

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW MEXICO BOARD

Minutes

Sunday, May 19, 2013

Hilton Garden Inn, 2550 Don Roser Drive, Las Cruces, N.M.

Members Present: Andrea Targhetta, Erika Graf-Webster, Chris Burroughs, Donna Reynolds, Dick Mason, Judy Williams, Lee Lockie, Barbara Calef, Meredith Machen, Linda Moscarella, Cheryl Haaker

Guests: Mary Stockley, Susan Wilson, Bonnie Burn, Becky Shankland, Lynn Jones

Meeting convened at 12:33 p.m.

Review and Approval of Agenda: The Board approved the agenda as amended.

Approval of Minutes: The Board approved the March 16, 2013 minutes as amended.

Electioneering: Machen and former Santa Fe County Elections Bureau staff and LWVSFC member Lynn Gary met with Bobbi Shearer and former Senator Rod Adair of the Secretary of State's Elections Bureau. These officials said that LWVNM's Voter Guides were banned from all of the polling sites in late October 2012 because they had received complaints that poll workers in Bernalillo County were handing out guides. They explained that the 100-foot rule, which prohibits candidate and party information from being at the polls, applies to all guides, fliers, and signs. They can't allow LWVNM guides and outlaw others, even though LWV is non-partisan. They appreciate our work, but they indicated that the questions we asked candidates could be construed as giving some candidates certain advantages because our interests more closely match those of certain candidates whose platforms are focused on those issues. The decision holds that our Voter Guides will not be allowed. Challenging the SOS on this matter appears fruitless. Machen reported that the SOS might ask LWVNM to train third-party registrars. They also expressed interest in having LWVNM develop a certification for poll workers in order to better watch for voter fraud. Machen said we need to be careful about the unintended consequences if such actions would limit the public aspect of having of third-party registrars and poll workers.

Board Etiquette: Judy Williams said the Santa Fe League Board adopted rules for board etiquette -- basically being civil. Mason moved to adopt the rules for the LWVNM Board; Machen seconded. Calef suggested the Board study the rules before adopting them. Mason withdrew the motion.

Membership Leadership Development Program: Moscarella said a local Leadership Development Project training is set for July 9-10. Targhetta suggested that it be conducted at the MCM Elegante Hotel in Albuquerque because that is where LWVCNM holds its monthly luncheons at a reasonable price. Burn and Moscarella have been appointed the two state coaches.

Position Updating Procedure Discussion: Williams said the Board should review all positions over the next couple of years, looking specifically at what should be fixed or dropped. A process for updating should be developed at the statewide level. Also, it was discussed that LWVNM should be following the LWVUS Board Bylaws which make it easier to establish new positions by concurrence and easier to update positions.

Review of Nonpartisan Policy and Board Responsibilities: Machen said the Board should change the Nonpartisan Policy and Conflict of Interest policy to indicate that publication sponsors, especially candidates, are not to be included in the *Voter Guides*. The Board has newly revised and stronger nonpartisan policies for the *Voter Guide* and candidate forums. Burroughs was instructed to get all missing Board minutes to Haaker to upload on the LWVNM website. Revised policies also need to be given to Haaker to be archived on the web. Williams agreed to wordsmith the existing Nonpartisan Policy and Conflict of Interest policy to require Board members to provide the Board president with a list of government commissions and other boards to which they belong.

A discussion ensued on the responsibilities of board members. Calef moved and Mason seconded to readopt the Responsibilities of Board Members policy. The Board voted yes unanimously. The adoption date of the policy was to be changed from July 14, 2007, to May 19, 2013.

Ethics, Elections, Redistricting Commission: It was reported that Bernalillo County Clerk Maggie Toulouse Oliver is considering asking the Secretary of State to appoint an independent election commission.

Board Calendar: The Board calendar was unanimously approved.

Agenda Items for Next Meeting: Among agenda items for the next meeting will be Board etiquette, the revise nonpartisan policy, publication policy review, and updates on Land Use and Alcohol Studies.

Electronic Meetings and Conference Calls: The Board discussed the Electronic Meetings policy, where the Board discusses meeting agenda items by email and then votes on them. Electronic meetings are called 15 days in advance of the meeting and specify the topic(s) to be discussed. People will have to acknowledge they are present for the electronic voting.

Request for Local Board Lists: Machen requested all local Leagues to send her their board lists.

Adjournment: The LWVNM Board adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Submitted by:

Chris Burroughs, LWVNM Secretary