, and therefore LWVNM couldn’t lobby on behalf of the legislation.

Reports and Discussion

Legislative Update: Mason reported that the best he could say about the session was that the legislators “kept bad things from happening,” including not passing legislation on the death penalty, driver’s license, and parent notification. SB9 was vetoed. Overall, the session went well, Mason said.

Natural Resources/Land Study: Calef reported that it is taking the committee longer than it anticipated to do the land study.

Action: Mason said that the Action Committee will try to take the offensive on Photo ID and fraud.

Communications: Keefe said he continues to go to other meetings to recruit. He was planning on attending the Torrance County Family Health and Child Abuse Prevention Party. MaryWilson will set up a League booth. He made contact with three more newspaper editors.

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

La Palabra: Burroughs made assignments for the spring *La Palabra*.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Submitted by:

Christine Burroughs, Secretary